



WING CONFERENCE IS BIGGEST AND BEST EVER.

There's something mystical about a bridge, and more than 400 members and guests attending the Florida Wing Conference-2000 experienced a magical moment when they crossed the second bridge that brought them to Hutchinson Island and the Marriott

Indian River Plantation. Pristine beaches, an 18 hole golf course, 13 tennis courts, jogging track, 3 swimming pools, exercise gymnasium, seven restaurants, a dance lounge, all located on 200 secluded acres, greeted them.

Not a single member had difficulty finding this tucked-away paradise thanks to the travel directions continuously provided by Wing Communications Officer, Capt. Paul Blystone at 'conference base' to all mobile radio users. The Marriott was booked solid and many late reservation members had to stay at off-island hotels.

Driving in to the rotunda to register, the attendees were not only greeted by magnificent landscaping and royal palms swaying in the breeze, but the new Blanik Civil Air Patrol Glider that had been placed on display at the entryway. And that was only the beginning.

Friday night provided the opportunity to meet

old friends, to attach a face to the members we read about so frequently and to closely interact with our National Commander, Brig. Gen. James Bobick; guest speaker U.S. Army Maj. Gen. Bernard Loeffke; Col. Jerry Angley, Florida Wing/USAF Liaison

Officer and Col. Joseph Meighan, Jr., Southeast Region Commander. The 'volcano' of CAP friendship and feelings of CAP family closeness truly erupted.

Wing Commander, Col. Anthony Pineda opened the Saturday session in the well appointed conference center with a



Standing room only for the more than 400 attendees of the Florida Wing Conference 2000 in the Grand Ballroom at the Marriott's Indian River Plantation.

packed General Assembly giving a standing ovation to C/2Lt Anthony J. Viani on his receiving the Billy Mitchell Award from National Commander, General James Bobick. Col. Meighan greeted the assemblage with his observation that Florida Wing is not only the largest in the nation but it is also the best. "The number of cadets present at this conference is most gratifying since the future of the Civil Air Patrol is principally dependent on the youth in our organization."

General Bobick emphasized that all CAP
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COMMANDER'S COMMENTS



COL. ANTONIO PINEDA
Florida Wing Commander

Our Florida Wing Conference-2000 was a resounding success. I am grateful to the members of the Florida Wing staff who made this possible, in particular Lt Col Matt Sharkey, Capt Eileen Parker

and Sharon Taylor who took care of the multitude of details. Our attendance increased this year. I am glad that so many of you from throughout the state were able to join us. U. S. Representative Mark Foley and Maj Gen Loeffke, dynamic and impassioned speakers, honored us during our banquet.

We have so much to celebrate. Many of our squadrons have enjoyed tremendous growth and success this year and it is my greatest pleasure to recognize them during our Awards Ceremonies. Our National Commander, Brig Gen Jay Bobick, and the Southeast Region Commander, Col Joseph Meighan Jr. joined us for the weekend. It is because of your fine work at the unit level that Florida Wing earns such recognition. General Bobick spoke at length during the Opening Assembly about the organizational reform currently underway. Your Group Commanders were able to meet with the Wing, SE Region and National Commanders during a special luncheon session.

Major Buddy Harris has done his usual outstanding job of collecting photos and story coverage about the FLWG Conference-2000 to share with all of you who were unable to attend. These are inclusions of this conference edition.

After celebrating our successes for this past year and presenting well deserved awards to those who made it happen, it is time to set our sights on the future. Our members are our most important asset. As unpaid professional volunteers we try to fulfill our missions safely and effectively. Safety includes our members and your well being, not just accident prevention. Prevention is always the best policy for airplanes, for vehicles and for our members. Safety Down Days have been scheduled throughout the wing to comply with the National Safety Program. I believe we have made great safety strides this year.

Now, we have to focus on the Human Relations policies in our directives and improve our knowledge of the procedures. FLWG is committed to full compliance with CAP policies, so we will investigate complaints wherever and whenever necessary, but with proper prevention and attention at the local level this won't be necessary very often.

I ask every unit and every member to know the proper procedures related to Cadet Protection and complaints. A good place to start is the new Distance Learning section of the NHQ website. I recommend your first lesson be about complaints. The Chain of Command is the primary channel for resolving complaints. This lesson will help you decide whether your problem requires immediate

action, such as cadet abuse; if it should be handled with your Squadron Commander, or a written complaint should be filed with the Inspector General.

Everyone please read and participate in a review of CAP Regulation 52-10, our Cadet Protection Program. The entire regulation is only two pages, but it spells out exactly what actions you must take. First, the members involved must be immediately suspended for violations under the Cadet Protection Program. This is a protective measure until CAP Corporate Legal Counsel determines what action will be taken. It is not an indication of guilt or innocence.

Very specific guidelines exist for the protection of all our members. All complaints that involve sexual abuse, discrimination or criminal conduct must be immediately referred to the Corporate General Counsel by contacting me, your Wing Commander. **No investigations shall occur unless specifically authorized.** I do know how difficult this is. We all want to ask questions, to gather information and to decide for ourselves, BUT we can't.

When these procedures are not specifically followed, you may jeopardize the outcome of the investigation. CAP may not then be able to take needed action in an unsafe situation. If you investigate in these circumstances, without being authorized or qualified, YOU become the violator. I don't want to see that happen to any one of you.

We have an obligation to protect our young members whose parents permit them to participate in our Cadet Program. We promise that certain guidelines will be followed. **We must and shall keep that promise in every**

unit and for every member throughout Florida. These policies are in place to protect us all, including you.

Please also review CAPR 50-16, Cadet Program Management to be certain all members know these responsibilities. Another valuable lesson available through Distance Learning explains the role of the Inspector General. Our CAP Inspector General program is modeled directly on the Air Force program. The IG has several roles. One is to correct weaknesses in our program and our procedures. For this reason, inspections of all Groups are conducted regularly by FLWG. Another is to resolve problems affecting CAP missions. The IG's job is to find the truth. Lt Col Kay Cunningham and her many staff members have logged a great many miles and telephone minutes in search of the truth. Their efforts and their program have been specially recognized at the national level.

Many specific requirements exist for resolving complaints. CAPR 123-2 outlines and defines the process. Please be sure that we all understand this regulation. Complaints must be in writing, dated and signed by the complainant. One important rule, all too often overlooked, is the time limit of 60 days from the occurrence for the filing of a complaint. Only members may file or parents/guardians may file on behalf of their child who is a cadet member. Further guidance concerning discrimination can be found in CAPR 39-1. These are the directives as they exist in CAP and we are obliged, as members, to comply with them unless and until they are changed.

Please learn the rules. Then abide by the rules. We will all be safer and happier.

PROP WASH

Florida Wing Pilot Data [FWPD] is a new software program that provides current and accurate information about any pilot in the wing. This data is invaluable for the Incident Commanders, Mission Coordinators, Unit Commanders, Flight Release Officers and the FLWG DOV.

This program was officially released at the recent wing conference. Major Jan Ferguson, a member of the Florida Wing Staff and a former Group and Squadron Commander, has been writing this custom database software application since January of this year.

Majors Luis Garcia, FLWG DOV and Russ Reichmann, FLWG Assistant DOV advise that the FLWG Stan/Eval office has been finding it increasingly more difficult to maintain a centralized, easy to locate store of data on each of the nearly 400 pilots in Florida Wing. Major Ferguson generously devoted his time and talent to the development of this program.

The FWPD was previewed at the recent DOD IG inspection and it gained approval for its system capabilities. Additionally, they

were pleased with the wing's plans for implementation.

The application is a fully relational database program, which helps FLWG track pilot data records as well as Flight Release Officers on Wing orders. In particular it allows the DOV to add and/or edit records to a pilot's Medical, Biennial Flight Review, CAPF 5, CAPF 91, Check Pilot status, Mission Check Pilot status, Instructor Rating status, CAP aeronautical ratings, FAA ratings, and Emergency Contact information.

One of the best features of the program is its ability to maintain data integrity. To insure data integrity, the application's data will be "read only" for those individuals who have an official need for such data. This might include Unit Commanders, Flight Release Officers, Group DOV's, Check Pilots and the like. Major Garcia states that this is extremely important for any Flight Release Officer or Mission Coordinator anywhere in the state that has to release a pilot for a mission or any other flight. Garcia and Reichmann plan on issuing updates to the pilot data on a

monthly basis.

The available reports in the application literally number in the hundreds based on the countless combinations of filtered data a user might want to use. This capability, all from a base of only 17 report modules, is one of the application's strong points. Now a commander can quickly ascertain which pilots in their unit are coming due for their Form 5 or Form 91 check ride, as well as when their Biennial Flight Review, medical or other ratings expire.

The program also includes context-sensitive help, the body of which is equivalent to a 68 page product manual. Although this help file is readily available a user will not really ever have a need for it. The program is extremely easy to use and is a wealth of information for those in Civil Air Patrol who work with pilots. Links to support e-mail and the author's web site are also available menu options as well as a Technical Support "eGroups" mail host. These data files will be strictly controlled due to the amount of personal information included. The download site for the Florida Wing Pilot Data Program is <http://www.datasoftware.net>

Submitted by Major Jan B. Ferguson

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SQUADRON CLIPS

The Fernandina Senior Squadron flew a hurricane evacuation simulation mission for the Florida Department of Highways. Pilot Tom Hinds and Observer Frank Reidinger flew west following Interstate 10 and took pictures of all interchanges at altitudes ranging from 800 feet to 1000 feet. Upon landing, these photos were delivered to Lt Col Don Wood, Florida Wing Director of Emergency Services. Stationed at the Tallahassee Emergency Operations Center, Col. Wood passed the pictures on to the Florida Highway Patrol and Florida Department of Transportation. These aerial surveillance photos provided the FHP and FDOT members with a bird's eye view of hurricane evacuation congestion.



Central Brevard Senior Squadron proudly advanced 1Lt Charles Bartola and William Atkinson to the rank of Captain. Member Herbert Fohrenbach retired after contributing 33 years as a CAP member. Capt Al Martin was selected as Squadron Safety Officer of the Year.

Capt H. O'Dell, Personnel Officer



Squadron 279 at Homestead Air Reserve Base couldn't possibly expect a better relationship with the Air Force than that which they have now. The base provides CAP with a building and all types of training aids but additionally they host the winter cadet encampment. At the moment the squadron is working towards acquiring a tie-down area for the Squadron's plane and a fueling station. Lt Col Robert Key, Squadron Commander and many members of the squadron hold joint membership in the AF Reserve and Civil Air Patrol. Members of the USAR 93rd Fighter Squadron, a part of the 482nd Fighter Wing, recently took time to explain the F-16 Fighting Falcon to the CAP squadron cadets and senior members.



During the Air and Sea show at Ft. Lauderdale, Marine Corps Gen Charles Wilhelm and CAP Major Aaron Modansky relived old naval battles while visiting the helicopter carrier USS Nassau. Maj Modansky, the commander of the Boca Raton Senior Squadron was a decorated navy fighter pilot in both W.W.II and the Korean conflict.

1Lt Kathy E. Paine, Group 7 PAO



Eight cadets from the Stuart Composite Squadron and the Treasure Coast Composite Squadron visited the Weeks Air Museum at the Tamiami Airport. They were given a private viewing of the exhibit hall and a tour of the ATC tower. A highlight of the day was a special presentation by Gen Paul Tibbets, pilot and commanding officer of the 509th Composite, who led his flight crew on board the Enola Gay on 8 August, 1945 when they dropped the first atomic bomb on Hiroshima, Japan.

2Lt Dee Cordova, Dep. Commander-Cadets



The Tamiami Composite Squadron has had an extremely busy month of June. Two of their many activities included attendance at the Jonathon Dickenson Park River Outing and Confidence Course. Members convoyed to an embarkation point at the camp, boarded a pontoon vessel and conducted an overnight water trip. Those who participated learned survival skills and navigation techniques. LTC Andre Coulomb and Capt Gil Aguiar attended the National Association for Search and Rescue National Academy. They are now qualified Ground Team Managers-Leaders.

Capt David Leifer, PAO

Lt Col Thomas Abatiello of the Boca Raton Senior Squadron was recognized as the Member of the Year-Group 6. Col. Abatiello originally learned to fly in Long Island, New York and has been a member of the Civil Air Patrol for over thirty years.

1Lt Eliot Brody, PAO



PROP WASH, the newsletter of the Charlotte County Composite Squadron gets better with each issue. The increase from a single page to twelve pages is directly related to the squadron's activities and accomplishments. A recent Search and Rescue Exercise successfully had 8 sorties launched. One trainee pilot earned Mission Pilot status and several other participants qualified for Mission Observer. Major Ray Poole earned the Paul E. Garber Award and eligibility for advancement to the rank of Lt Colonel. A result of an all-out team effort of 21 senior members, 8 cadets and 3 parents was the painting of the entire outside of the squadron's headquarters as well as two rooms inside in just over three hours.



The 20th annual Florida International Air Show in Punta Gorda was a thrilling success that produced thousands of dollars for local charities. Of course, CAP cadets from Group 5 squadrons assisted in flight line control and auto parking. Cadets also provided security for various planes that were on static display. The airshow attracted tens of thousands of enthusiasts and with the Blue Angels precision flying, the Golden Knights precision parachute jumping and other aerial exhibitions, the crowd was continuously enthralled.

Editor's Note: Travelling north on I-75 enroute to a Florida Wing staff meeting at MacDill AFB in Tampa, I passed the Charlotte County Airport and was thrilled when the Blue Angels at extremely low altitude flew directly across my windshield and then performed a sharp 180 degree rolling turn and passed directly overhead enroute back to the airport show.



The POW/MIA team [see photo, page 22] that presented a heart warming ceremony at the Florida Wing Conference-2000, has been invited by Maj Gen Bernard Loeffke [USA RET] to present the POW/MIA ceremony at the National POW/MIA Conference in Washington, D.C.

The team will be representing the entire Florida Wing. In order to raise funds for travel, new uniforms, supplies and hotel/food, POW/MIA polo shirts are offered for sale. The shirt is 100% black, cotton Polo with the POW/MIA logo embroidered in white [not silk screen] over the left breast. Similar shirts sell for \$40-\$50. Only \$25 is being asked as a minimum donation for these magnificent and meaningful shirts. To place orders or gain more information, contact 1Lt Edward Villalba, Group 6 Director of Cadet Programs. His e-mail is specwar75@earthlink.net

Let's send these first class cadets to our nation's capital in first class style. They will make CAP and Florida Wing very proud.

Continued from Page 1

members are unpaid professional volunteers and their only remuneration is recognition. Former Wing Commanders in attendance, Col. Henri Casenove, Col. Samuel G. Spieker, Jr. and Col. Ernie Lewis plus all recipients of the Spaatz Award-the highest award attainable by a cadet-were asked to stand and be greeted with a rousing ovation. The General continued, "This large gathering is an inspiration and indicative of the time, talents and professionalism that you so generously render to your community, your state and your nation. What you do is noble."

"Each of us should set forth four priorities for a fulfilling life - God, Family, Work and Volunteerism. We are proud that CAP has maintained a ten percent growth in our cadet membership and a two percent growth in our senior membership. These are two essential components of our organization's strength and each is dependant on the other. Retention of our new members is the real challenge. For every 10 cadets that join today, only 3 stay one year from today. For every 5 new senior members, 4 are with us a year from today. The single reason offered by our non-renewing members is 'They did not give me enough to do'. Assigning meaningful jobs to our new members is an obvious imperative. Remember, never give someone a job and then do it for them. The strongest foundations are built by members who have had job bricks given to them. The Civil Air Patrol is a diverse organization with a diverse membership and diverse missions. The Civil Air Patrol with our 61,000 members is far better off and far better prepared to meet the future than in the 58 years of our history. We have 20 new gliders that have been added to our fleet of 530 aircraft."

"We must never forget", Bobick stated, "that cadets are our future. More importantly, cadets are now. They are smarter, more dedicated and more active than ever before. I feel a surge of pleasure each time I dwell on the thought that a future CAP National Commander is presently a member of our cadet corps." Addressing the cadets in the audience, Gen. Bobick stated, "I charge each of you to prepare for the finite time when you reach the age of 18 to 21 years and I trust you will decide to become a senior

member. We need you. Our cadet program saves lives."

"Our Inner City Cadet Program is a stellar success. We have cadets that brag about belonging to the CAP 'gang'. They are proud of their 'gang' colors, uniform, gang programs, activities and that their gang is continuously recruiting new members." Gen. Bobick concluded, "Civil Air Patrol is a wonderful family with each of us thinking CAP in our heads and feeling CAP in our hearts. We are all members of the same family and as such are there for each other. All too many of us over the years have given their lives in search and rescue efforts and fulfillment of our other CAP missions. We deeply miss our lost friends but are brimming with pride at their instilling in us the dedication of purpose to serve and serve well. That is what our Civil Air Patrol is all about."

A STORY THAT TOUCHES THE HEART

A CAP cadet, with visions of sleeping under the stars, eating food cooked over blazing fires, sports competitions and physical testing, joining with other cadets in fellowship activities, arrived at a summer encampment. Before his tent was fully erected and his blanket roll in place, he was handed a note to call the home of his neighbor.

The cadet was driven to the nearest phone and with little prelude, the neighbor told the cadet that his father had died quite suddenly. His immediate sense of disbelief was all too quickly followed by an emotional reaction of distress, sorrow and bewilderment.

As soon as the squadron learned of the cadet's deep loss, the members packed his belongings, the squadron commander called the Air Force for a helicopter air lift, the chaplain stayed at his side throughout and the cadet was transported by air to his home.

The entire squadron attended and assisted at the memorial services and the funeral services. The members provided additional assistance at the cadet's home in helping with the many tasks that could ease the family's burden.

The cadet has never forgotten how grateful he was for the feeling of family that his CAP friends provided. The name of that cadet - Brig. Gen. James C. Bobick.

'CAP IS FAR BETTER OFF THAN WE HAVE BEEN IN OUR ENTIRE 58 YEAR HISTORY'

**Brigadier General James C. Bobick,
CAP National Commander**

During a speech at the Florida Wing Conference, our National Commander, Brigadier General James C. Bobick addressed the upcoming reorganization of the Civil Air Patrol which will be based on the extended studies conducted by the Civil Air Patrol, U. S. Air Force, Department of Defense, and Congress through the Government Accounting Office.

The most significant statement made by General Bobick is that the "Civil Air Patrol will be a stronger, more viable organization and far better off than we have been in our entire 58 year history."

General Bobick continued with a summary of what will be happening to CAP beginning this year.

There shall be created a National Board of Governors composed of members of the Civil Air Patrol, U.S. Air Force, Congress of the United States, and American industry.

The National Board remains and retains its responsibilities for accomplishing CAP's objectives and purposes in accordance with policies established by the Board of Governors.

Proposed legislation has been drafted for introduction to and adoption by the Congress. This legislation principally assures that all agreed-to changes shall happen.

Difficulties with change are anticipated but it is an exciting challenge for good. CAP shall be better off and stronger as a result of these changes. We have been, and shall remain to be, one of the finest civilian volunteer organizations in the nation.

A Cooperative Agreement and Statement of Work has been accepted by the USAF and CAP.

Signing by our National Commander and the Secretary of the Air Force is scheduled to take place in early July. All three missions of CAP have been identified and the USAF has agreed to support CAP's fulfillment of these missions. Civil Air Patrol's entry into the millennium is on a far stronger foundation than when it was created.

CAP's future was launched on December 1, 1941 just six days before the infamous attack on Pearl Harbor. It's interesting to note that oceanographers may have found what purports to be a sunken Nazi submarine that was reported sunk by Civil Air Patrol air crews.

We look back with pride to our early days when 87 submarine sightings were recorded and 64 CAP members heroically gave their lives in search and rescue missions from 1941 to 1943.

Gen. Bobick additionally updated the assemblage with the announcement of a new technology known as "STK" which stands for Satellite Tool Kit. This system is an excellent training tool for use in our Cadet Program. It also has been developed for use in aerial search and rescue. This capability makes possible the exact locating of grid spots and can provide a record of how grids are flown. Analytical Graphics Inc. has agreed to provide all CAP Squadrons with STK at no charge. STK will avail to CAP a new technology that will vastly improve our Search and Rescue capabilities.

For additional information, unit commanders or Emergency Services Officers may contact Lt Col Drew Alexa, Director of STK, NHQ/CAP at 719 576 4397.



Brig. Gen. James C. Bobick, CAP

PHOTO MAT



I. t o r. Southeast Region Commander, Col Joseph Meighan, Jr.; Vice Chief of Staff, Capt Eileen Parker; National Commander, Brigadier General James C. Bobick; Florida Wing Commander, Col Antonio Pineda; and Chief of Staff, Lt Col Matt Sharkey.



I. to. r. Colonel Tony Pineda; Congressman Mark Foley, House Ways and Means Committee; and General James C. Bobick. Congressman Foley was an honored guest speaker.



U. S. Army Major General Bernard Loeffke, former Military Attaché to the Soviet Union as well as a member of the Army Rangers was the guest speaker at the Florida Wing Conference-2000.
[See story on Page 16]



With a great sense of pride, National Commander, Gen Bobick presented the Billy Mitchell Award to Cadet Anthony J. Viviani, Coral Springs Cadet Squadron.



Ms. Melinda Rivera accepted a Life Saving Award from 1Lt Paul Siglock for having provided the First Aid assistance that saved his life.
[See story on Page 1, Issue #1, FLORIDA FACTS].



Wing Commander, Col Pineda accepts the Outstanding Wing Commander of the Year Award from Southeast Region Commander, Col Joseph Meighan, Jr.



LATE BREAKING NEWS

Lake Composite Squadron began a new cooperative training program with the Federal Aviation Agency Flight Safety Counselor, J.

Rock Rockcastle. This instructor pilot has thousands of flight hours teaching in all types of planes. In the FLWG program, he presents courses on safety that are related to pilots who use the local airport.

Pilots who complete the program evidence that they have a commitment to continued aviation safety. The first class in this pilot refresher training program discussed flight operations at a non-towered airfield. By supporting the FAA in their effort to improving pilot proficiency, CAP is trying to achieve an annual No Accident Record.

Lt Col David M. Moseley, Commander



The first Cadet Academic Bowl was held at the Florida Wing Conference 2000. First Place was awarded to the Lantana/Lake Worth Squadron. Second Place was presented to the Coral Springs Cadet Squadron. It is rumored that Regis Philbin is scouting both teams for his "Who Wants To Be A Millionaire" show!



The Tallahassee Composite Squadron has been approved for a \$77,000 Grant from the State of Florida, Division of Emergency Management for the purchase of needed communications equipment. The Grant Agreement has been reviewed by Florida Wing Legal Staff and Col. Pineda has signed the document. Procurement of the equipment is now in process.

1Lt James Dodson, Deputy Commander



Cadet Jason MaHaffey recently took his Spaatz Exam and has just been advised that he has received an appointment to the Air Force Academy. He will report to class in July.



2Lt Raymond S. Hayden has accepted the appointment to serve as Florida Wing Director

of Professional Development and Test Control Officer from Wing Commander, Col Tony Pineda. Lt Hayden will be working from the Florida Wing Headquarters, South Office. The Wing Test Control Office will remain centralized at Florida Wing Headquarters, North Office at MacDill AFB.



In the 31 days of May, Florida Wing Emergency Services personnel responded to a total of 37 missions as assigned by the U.S. Air Force Rescue Coordination Center. Each mission was successfully completed.



No wonder Florida Wing Capt Eileen Parker, Vice Chief of Staff won the award for "Outstanding Performance as a Wing Staff Officer." She and Chief of Staff, Lt Col Matt Sharkey worked for months to plan the Florida Wing Conference 2000. Little did they realize that the planning phase was the easiest. Implementation at the conference required their overworking from before sun-up to long after sun-down. The truly amazing result was not only the best conference Florida Wing has ever conducted but the ability of these two fine officers to maintain a totally cooperative and responsive attitude to every CAP member who requested something from them. There was hardly an attendee that didn't! Their display of true leadership was exemplary.



On June 3, the closing day of the Florida Wing Conference, Col Pineda announced during the Command Call Assembly that planning for the Florida Wing Conference 2001 has already begun.

Achieving a successful statewide conference requires hundreds of tasks to be completed. Setting a date, location, hotel, and menu selection; rate negotiations; requesting nominations for awards; selection of guest speakers; determining honored guest list; publicizing the event; design of web page;

Continued

See Page 12 - Late News

WING'S WORDS OF WISDOM

Administration Director, Lt Col Evelyn Holdren informs that staff and visitors to the wing headquarters at MacDill AFB in Tampa, now must meet new security requirements. A current CAP membership card and a second means of identification, preferably with a photograph, must be shown to the guard at the Dale Mabry gate. Your name will be checked against an MSA [Military Support Authorization] to be provided by CAP. In the event the list is not at the gate or your name is not on the list, you will be required to obtain a pass at the Visitor's Center just outside the main gate.

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Lt Col Kay Cunningham, Director of the Southeast Region Staff College, announces the College Class of 2000 will be held at Tyndall AFB from 23 September to 1 October. The \$50 fee covers the cost of the academic materials, special events, and the unforgettable Graduation Banquet. A CAPF 17 signed by the Wing Commander must be submitted.

EDITOR'S NOTE: As a Class of '99 graduate I can attest that this was one of the finest experiences I have had in CAP. The management, leadership and presentation skills you are taught by USAF and CAP instructors equal Corporate Training Sessions which cost thousands of dollars. You will learn how to be a superior leader or a competent follower and you will make life-long friends. Take one week of your life and change it!

The former Senior Training Program now called the Professional Development Program is under the capable direction of 2Lt Raymond Hayden. The Air Institute is now known as the Air Force Institute for Advanced Distributed Learning [AFIADL]. Director Hayden suggests to every CAP member that the 'world of free knowledge is nearly unlimited to you with the plethora of courses available.' For starters check the awesome Catalogue of Courses on <http://www.maxwell.af.mil/au/afiadl/>. To register for any course merely contact Lt Hayden or e-mail him at rhayden@egroups.com

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With Hurricane Season upon us, Major Jorge Del Rio, Florida Wing Chief, Disaster Preparedness advises every unit to provide their Group Commander with a resource list for helping their community. Group Commanders should notify the Emergency Management Personnel of these resources, the fact that those resources are available to them locally and all CAP members are always on instant-response alert. Convince them to include CAP in the Comprehensive Emergency Management Plan [CEMP] for their county. Finally, inform Wing DOS so that we are aware of how you intend to use your resources.

Capt Paul Blystone, FLWG Director of Communications, states, "If you are interested in finding out if your radio is compliant or not and you have a computer, merely go to <http://www.caphq.gov/>. Click on CAP Directorates, when on that page scroll down and click on Communications. When on that web page scroll to the bottom and find VHF Equipment Compliance list or HF Equipment Compliance list and click on the appropriate one. When the list comes up, click on the manufacturer that you are interested in and view the list of radios to see if your HF is compliant and if your VHF is wide or narrowband compliant

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Labels for the mailing of FLORIDA FACTS to our member's home are developed from a list downloaded from the National Headquarters Membership Records. Lt. Col. David Mikelson, who computerizes this list, notes that NHQ sends a computer printout to unit commanders each month. Unit commanders need to regularly review this list and send any corrections or additions to national for the system to be effective. If a member doesn't receive FLORIDA FACTS, they also won't receive CAP NEWS or their renewal notice.



CADET CAP'ERS



Two dozen cadets from the **West Broward Composite Squadron** repainted the entire house owned by a blind and disabled widow. Materials were donated by MAB Paint, Sam's Club and Screen Craft of Miami. Nearly 200 man-hours later, the dilapidated looking home was converted to a model house for the neighborhood. Capt Charles Soriano, Commander, said "We are not only training leaders for our nation, we are training leaders for our communities, by instilling a sense of pride and a sense of community service. It's important to be able to give back to our local communities. Our members are from Dade and Broward Counties. We come together to help someone in need, be it an entire county as with Hurricane Andrew, or just a single person. They are all considered emergencies-it's just a differential of size."

Capt. George Navarini



Nearly 100 attended the Third Annual Awards Banquet of the **Pasco Cadet Squadron**. Guest Speaker was Brig Gen William Cass, former CAP National Commander and State Representative, Michael Fasano was an honored guest. Special Award plaques were given to C/Lt Col Robert Johnson, former Cadet Commander who has been admitted to the U.S. Air Force Academy and C/1Lt Ian La Spina former Deputy Cadet Commander who recently was selected for admittance to Annapolis Naval Academy. C/Maj Tara Guthrie assumed Cadet Command and was presented the Air Force Association Award as "Cadet of the Year."

2Lt Lili R. Bartoletti, PAO



Before the annual week-end Air and Sea Show at Fort Lauderdale, members of **Group 6** were invited to a preview and FLWG Stan/Eval Officer, Maj Russell Reichmann issued last minute flight line safety instructions to those cadet and senior members that were assigned this task. The spectacular show included the Blue Angel Precision Air Team, the Canadian Snowbird planes and two days of thrilling other events. An equally thrilling event was the recognition of Cadet

Commander Emily Doctor of the **Ft. Lauderdale Composite Squadron** for her attaining an appointment to attend the U. S. Air Force Academy. Commander Doctor is an honor student with a 4.7 GPA and is a member of the National Honor Society. She is intending to major in Aerospace Engineering and aspires to be a pilot and fly for the USAF.

Maj. Virginia Montalvo, Squadron Commander



Richard Ortega, Vice President, Aerospace Education, Air Force Association, presented the AFA Silver Medal to C/2Lt Ashley Hamada, the "Squadron's Cadet of the Year" at the **Black Knight Cadet Squadron's** First Annual Awards Ceremony.



Hard work, intensive training and determination led to **Lantana/Lake Worth Cadet Squadron** taking First Place in the FLWG Drill Team Competition with **SRQ Composite Squadron** taking a close Second Place. The **Lantana/Lake Worth Cadet Squadron-Team #1** earned First Place in the Color Guard competition. **West Broward Composite Squadron** was awarded Second Place and the **Lantana/Lake Worth Cadet Squadron-Team #2** took Third Place.

Maj Gary Swigert, DC Lantana/Lake Worth Cadet Sq.



C/Lt Col John Helms of the **Marion County Composite Squadron** experienced the day that can not be equaled by any other day, nor ever forgotten...the day of your first solo. John not only shot three smooth takeoffs and landings but did it with TV cameras rolling. Equally amazing was John earning his Solo Pilot's License BEFORE he earned his Driver's License.



Of 15 Civil Air Patrol Instructor Grants received nationally from the Air Force Association, the State of Florida received two. Congratulations to both the **Sarasota-Bradenton Composite Squadron** and **Seminole Cadet Squadron**.

transmitting e-mail announcements; determining seminar sessions and presenters; setting reservations procedure; printing and mailing invitations to guests; assignment of tables; printing place cards; assembling seminar audio/video/projector equipment; design and print program; seating arrangement for head table; design and purchase decorations; obtain attendees conference bags, gifts and door prizes; print tickets and ID tags; arrange for sign-in personnel; design banquet room; arrange for color guard and POW/MIA team; arrange for CAP BookStore and displays; design logistics for displaying new CAP glider; order trophies and plaques; print award certificates; orchestrate banquet and speeches; select master of ceremonies; and arrange hospitality suites. These are just a few of the hundred and more tasks that must be addressed and accomplished. So the commander is very wise to program 363 days for conference planning and implementation.

 Former Florida Wing Commander, Col Ernie Lewis announced to the more than 400 attendees at the wing conference, "Throughout my many years as a member of the Civil Air Patrol, I have attended more than 120 local, state and national CAP conferences. This conference is by far the best." Responses to the 23 question Conference Critique by more than 100 participants certainly parallels Col Lewis' feelings. 62% rated the publicizing of the conference as excellent to outstanding; 82% considered the location convenient, dates appropriate, cost affordable, room quality and dining facilities outstanding; 80% indicated the classroom/seminar facilities, curriculum topics, quality of presentations, effectiveness of speakers, audio visual aids and length of seminars as outstanding; 87% stated the length of the conference, the social activities and the overall conference was excellent; and 92% said the performance of the wing conference staff was outstanding.

 CAP member Henry Schneider related to a conference group that he had converted a Harley Davidson engine in 1930 to that of an aircraft. At the age of 19 he soloed after teaching himself to fly. At 88 years of age he still says he'll match any pilot's ability to 'seat of the pants' flying.

 State's Attorney Norma Kay Wendt is Florida CAP's newest member and is already serving as a Legal Officer on Florida Wing JAG staff. She enjoyed the learning experience provided at various conference seminars as well as the camaraderie extended by the CAP members. We have Lt Col Valerie Brown to thank for her keen ability to discern outstanding qualifications of individuals and for her ability to convince them to become an active participant in the fulfilling of CAP's mission.

 Col. Pineda announced that Florida Wing owns 2 1/2 acres of land in the middle of the state. It's his vision that this site would make an outstanding CAP Camp area. The facility needs an access road, buildings for barracks, kitchen and mess hall, and a recreation/crafts center. Commander Pineda stated the first priority is the development of a Comprehensive Master Plan and Capital Improvements Budget for the facility. This could inter-relate to CAP's increased services to the state and it's communities and CAP's request for an increase in annual appropriations from the state.

 Lt Col Frank Reidinger and Lt Tom Hinds recently flew a Hurricane Evacuation Route photo mission for the Florida Department of Transportation. "The purpose of shooting Route I-10 from Jacksonville to Tallahassee was two-fold" said Tom Hinds, Operations Officer for Fernandina Senior Squadron. First, CAP pilots took pictures for planning purposes. Agencies will use these photos to determine where to place personnel, barricades, and other emergency personnel and equipment. Secondly the photos will be used to see how feasible some ideas - such as slow scan TV trained on highways - would be to solve the problem of hurricane evacuation congestion. It is reported the state agencies were extremely pleased with the aerial photo results.

MISSION MEMOS



OUTSTANDING DEDICATION TO DUTY
For service above and beyond the call of duty, our hats should go off to Wing Alerting Officer, Lt Col James Webster. On 12 May, Col Webster was operated on at the St. Petersburg Hospital. He was discharged late in the day on the 13th of May and at 0905 on the 14th, he was phoning Mission Coordinator Buddy Harris to pass a SAR mission over. Still feeling post operative pain and hiccuping from the anesthesia, he very capably briefed Harris on the mission....amazing!

TWO FINDS FOR GROUP TWO
Capt Russ Blaser and Capt Peter Leet were flying a Hurricane Zorro Exercise mission for the state that required slow scan photo transmission of I-10 crossovers. During the flight they spotted a plume of smoke and were the first to report it to the Emergency Operations Center [EOC]. In another incident, while observing glider operations, Capt Leet saw a plume of smoke rising from west of the airport. He launched a Citabria 150 and spotted the fire source. The emergency call was immediately placed and a major fire was contained to 4000 acres.

1999 WAS AN ACTIVE YEAR
In 1999, Florida Wing performed 165 missions, flew 259 sorties and logged 550 flying hours. In spite of our being one of the three most active wings in the nation, we are only 19th as compared to other states' funding of their CAP wings!

WATER SURVIVAL TRAINING
The 920th Rescue Group at Patrick Air Force Base hosted a water survival training course for CAP. Classroom exercises and actual experience training in the Banana River composed the course.

APRIL FOOL'S DAY HAS TWO ELT'S
As soon as Lt Col Robert Croft, Wing Alerting Officer, notified 1Lt Gary Owen, Stuart Cadet Squadron, of an ELT mission,

he and Capt Lane began the search with a Directional Finder and Radio. A weak signal was detected at a marina. Accompanied by a requested Police Officer, the vessel was boarded and the alarm silenced. However, a strong signal was immediately acquired from a vessel immediately adjacent. An hour later the vessel owner arrived and opened the cabin so that the EPIRB could be turned off. Imagine two ELT's directly adjacent on April Fool's Day.

TWO SAVED IN MULTI-STATE SEARCH
Members from CAP Florida Wing and CAP Alabama Wing were involved in the search and rescue of two survivors of a Cessna 172 that crashed in southern Alabama. Mission Coordinator, Lt Col George Williams was alerted by the U. S. Air Force Rescue Coordination Center in Langley AFB, Virginia of two emergency locator transmitter [ELT] signals. The alarms were originating from the Florida panhandle and the Foley, Alabama area.

Capt Douglas Kelly, pilot and Maj William Smathers, observer of the Milton Senior Squadron were launched in their CAP aircraft and a Ground Team was dispatched led by Maj Ivan Collazo of the Eglin Composite Squadron. Coordinates of an ELT were pinpointed by the air crew to be in southern Alabama and were relayed to the Alabama Wing Ground Team.

The crashed Cessna aircraft was located with two survivors aboard. Both were airlifted to Baptist Hospital in Pensacola, Fl. The Air Force credited Florida Wing with two "Saves" in recognition of their contribution in saving the lives of two downed aviators.

Capt George Navarin, PAO

EMERGENCY SERVICES AND SUMMER
Summer is here and we are well into the 2000 Hurricane Season. Are you prepared for what might happen? Preparation will help make any operation safer and more successful.

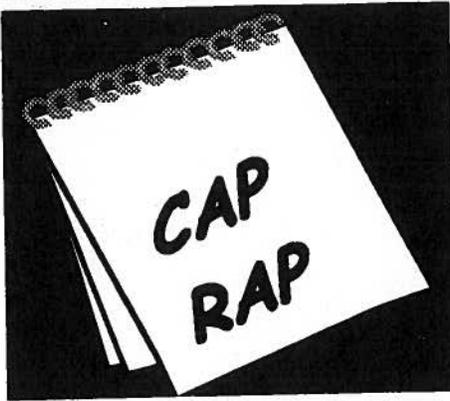
First, is personal safety. Though we live in Florida, most of us are not acclimated to the heat, thanks to air conditioning. Hot weather

operations without air conditioning will take a lot out of us. Your best preparation is to get regular exercise and eat a balanced diet. While you are actually out in the field, keep yourself well hydrated by drinking plenty of fluids. A snack, such as pretzels, will help to replace some of the sodium that you will lose in your perspiration.

Next is your family. All members need to have a completed CAPF 60 with them. This will allow the mission staff to notify your family quickly in the event you have an accident. Cadets, are your parents aware that if you are working in a disaster area, you may not be able to call home every night? Phone lines are extremely scarce when disaster strikes. Seniors, before you leave home is your family prepared for you to be gone for several days? Next, when you deploy to a disaster site, are you prepared to take care of yourself? Don't expect to find grocery stores and fast food take-outs in operation where a major storm has struck. We should bring along food and water for our own consumption. Use foods that do not require refrigeration or much preparation. Consider Meals Ready-to-Eat [MRE] or varieties of canned foods. Bring along needed utensils such as a can opener and a spoon and fork. How is the equipment that you plan to use? Have you checked your equipment recently? Unpack all your equipment and take inventory. How are the batteries in your flashlight and do you have spares? If you have first aid supplies are they still in date? Do you have adequate amounts of mosquito repellent and sun screen? Prior planning will help you have a trouble free deployment in any situation.

Finally, how is your training? Are you up-to-date on procedures and regulations? Preparing for your mission ahead of time is time well spent.

Lt Col Donald Wood, FLWG/DOS



On May 27, at least 20 Union Pacific freight cars [some carrying dangerous and volatile chemicals] derailed near Eunice, La., and as cars burned, digital aerial video provided by the Civil Air Patrol allowed emergency workers to get up close to the wreckage. Their special perspective, coupled with the ability to transmit high resolution digital photos to a specially designed website, allowed chemical companies to identify their cars amongst the conflagration within minutes of when the aerial photos were taken.



GAO findings in the congressionally mandated report stated that CAP recorded its safest year ever in 1999, logging only 2.34 accidents per 100,000 flight hours. This is a far better record than general aviation and the military.



Overheard at the Florida Wing Conference-2000...The two biggest lies are: Inspector General to a Unit Com-

mander, "I'm here to help you." Unit Commander to the IG, "I'm truly glad you're here."



If you want any information about aviation to telecommunications there is a website that has it all and it's user friendly. Just visit www.howstuffworks.com.



The Arizona Wing's Marketing Directorate began talking with the Fox Family Network two months ago about featuring a CAP Cadet on their teen website. The wing provided Fox with information on three male and three female cadets under the age of 15. [Parents were contacted prior to submission of names]. Fox has a website for males and another site for females. They notified the Arizona Wing that Fox has conducted an interview with 14 year old cadet Kate Schifani from the New Mexico Wing. The interview with photos of Kate will begin appearing on the Fox Family Network web site beginning 12 June. Visit www.gchannel.com and click on "gwhiz" section to see and read about Kate and the CAP Cadet Program.



Naples Senior Squadron Commander Humbert Gressani recommends a website that is invaluable to CAPers. It has loads of valuable information including current weather anywhere in the nation, aircraft maintenance advice, flying advice and much, much more. To see what it is like, go to

[www.aeronautx.net/Main menu/index.htm](http://www.aeronautx.net/Main%20menu/index.htm).



Patrick Composite Squadron invited members of Group 4, cadets and seniors, to attend special squadron meetings recently. One meeting had Lt Gen Kehoe from the U.S. Air Force Inspector General's Office accompanied by his Aide and Col Jerry Angley, FLWG Liaison Officer. A second meeting had Brig Gen Pettit, Commander of the 45th Space Wing, Patrick Air Force Base teaching a leadership class for cadets.



It was great to see all Group Commanders, [Group One could not make it] in attendance at the Florida Wing Conference-2000 plus so many old friends and colleagues including Former Wing Commanders Col Sam Spieker, Col Henri Casenove and Col Ernie Lewis. Former Chiefs of Staff Lt Col Dave Mikelson and Lt Col Valerie Brown added imaginative excitement at the General Assembly with their suggestions for new approaches and new projects. Col Pineda was most receptive to the concepts.



Watch for the "Fall Round up" Drug Demand Reduction Program scheduled for the first week end in October. At least 1200 cadet will be involved and Lt Col Rober Masiker is already mobilizing aide and is deep into the program for matting and planning.



From The **MAILBAG**

"I wish to thank CAP for the assistance they provided when the aircraft they were flying in spotted a brush fire in our district and reported it to Highlands County Emergency Operations Center.

On that scene, an estimated 90 acres of wildland were burned, with one structure in immediate danger and several others that might have been in trouble, if not for the quick thinking of those on board to have the foresight to make that call. Fortunately there was no damage to any structures but had we not been notified when we were, the outcome may have been entirely different. Special thanks to Capt Ray Meyers, pilot, who was on a Civil Air Patrol Training Mission when the crew spotted the fire. I am pleased to know that the CAP is active in our county and hope we can count on them again, if needed."

Danny Holmes, Fire Chief
Leisure Lakes Volunteer Fire Dept.

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Great work on the FLORIDA FACTS.

2Lt Ray Hayden,
FLWG Dir. Professional Development

• • • • •

Just received your newsletter. I enjoyed reading it front to back.

Lt Col Fred R. Mahadocon, Jr.
Director of Public Affairs
California Wing

• • • • •

Good FLORIDA FACTS except in the SAR Mission looking for the student pilot who crashed off the Atlantic Coast, you gave credit to all the squadrons who provided assets except the Fernandina Senior Squadron.

Lt Col Gerald Kawecki, Commander
Editor's Note: The oversight was without intent. I have rechecked the mission logs and the elimination was not mine.

• • • • •

Outstanding job you are doing with this publication. Only those who have ever participated in the preparation and publication of a newsletter can appreciate the hours of labor and effort you have given this effort.

Lt Col Howard Gelbman

• • • • •

I appreciate all the hard work you do. I enjoy your publication.

Lt Col Harry E. Jones,
Georgia Wing HQ.

• • • • •

Just keep up the good work. You are setting the standard for Public Relations in its broadest sense.

Col Ernest Lewis
Former Florida Wing Commander

• • • • •

I'm glad to see that we have people within our wing that are carefully reading the various articles, news reports, and publications the Marketing Directorate publishes both for our members, and for the general public. Observations, rec-

ommendations, and even constructive criticism are always welcome.

Capt George Navarini, Director
FLWG Marketing and Public Affairs

• • • • •

Just received the latest issue of FLORIDA FACTS. It is great! Something for everybody. Florida Wing is fortunate to have so many talented people like you who are willing to spend the time and personal resources to successfully complete the many missions that CAP performs in service to our communities and nation. Best of all you make sure a whole lot of people read the CAP story.

Lt Col Ralph Rivers
Florida wing Chaplain

• • • • •

Thanks to FLORIDA FACTS being sent to all EOC Directors, John Tatum, III of the Recovery and Mitigation Section of the Palm Beach County Emergency Operations Center has become an avid reader. His newly acquired high level of respect for CAP's capabilities and level of professionalism led him to assign space at the EOC for CAP mission personnel to facilitate their providing assistance in emergency response missions.

Maj Jorge Del Rio
FLWG Chief, Disaster Preparedness

• • • • •

Keep up the good work I enjoy reading all of the publication.

Robert Scott
Pinellas Senior Squadron

U.S. ARMY MAJOR GENERAL LOEFFKE ADDRESSES CAP CONFERENCE

Maj Gen Bernard Loeffke never used a microphone during his address to the CAP assemblage at the Saturday evening banquet. He literally mesmerized his audience into absolute attentive silence.

Gen Loeffke's career is equally spellbinding. Graduating from West Point in 1957, he completed airborne training as well as becoming an Army Ranger. He served in Vietnam seeing combat and earning many decorations. This was followed by assignments as Military Attaché to the Soviet Union, Chief of the Military Mission in China, Chairperson of the Inter-American Defense Board, Chief of Staff of the XVIII Airborne Corps, Army Component Commander-US Southern Command, and was involved with Operation Just Cause. Then he retired!

Did he remain in his well deserved lifestyle of retirement? Hardly! He was recalled to active duty to serve as Director of Task Force Russia and the US/Russian Joint Commission on POW/MIA Affairs. Following this challenging assignment he again retired. But again, it wasn't for long!

Not content with a Masters in Russian, and Doctorate in Political Science, he began studying medicine. The General earned a degree in Physician's Assistant Studies, with honors, from Nova Southeastern University. Although he lives in Hollywood, Florida, the world has become his home - bringing hope and healing to those that need it most. From nighttime emergency surgeries in the Sudan (using flashlights and reused gloves), to delivering over 100 babies to-date, he has brought his credo of laughter, music, and healing to life.

General Loeffke took advantage of any free moment to interact one-on-one with the cadets. He stated that "The CAP cadets are young Americans that are part of a noble and fantastic program. They are vivid examples of decency, morality, and community val-

ues." He emphasized, "To be a leader, one must display leadership ability. That's what the CAP Cadet does."

"If you learn and practice healing, music and laughter, you can win friends anywhere in the world. Further, we must learn the languages of non-friendly nations. This is extremely important if we intend any positive interaction. It is important to note that the words 'stranger' and 'enemy' are the same word in 70% of the world's languages."

"We must recognize, be ever fearful, and alert to the three most serious threats to our sustenance of freedom-Viral Epidemic From Africa; Viral Terrorism; and Nuclear War. We have the courage, capabilities and conscience to ward off these threats. However, our efforts must be continuous and constant."

The United States stands for four 'D's' - Democracy which has proved so beneficial to the free world; Development - in all fields for the furtherance of democracy; Dialogue - our ability to speak, hear and listen achieves new as well as improved foreign relations; and; Defense- to be safe one must be strong."

Following the banquet and presentation of awards, General Loeffke visited each cadet table and spoke with many of the cadets. He responded with an immediate "yes" to the numerous requests to pose for a photo and to sign various CAP memorabilia.



Major General Bernard Loeffke
U.S. Army [Ret.]



HEADQUARTERS
OFFICE OF THE CADET COMMANDER
EMBRY-RIDDLE AERONAUTICAL UNIVERSITY ENCAMPMENT 2000
CIVIL AIR PATROL FLORIDA WING
800 SW 1ST COURT
BOYNTON BEACH FL 33426-4366
ba_EAKER@juno.com



MEMORANDUM FOR THE CADETS OF FLORIDA WING

FROM: Cadet Lieutenant Colonel Brian J. Aguila, CAP
ERAU Summer Encampment Cadet Commander

SUBJECT: I Personally Welcome You to Attend!

1. Good afternoon. I am writing you this letter to personally invite you to attend the Florida Wing Summer Encampment scheduled to take place from Sunday, July 16 to Saturday, July 22. In the past, the annual summer encampment has been held at Duke Field located in Florida's panhandle. However, to bring the encampment closer to home, the site for the activity has been moved to the Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University in Daytona Beach, Florida.
2. The cadet staff slots for the activity are quickly filling up. However, there are still many openings for flight member positions. Your application is important and will help create the flights that will be needed to host the largest Florida Wing Encampment in a long time. The goal right now is to have 200 first-time cadets attend this encampment.
3. Besides the fact that an encampment is a requirement to obtain your Gen. Billy Mitchell Award and promotion to C/2Lt in Civil Air Patrol, it is a very valuable activity to everyone involved. You will walk away from the activity with a great feeling of accomplishment. You will learn a great deal about both followership *and* leadership; you will learn much about the Cadet Programs, Aerospace Education, and Emergency Services in and around Florida Wing; you will gain a better understanding of the CAP-USAF relationship involving the Air Force Role and Operation, Air Force Careers and Opportunities, and much more.
4. If you attend this summer encampment, you *will* have attended an activity that is looked upon with high regard by many. You will now be eligible to attend most of the National Special Activities: Flight Academies, National SAR Schools, Air Education and Training Command, Para Rescue Orientation Courses, and many others. In addition to this, you will be invited to attend other Florida Wing encampments—both winter and summer—to serve on cadet staff! The rewards of attending a Florida Wing encampment are countless, so I urge you to give great consideration to sending an application for the upcoming one from July 16 to July 22, 2000. Send a CAPF 31 (no photo necessary) with a check for \$100 to Lt Col Robert Masiker (4865A Equestrian Road, Boynton Beach, FL 33436). The total encampment cost is \$170—you have the option to pay *all* of this with your application, or just the first \$100 (the remaining \$70 will be collected at the encampment). In addition to this, I ask that you spread the word to your CAP friends to encourage them to attend as well. Thank you in advance.

BRIAN J. AGUILA
Cadet Lieutenant Colonel, CAP

E-MAIL EMISSIONS



Wing Commander Pineda has established "Operation Camp" with the objective established for developing the donated land that Florida Wing has in West Florida. It is intended that this Camp will serve as an all year training and recreation facility for cadets and senior members.

The Camp will afford cadets the opportunity to have a safe and controlled area for specialized training. Senior members will be afforded an area for directed training programs such as our annual AGOS. Everyone in the wing will be able to utilize this Camp area.

Team members from every unit of the wing are needed to make the Camp both a reality and an on-going evolution. From each Group we need coordination of effort in the recruiting of volunteers and assets for the Camp. We need lots of volunteers to assist in the planning and implementation phases of work.

Chaplain Dewey Painter, Project Officer
e-mail operation-camp@juno.com
904 356 5032

To Col Pineda,

"I sincerely want to thank you for a great wing conference. We had a wonderful time. Your staff did an outstanding job. It was a pleasure to be able to put a face with so many different names that appear on the computer monitor and in conversation. Again, thank you. My Group and I are already looking forward to next years wing conference."

Maj Donna Morris
Group 3 Commander

The "2000 Florida Aeronautical Chart" as printed by the State of Florida Department of Transportation has, for the very first time, incorporated the Civil Air Patrol Grid. Copies are available from laura.morse@dot.state.fl.us

The official Federal Aviation Administration on-line site for Wings by E-Mail is <http://wings.e-dialog.com/bin/survey/>

Col Pineda has signed an organization action creating the Florida Wing Training Support Squadron.

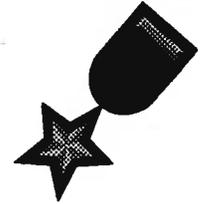
This concept originated with Maj Joel Katz, now assigned to the Southeast Region staff. It was noted three years ago that almost half of all new senior members did not renew their membership after the first year and many stopped coming to meetings after 3 to 6 months. When interviewed, they reported feeling "left out" or "assigned a job but not provided training to do the job." Others expected to be flying missions in three months and at that point most hadn't even earned a General Emergency Services 101 Card.

It was apparent that early, comprehensive training was an imperative. The concept creates a training squadron in each Group, staffed by experienced members in each duty assignment area. New members would join this unit and after being trained, they would transfer to their local squadron.

The test program is being initiated in Ft. Lauderdale. The first 5 classes will be required for all new members joining after 1 July in Dade, Broward and Palm Beach Counties. The cost for all 10 classes is \$20 to cover handout materials and refreshments. Applications and course schedules will be provided to Group 6 and 7 Commanders in July. The first class starts 9 September '00.

If successful, we will form such Training Support Squadrons in each Group staffed by local members with support from 2Lt Ray Hayden, the Florida Wing Director of Professional Development.

IN RECOGNITION



CADET SQUADRON OF THE YEAR - DISTINCTION Lantana/Lake Worth Cadet Squadron
- MERIT St Petersburg Cadet Squadron
COMPOSITE SQUADRON OF THE YEAR - DISTINCTION West Broward Composite Squadron
- MERIT Deland Composite Squadron
SENIOR SQUADRON OF THE YEAR - Palm Beach Senior Squadron
GROUP OF THE YEAR - Group 6
MOST IMPROVED UNIT - Stuart Cadet Squadron
OUTSTANDING SAR SQUADRON - Marion County Composite Squadron
OUTSTANDING ROTC UNIT - Florida State University
OUTSTANDING COUNTER DRUG UNIT - Naples Senior Squadron
WING ACADEMIC COMPETITION - WINNER Lantana/Lake Worth Cadet Squadron
- **FIRST RUNNER-UP** Coral Springs Cadet Squadron
- **SECOND RUNNER-UP** Treasure Coast Composite Squadron
NEW CHARTER - Group 8 HQ.

Individual Awards:

LIFE SAVING AWARD - Melinda Rivera

- Lt Col Gary Nelson
- 2Lt Lili Bartoletti

EXCEPTIONAL SERVICE- Col Antonio Pineda

- Lt Col Kay Cunningham
- Lt Col Dave Lehtanen
- Lt Col Robert Ashman
- Lt Col Robert Masiber
- Maj Jorge Del Rio
- Maj Jay Jeffries
- Capt Richard Kaufman
- Capt Eileen Parker

MERITORIOUS SERVICE - Lt Col Harold Cunningham

- Lt Col Etta Spieker
- Lt Col Dave Lawson

MERITORIOUS SERVICE

- Lt Col Virginia Cullity
- Lt Col Lynn Puglise
- Maj Thomas Trammell
- Maj Jan Ferguson
- Maj Bill Lynch
- Maj Steve Bell
- Maj Frank Haas
- Maj William Cureton
- Capt Gary Swigert
- Capt Christine Ferry
- Capt Charles Soriano
- Capt George Navarini
- 1Lt Edward Villalba
- 1Lt David Leali

COMMANDER'S COMMENDATION

- Maj Russell Reichman
- Maj Paul Sova
- Maj Dave Mitchell
- Capt Warren Randall
- C/Lt Col Chris Sherman
- C/Capt Tyler Manion
- C/ATC Marissa Streifel

SENIOR MEMBER OF THE YEAR - Maj Luis Garcia

CADET MEMBER OF THE YEAR - C/Lt Col Michael Barron

GILL ROBB WILSON AWARD - Chaplain Ralph Rivers

PAUL E GARBER AWARD - Maj John Tuzsi

CHUCK YEAGER AEROSPACE AWARD - Lt Col Carl Nissen

- Maj Donna Morris

Sq. Commander of Distinction - Capt Christie Mathison

Sq. Commander of Merit - Maj Mario Bartoletti

Outstanding CD Mission Crew - Capt Al Ferraro & Ernie Diaz

Outstanding Mission Coordinator - Lt Col George Williams

Communicator of the Year -

Capt. Warren Randall

Public Affairs Officer of the Year -

Maj Dale Robinson

Safety Officer of the Year -

Capt. Albert Martin

FLWG HQ Staff Officer of the Year -

Capt Eileen Parker

Chaplain of the Year -

Chaplain William Cureton

Sedita Award - Maj Tom Trammell

Col Bob Owens Leadership Award -

C/Lt Col Brian Aguilera

Phase III Cadet of the Year -

C/Lt Dylan McVeigh

"I derive a great sense of pride in recognizing each of these members for their outstanding level of commitment, dedication and performance."

Col. Antonio Pineda

FLWG Commander

Lt Col Joseph Biggs was honored on his retirement for many years of service as a member of the CAP from December 1971 to 1999.

THIS PERIOD IN HISTORY

APRIL

29 April 1942 - CAP transferred to War Department from Office of Civilian Defense. Cadet Training Program initiated.

6 April 1943 - Maj Richard P. Robbins is 2nd Wing Commander until 17 February 1944.

April 1944 - CAP Border Patrol discontinued. 7000 unusual ground activities and 176 suspicious aircraft had been reported.

MAY

20 May 1941 - Office of Civilian Defense established with former Mayor Fiorello H. LaGuardia as Director by order of President Franklin Delano Roosevelt.

4 May 1943 - CAP assigned to Army Air Force.

26 May 1948 - President Harry Truman creates CAP as auxiliary of the U. S. Air Force.

28 May 1948 - Gen Carl A. Spaatz is CAP's first National Board Chairman.

12 May 1990 - Col Donald Cunningham, Jr. is 19th Wing Commander until 20 August 1992.

28 May 1994 - Col. George O. Pringle serves as Wing Commander till 10 August 1996.

JUNE

1 June 1947 - Col Lawrence Hickam serves as 5th Wing Commander until 5 March 1948.

24 June 1986 - Col Richard E. Leighton is 18th Wing Commander until 12 May 1990.

FROM PULPIT TO PEN

By the time you read this the first wing conference of the new millennium will have come and gone. The historical report will show that attendance was up, opportunities for professional advancement in knowledge and skill were plentiful, general meetings were well attended, and honors awarded to the volunteers who make Civil Air Patrol the premier service organization it is. My hat goes off to all the people who worked behind the scenes to make this year's Wing Conference such a success. It takes a lot of hard work!



**LT. COL. RALPH E. RIVERS
FLORIDA WING CHAPLAIN**

I recently attended a wing staff meeting in which another innovative program aimed at retaining membership was unveiled. I believe that this can be one of the best programs any wing offers to get and keep members. Getting and keeping members isn't just something that somebody else does. It's just like in the church or any organization, for that matter. Percentage-wise, the pastor, priest, rabbi, or spiritual leader brings in about 5% of new members. A small percentage comes because a friend, neighbor, or business associate invited them to come and take a look at something that is important to them. Then they stay because they become involved in meaningful, satisfying, and challenging work. That's where a new program of Professional Development will come in. Let's get recruits in the front door to stay!

Chaplain recruitment reached an all time high for Florida Wing in 1999. In fact, Florida Wing was number one in the nation. Chaplain recruitment is getting more difficult than ever before. It's not that there are not good candidates out there. Part of the reason may be found in how we go about finding and inviting a prospect to come and look us over. Sometimes what they see is not what they thought they would see.

Unit Commanders should take a look at how they go about Chaplain staffing. I believe that a good approach to a minister, priest, rabbi, or spiritual leader friend/acquaintance would be to invite the prospect to be your Chaplain. That makes it a bit more personal. It will also help set the tone for the relationship you should have with your unit Chaplain. This is a new idea and I'm working on it, but I think it is a good philosophy for Chaplain recruitment. I suspect it will work for other professional staff positions, as well. You are asking someone to help you in your task of building and equipping your unit for service to your neighbors. No unit is fully staffed unless there is a Chaplain. I'll help all I can, but you are closer to your resources than me. God will bless your efforts.

NEWS FLASH!

For those who have missed attending one of the many SLS's that have been held this year, and are interested in completing the Level One requirement of attendance at a SLS, their will be another SLS scheduled. On two consecutive Saturdays, September 16 and September 23 an SLS will be held. This SLS will be part of the Training Support Squadron course offering to new CAP senior members. A CLC is planned to occur shortly thereafter. For more specific details contact 2 Lt. Ray Hayden, Florida Wing Professional Development Officer.

1st Lt. Chris Ulch, owner of Metalteck USA Inc. extends an offer to all squadrons with corporate aircraft, to inspect and repair the planes, as needed, at a substantial discount to CAP. Metalteck is located at Massey Air Park, Edgewater, FL. For further information contact Lt. Ulch at 904 409 0936

The DoD and Yahoo! recently teamed to deliver action-packed military jobs to the winners of the "Fantasy Careers in Today's Military" contest. The winner of the Air Force category shad-

owed an F-15 pilot and then flew in the aircraft. The winner in the Army category flew in an Apache helicopter then parachuted with the Golden Knights at Fort Bragg, NC. The Navy winner flew to an aircraft carrier aboard a C-2A Greyhound and spent a day aboard the floating city. The Marines offered the winner a taste of officer basic training at Quantico, VA. and the Coast Guard winner rode in a self-righting boat, trained with rescue swimmers and participated in a helicopter rescue training mission. DoD's Assistant Director for Recruiting said, "This is a way for ordinary people from Main Street USA to connect with extraordinary people doing exciting, thrilling and challenging jobs while serving their country" This Yahoo! - DoD contest was so successful that undoubtedly you will see it repeated next year.

Educators with an interest in teaching about space are invited to apply for approximately 20 new Solar System Educator fellowships. Selected educators will attend the Solar System Educator Program Institute held at NASA's Jet Propulsion Laboratory [JPL], Pasadena CA. from August 2 to August 5. All Solar System Educators will agree to lead educator workshops in their home states, reaching a minimum of 100 teachers a year. The

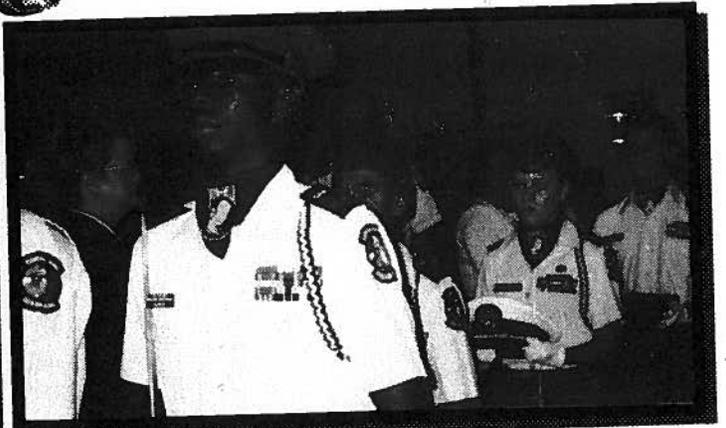
designated educators will also have the opportunity to partner with the Space Grant Consortia in their state to help them meet the training workshop requirements. Implemented by NASA in 1989, the Space Grant Consortia is a network of universities that contributes to the nation's science enterprise by funding research, education, and public service projects. The goal of the Solar System Educator program is to inspire America's students, create learning opportunities and enlighten inquisitive minds by engaging them in the planetary exploration efforts conducted by JPL. Solar System Educators receive four days of training at the all-expenses paid institute at JPL, and throughout the year via the Internet. For more information see <http://www.ssep.org/apply> or call Eric Brunsell, Space Explorers, Inc at 920 339 4600 or e-mail eric@space-explorers.com.

The cheerful, effusively happy voice heard greeting callers at the Florida Wing South offices comes from none other than Sharon Taylor, our new Administrative Assistant. Sharon, incidentally, located our wing conference at the Indian River Plantation in Stuart this year.

PHOTO MAT II



l to r Cadet of the Year, C/Lt Col Mike Barron and Group Commander of the Year, Major Frank Haas of Group 4 proudly show their award plaques.



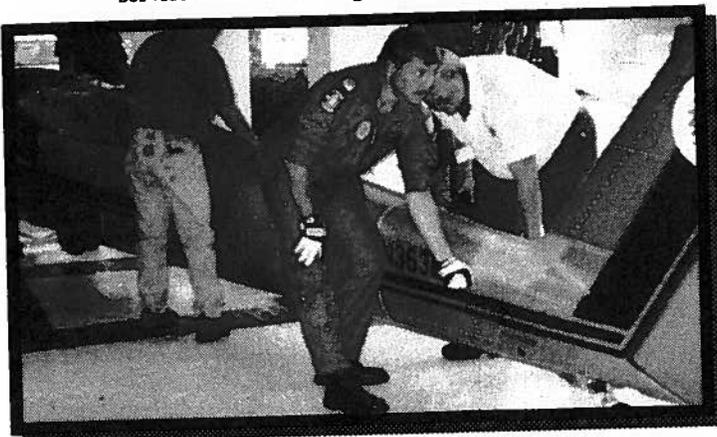
West Broward Composite Squadron Cadets present the stirring POW/MIA Ceremony at the Florida Wing Conference-2000 in memorium of our heroic war veterans



Wing Commander Col. Anthony Pineda presents the Excellent Service Award to Lt Col Kay Cunningham for her many years of service as Florida Wing's Inspector General.



Major Jorge Del Rio receives his Exceptional Service Award for his years of service as a Group Commander from Col. Joseph Melghan, Jr and Wing Commander Col. Anthony Pineda



At sun-up, seniors and cadets unloaded the new Blanik L-23 glider and placed it on display at the entry arcade to the Florida Wing Conference -2000 hotel for opening day.



Members conveniently make purchases of hundreds of items on display at the CAP BookStore which was set up at the conference center. The store was open during the two day conference.



MARK YOUR CALENDARS NOW!



Submitted by Lt. Col. Matt Sharkey
Florida Wing Chief of Staff

6 - 13 July	Air Ground Operation's School [AGOS], Camp Blanding
14 - 15 July	Blue Angels Air Show, Pensacola Beach
15 July	Florida Wing Staff Meeting
16 - 22 July	Summer 2000 Encampment
31 July-7 August	IACE Host, Wing Phase
17 - 19 August	National CAP Board Meeting, San Antonio, TX
1 September	Deadline for FLORIDA FACTS, Issue #3
16 September	Counter Narcotics Orientation
16 September	Florida Wing Staff/Commander's Call Meeting
23 September-1 October	Southeast Region College, Tyndall AFB, FL
14 October	Florida Wing Staff Meeting
14-15 October	Check Pilot's School
18-19 October	Cadet Fall Round-up
28- 29 October	Check Pilot's School
4 - 5 November	Blue Angels Air Show, NAS Jacksonville
10 -11 November	Blue Angels Air Show, NAS Pensacola
11 November	Florida Wing Staff Meeting
11-12 November	USAF Thunderbirds Air Show, Lake City
1 December	Deadline for FLORIDA FACTS, Issue #4
9 December	Florida Wing Staff/Commander's Call Meeting
26 December-1 January 2001	Cadet Winter Encampment

GROUP NOTATIONS

 Major Tek Konkell, Safety Officer, Group 4 sets forth some thought provoking thoughts.

What is safety? Is it using a checklist prior to launching an air or ground search? Is it being trained in CPR to be used in case of an accident? Is it using the 'buddy-system' when swimming? Yes, all are examples of behaviors that exhibit knowledge of safety factors. But, in my mind, safety is an attitude.

Having an attitude of safety means that all we do is evaluated in terms of safety, before we do it. We must ask ourselves what the consequences of our actions could be, not would be or should be, but could be.

I'm sure that every Commander and Safety Officer have observed attitudinal incidents that have obvious negative results. It's important that each of our members develop an attitude of safety in all they do. Think *safety*, act *safely*, be *safe*.

 31 senior and 19 cadets from Tallahassee Composite, Panama City Composite, Milton Senior and Pensacola Composite Squadrons participated in the Group 1 Search and Rescue Exercise. True to the way things seem to happen, an actual mission occurred as the SAREX was being set up.

Capt George Schaeffer, Mission Coordinator, alerted air and ground teams and the EPIRB was located in a trashbin by the Ground Team led by Capt Harvey Thompson.

During the SAREX, training in legal aspects of SAR, safety, ground team procedures, communications, flight line operations, air search procedures, and radio operations were taught and practiced.

Capt Donald Winter, Jr., Mission PAO-trainee

 A letter from 1Lt Edward Villalba, West Broward Composite Squadron:

First and foremost, I would like to thank Group 2 for their hospitality and graciousness at the Group 2 Squadron Leadership School. I had an outstanding time and I met a few hard working and caring seniors. I would like to thank the staff who conducted an outstanding learning program. I took great pride in knowing that each instructor was the very best in the wing, and in my opinion, the very best in the nation.

On a personal note I would like to thank Lt Col's Mike and Valerie Brown for their hospitality. To Lt Col Matt Sharkey, I thank him for his wisdom, and every time I had a chance to converse with him, I learned more and renewed my spirit in Civil Air Patrol. Thank you sir for giving me a role model in CAP. I am very happy that I was able to attend this weekend SLS in St. Augustine. I hope to see many of my classmates at the forthcoming SAREX in Daytona.

 The Florida Group 1 website has a unit locator page for each unit as well as several links. A new Eglin website has been created. The Eglin site has links to the 1999 Eglin Annual Report

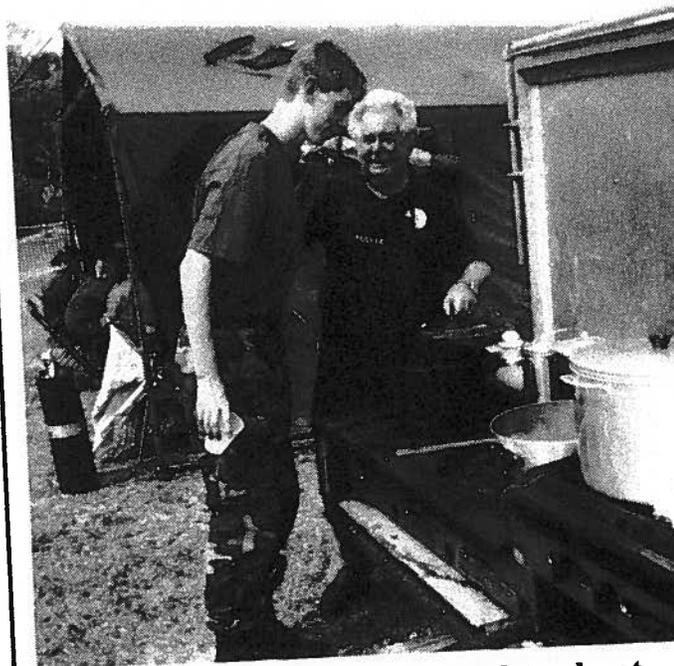
as well as the 1998 and 1997 reports.

Any Group One unit that needs assistance in setting up a webpage need only submit a request. Major Dale Robinson, recipient of the "Outstanding Public Affairs Officer of the Year" advises that a Group One newsletter will soon be published.

 Cadets and seniors from Group 6 participated in the Annual Air Force Association Static Warbird Airshow at the Pompano Airpark. Capt Tom Baldwin, Pompano Cadet Squadron Commander served as Director of the week-end encampment which paralleled the Airshow activities.

The cadets were kept extremely busy assisting in crowd control and parking but had time to take an advance class in radio communications and flight line training. The cadets set up camp using tents provided by the US Army Reserve. Lt Col Gray and Senior members A. Cruz and C. Acevedo from Pompano and Broward Cadet Squadrons comprised the support services crew and they were ably assisted by four W.W.II veterans from the American Legion and Veterans of Foreign Wars who volunteered to cook breakfast for the entire encampment.

A highlight of the week-end was the "Hangar Talks" at which the cadets met several of the celebrated Tuskegee Airmen.



C/Lt Mutehart, one of the forty cadets who attended the week-end bivouac tastes the Saturday Lunch prepared by Capt Ralph Parness, Ft. Lauderdale Composite Squadron.

NEW COUNTER DRUG OFFICER APPOINTED

A good commander is judged by abilities to select outstanding staff who are capable, committed and dedicated, and the ability to convince these staff persons of their suitability to the area of responsibility.

Florida Wing Commander, Col. Antonio Pineda is outstanding in these leadership abilities. The replacement of Lt Col Gus Ehrman, who recently resigned as the Counter Drug Officer after nine years, was extremely challenging. There is no doubt that Lt Col David Lawson, the new appointee, will also excel in this new position.

Lt Col David Lawson is a native Floridian and joined CAP in 1984. He holds the Gill Robb Wilson Award, Counter Narcotics Ribbon, Commander's Awards, Disaster Relief Ribbon with "V", Search and Rescue Ribbon, and the Life Saving Award.

David has logged well over 2000 flying hours and is a Command Pilot, Cadet Orientation Pilot, Counter Narcotics Mission Pilot, and Emergency Services Mission Check Pilot and Mission Coordinator.

He graduated from the Regional College and the National Staff College at Maxwell AFB. He has been an active FAA Accident Prevention Counselor for the past five years.

Col Lawson has loads of experience in roles of responsibility. He has been a Squadron Commander, Deputy Group Commander, Group Commander, Operations Officer, Safety Officer and Florida Wing Assistant Finance Officer.

David is also an outstanding CAP recruiter. He is married and has three children and four grandchildren. To date, he has successfully recruited his two daughters and one grandson into the Civil Air Patrol. He is working arduously on the other five.

NEW GROUP COMMANDER APPOINTED

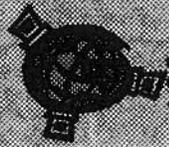


Capt Gary W. Owen

Any Squadron commander who can turn a squadron around in just eight months and win the award for "Most Improved Unit - 2000" and can increase the unit's membership from 8 to 43 certainly would be deserving of scrutiny for advancement by the wing commander.

That's exactly what Colonel Tony Pineda did when considering candidates for the position of Group 6 Commander. Capt. Gary Owen, currently Commanding Officer of the Stuart Composite Squadron, joined the CAP in 1998 and 'hit the tarmac running'. He became a Ground Team Member with Form 101 certification, earned certification as a Cadet Orientation-Ride Pilot, is a Transport Pilot, a certified Search and Rescue Mission Pilot and served as Safety Officer for more than a year with the Palm Beach Senior Squadron.

Col. Pineda was extremely pleased that Capt. Owen was able to be coaxed into accepting this advanced responsibility. Capt. Owen has set an early priority for his newly acquired Group. He intends to implement numerous community support programs to assist needy organizations and to make Group support and assistance readily available to each unit.



COMMUNICATIONS

Capt. Paul Bystone
FLWU Director of Communications

The first new Repeater for Florida Wing has been shipped to Orlando. This is the new Quantar which is both wide band and narrow band and is now set for wideband operation. This new Repeater will replace the Apopka Repeater. The Vero Beach Repeater has been moved to Stuart. It is an old Motorola Motrac unit and replacement parts are no longer available. Currently it is working but with a lot of static and interference. A hunt is on for a filter that will reduce the noise level and make the instrument more usable. Tallahassee no longer needs the old corporate Repeater. They have received a grant for a new Repeater plus new HF radios, and VHF radios-handheld and mobile. Lake Placid has a new Repeater in place but needs a Duplexer.

NHQ is in the process of shipping new VHF radios to the wings. I believe Florida is scheduled to receive a few. These will be for use in corporate-owned vans. Old radios that might be in those vans will then become available to units. The new ones will be the TAIT T 2020's. These radios are also wide and narrowband and will be programmed for wideband when they arrive. They have 100 channel and frequency range is 136 to 174 MHz, 25 watt output.

The first new NAT NPX-138 is in Ocala and has been installed in N5401N. This radio also has 100 channel memory. Transmit power is selectable for 1 watt or 10 watts, the frequency range is 138.0 to 173.995 MHz. No need for a separate marine radio. The marine frequencies can be programmed into this one.

A Vertex SYSTEM 600 HF radio is being used in Florida Wing. This radio is approved by NHQ and is available from the CAP Supply Depot. It has a receive frequency range of 50 KHz to 30 MHz and transmit range of 1.8 MHz to 30 MHz, 100 watts output for base or mobile use. In addition to this HF, I know of

three of the VHF/FM TAIT T-2020 mobile or base units, and three of the Vertex VX-400 handheld units in use in the wing and they all came from the CAP Supply Depot.

Be aware that QST Magazine for Amateur Radio Operators ran an ad for an ALINCO radio that was stated to be compliant for MARS/CAP. NHQ checked the tolerances with the manufacturer and found them not to be compliant.

1 Lt Robert Colbert is our new Florida Wing Licensing Officer. He has all the records totally computerized and is doing an outstanding job. Your ROA and RSA applications should now turn around within two weeks. His address is P.O. Box 5446, Winter Park, FL 32793-5446.

Capt Jeff Stahl is our new Frequency Manager. He is working closely with NHQ bringing them up to date on all of our Repeater stations. If any of our Communication Officers have any update information about any of our Repeaters, send it directly to him at 6099 NW 80th Terrace, Parkland, FL 33067-1130.

The updated Communications Roster is now available and the Communication Plans-2000 will be written and available NLT September.

All members that have radios should check the schedule of their local net and should begin to regularly check-in.

SUN 'n FUN ATTRACTS NEARLY ONE MILLION SPECTATORS.

CIVIL AIR PATROL AND BRITISH ROYAL AIR FORCE CADETS RECOGNIZED FOR OUTSTANDING PERFORMANCE.

The 26th annual Sun 'n Fun Fly-in at Lakeland Linder Municipal Airport attracted hundreds of



Spectacular tight aerial formation flying

aircraft from around the world. From the Air Force's A-10 Warthog to three B-25's and a Japanese Zero that actually flew in the movie "Tora, Tora, Tora". There were warbirds, helicopters, vintage, experimental, light, ultra-light, homebuilt and nearly every make of general aviation planes.

One of the highlights of the daily show was the recreation of a World War I aerial dogfight with actual bomb bursts in the air. A German Fokker DR-1 of "Red Baron" fame attacked a British Sopwith-Camel only to be rescued by another British fighter plane.

Particularly noticeable among the crowd of nearly one million were the cadets from the Civil Air Patrol and the British Royal Air Force who volunteered to record tail numbers of incoming aircraft, crowd and traffic control, and emergency services. Lt Col Eugene Peterson headed the mission and Capt Raymond Spengler served as his assistant and flight-line officer. The CAP Ground Team led by 1Lt Don Smith located more than five ELT's that were transmitting alarms from aircraft.

The Gainesville Composite Squadron placed a CAP Cessna 172 on static display and had set up a CAP tent and recruiting booth.

The Lakeland Senior Squadron, Patrick Composite Squadron and the 8089th CAP Squadron were joined by a contingent of more than 30 cadets and seniors from Atlanta, Georgia. Flight Lt Cliff Mullins, commander of the British RAF Cadets has served as commander for the Sun 'n Fun event for the past 10 years. Many of the British cadets paid their own way across the Atlantic.



Army Golden Knights precision parachuting

Educational exhibits were plentiful as were special programs geared to the young aviation enthusiasts. Children were able to construct wooden aircraft wing frames and to ride a flight simulator at the Experimental Aircraft Association Young Eagles exhibit. Regrettably, during the week there were a few mishaps from a moving plane clipping the wing



USAF Thunderbird team preparing for precision taxi and take-off

of a parked Stearman PT-17 to a non-fatal crash of a light aircraft near the field. A helicopter overturned as it was settling down to land, injuring the pilot. He was quickly rushed to the hospital where it was declared that the pilot's injuries were not serious.

2Lt Alex de Quesada, PAO and 1Lt John Everlove, PAO
Photography by C/MSgt Michael Karayianes

"WHAT IS A GOOD IDEA? WHAT IS IT WORTH?"

A READER'S RESPONSE FROM LT COL HOWARD GELBMAN

EDITOR'S NOTE: In the January/March Volume 5, Issue #1 of **FLORIDA FACTS**, Lt. Col. Valerie Brown authored the article - "WHAT IS A GOOD IDEA? WHAT IS IT WORTH?" as printed on page 28. A number of positive reader comments were received. Lt Col Howard Gelbman's response was not only positive but apropos to Lt Col Brown's thesis and extends her concept one step forward.

Lt Col Valerie Brown's article caught my attention and I heartily agree with parts of her conclusions, mainly that **ACTIVITY** is the clue to having a successful squadron.

I favor retention rate as a greater measure of success than recruiting numbers and squadron size. What seems to be missing from CAP is something that I have tried to advocate for years. With the possible exception of the Specialty Track Program, we have a massive set of Regulations that is a 'one size fits all'. I believe that members join for a whole host of reasons, yet they find to advance in the CAP program they have to take educational courses, attend conferences, encampments, SLS and CLC Schools, Regional and National Colleges and a host of other required programs.

Perhaps all they want to be is a radio operator, or fly a plane, or edit a newsletter, or whatever. Yet, they must embark on an extensive list of other requirements. Soon, all too many, fall by the wayside. We need to change our thinking and adopt what I call the "Wal-Mart's" philosophy. Satisfy the customer's needs and they will be back. Not "here it is, do it or leave."

I keep being chided for my e-mail tag line "Been There-Done That" but I learned through trial and error over 54 years in the Civil Air Patrol, that people will only stay as long as their needs and interests are met and satisfied. Believe it or not "RECRUITING" will solve itself when you have 'customer' oriented and operational squadrons. I always knew when I was on the right track in both Cadet and Senior Squadrons, when I saw members bringing their friends and relatives to join the squadron. The key being **ACTIVITIES FIRST** and **TRAINING SECOND**.

As an example, if a member joined during the week and you happened to be having a SAREX that weekend, I wouldn't say, "Sorry you have to complete Level One and

have a 101 card, a uniform, etc., etc., to participate." I would say, "Come on out and give us a hand, perhaps working with someone in Registration or Operations and see what's going on. You'll also get a chance to meet the members."

I guarantee the odds of them being back will be a lot higher in the second scenario. The other issue I am concerned about is that I constantly see staff people burning out at all levels and simply dropping out. In every issue of **CAP NEWS** there is a long list of long time members retiring for a multitude of reasons. Yes, we give them a dinner or a plaque and thank them for their contributions to CAP—and out the door goes years of CAP experience. We need an **ADVISORY** Member classification that every one who retires, with a good record, may join with dues and uniforms optional. That member category list should be provided to all units so that the members may be called on for experience inputs.

My own experience is an example. I progressed through the ranks from Cadet to Squadron and Group Commander onto Wing Staff and in 1981 I reached my "burnout point". I no longer wanted a command or staff position, but I still had an interest in CAP. I stayed as an active member and created my own title "Advisor". In the past twenty years I have offered my services to various units, and because it was clear that I wasn't after anyone's job, I was welcomed. I have helped commanders in program development such as **Sundown Patrols**, **Child Find** for missing children, etc.

In direct parallel, senior Cadets 18 and 19 years of age for the most part have outgrown the cadet program, are perhaps not mature enough to fit into the Senior Squadron, and regrettably 'drop out'. An **ADVISORY** Corps for older cadets, similar to my proposal for retiring seniors, certainly could avail to CAP a pool of capability and experience.

Simply stated, '**Activity and Serving Customer's Needs**' could be the key to CAP growth.

MILITARY AND CAP SHOW THEIR STUFF AT AIRFEST-2000

2Lt Alex de Quesada, PAO & C/MSgt Michael Karayianes, PAO

The roar of F-16's drowned out the sound of the nearly 900,000 spectators who crossed the gates at MacDill AFB for AIRFEST-2000. A KC-135 Stratotanker flew by showing the extended refueling nozzle used to refuel military aircraft while in flight and an A-10 Warthog silently approached the crowd and surprised everyone as it screamed overhead.

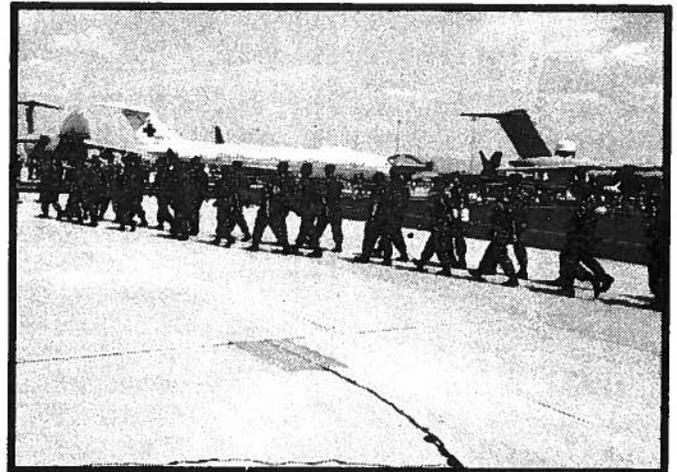
CAP Seniors and Cadets assisted Security Police with public and traffic control to emergency services and communications. The blistering heat, 117 degrees F. caused Safety Officer 1Lt Frank

Karayianes to require every cadet to carry a canteen and to drink one canteen every hour. His concern for hydration and heat exhaustion were well founded. Water carts were on the flight line constantly to provide for canteen refilling. Cadets on aircraft security control were advised to position themselves under the wings of the large aircraft on static display. Many members of the Air Force crews wisely joined them. CAP medical and safety personnel patrolled the flight line frequently looking for signs of trouble and discomfort.

CAP's mission was accomplished and every CAP member performed in a highly professional manner.



Cadets receive briefing and requirements for carrying of canteens and avoiding prolonged exposure to the sun



Cadets march off to assigned stations for crowd and traffic control, aircraft security and communications.



USAF Thunderbird pilots shake hands of cadets for their assistance prior to boarding their planes.



l to r Major Bartolotti, 2Lt Bartolotti and C/TSgt Wilson signed up nearly 100 recruits at the CAP Display booth.

WHAT A SHAME!

So many outstanding stories and photos have been submitted to FLORIDA FACTS and, regrettably, some were not publishable. Please remember:

- * All names must be full first and last names. No nicknames. No shortened names i.e. Don for Donald.
- * The submitter's name, rank and title must be provided as well as the name and rank of the photographer.
- * Every name-CAP and Military-must have full rank and full title and full name of unit i.e. Patrick Composite Squadron, Not Patrick CAP Squadron.
- * If a name is not discernable as to gender i.e. Toni, please indicate male or female i.e [m] or [f].
- * Don't assume that the readers know anagrammatic references. Spell each fully or in parentheses i.e. CAT [Crisis Action Team]. Do this always, including airports, squadrons, agencies, etc.
- * Photos must be captioned on the back. Paste or tape the caption, do not write on a picture as it ruins it for reproduction.
- * 3" x 5" photo size is preferred. Do NOT send 5"x7" or 8"x10". It is too costly to reduce to newsletter size.
- * CAP members in photo MUST be in proper uniform.
- * Try to avoid 'grip and grin' photos. Let each photo tell an action story. Catch the receiving of an award not the after-smile.
- * Photos can not be returned.

If you merely conform to these few requirements, you'll usually be pleased to see your newsworthy materials printed.

The Editor

A DREAM IN THE MAKING

A young boy was looking at the materials on display at a CAP Recruiting Booth. I approached him as I noted he was reading the "Civil Air Patrol Program" brochure. I said, "Would you like to learn how to fly?"

He said, "I sure would". "Which are your favorite planes?" "I love the F-16's and F-18's. I want to be a jet pilot some day."

I told him about the Cadet Program and how he would receive hands-on flight training and ground school as well as search and rescue, military training, etc. His eyes showed a high level of interest. A cadet at the booth recalled how CAP has influenced his life in a positive manner. He added that he has become more focused on his ambition to join the USAF after high school. The boy listened intently as the cadet described the different activities he has participated in and how he enjoys CAP.

I assisted him in filling out the card attached to the brochure. He remarked that he never knew there was such an organization as CAP. "How old are you", he was asked. "I'll be 12 in August. How soon can I join? I want to be flying before school starts again so I can tell all my friends about it."

I explained that we would like him to attend three meetings before signing up so that we would learn his level of commitment and whether CAP was what he really wants to join. He responded he could hardly wait.

As he left the booth smiling, I thought to myself, "This is someone's dream in the making."

C/MSgt Nick Borgfeldt

CAP TO THE RESCUE

The Dining Hall at MacDill AFB was crowded with AIRFEST 2000 personnel-military and CAP. Suddenly a woman screamed "Call 911." Her nine year old son had collapsed. CAP Safety Officer 2Lt Frank Karayianes immediately went to assist and stabilized the youngster. The child was alert when taken to the base hospital by ambulance. A First Aid and CPR instructor, Lt Karayianes said, "It was reaction through practice, training and caring."

1Lt J. Everlove

C/Lt Karen Rothermel of the New Smyrna Beach Composite Squadron utilized her CAP First Aid training to help a hunter who accidentally shot himself in the hand with his 12 gauge shotgun. Her professional response brought credit to herself, the unit and CAP.

1Lt William DiMarsico, Commander



NOTICE TO ALL AIRCREWS



There is a new TV Tower East of Orlando that is not on the charts. It is 5NM SW of the Ch 43 Tower and 23NM on the MLB 300 radial. 28 degrees-17' N by 81 degrees-01' W and 17NM West of COI. Watch out for this one it is 2000 feet AGL

Maj Jorge Del Rio

CADET ADVISORY COUNCIL OFFICERS ANNOUNCED

FLWG Director of Cadet Programs, Lt Col Robert Masiker proudly announced the newly elected Cadet Advisory Council Officers:

Chairman, C/Lt Col Brian Aguila;
Vice Chairman North, c/Lt Col Michael Barron;
Vice Chairman South, C/2Lt Thomas Miller; and
Recorder, C/Capt Michael Bodner.

Director Masiker said, "I welcome Chairman Aguila. He is an accomplished cadet and we are sure to benefit from his tenure. Another bright spot is the election of Vice Chairman Michael Barron, who did an outstanding job last year as Chairman and retaining his talents and experience will be a great boost to this year's council."

FLORIDA WING RECOGNIZES AEROSPACE EDUCATION TEACHER

Florida Wing Commander, Col. Antonio Pineda proudly presented the Aerospace Education Teacher of the Year Award to Ms. Marie Grein. Marie Grein is a dedicated teacher who has promoted hands-on exploration of science concepts and aerospace activities both in the classroom and the local community. She has been in the forefront of local elementary school aerospace education programs and has given presentations at local, state and national levels.

This exceptional teacher co-produced a brochure, "Reach for the Stars". She has presented this program at the National Congress on Aviation and Space Education, Southeast Region Conference in Georgia, and the Florida Wing Conference.

Ms. Grein travels around Pinellas County presenting "Air Bears", an imaginary plane trip which ex-

plains various occupations in aviation to second graders. She is also a member of the Ninety Nines Women's Pilots Association.

Lt Col Amy Ruth Boxwell

How Many Lives Saved? How Many Homes Saved? How many Thousands Of Acres Saved?

While flying on the return leg to Gainesville at the completion of a mission, Capt Peter Leet, pilot; SM Eugene Smith, observer; and SM Gregory Ashley, scanner spotted a previously unreported forest wild fire south of Waldo and east of Hwy 301.

With the assistance of Gainesville Airport Control Tower, they were able to arrange for a Forest Ranger to be dispatched to the scene with a bulldozer on a flatbed truck. Cadet Adam Ashley served as ground based liaison and was on the scene within ten minutes of being mobilized.

The air crew directed Cadet Ashley to the vicinity of the fire prior to the arrival of the Forest Ranger. Cadet Ashley was then directed to rendezvous with the Forest Ranger and to guide him to the fire location.

After the Ranger off loaded the bulldozer from the flat bed truck, the aircrew radioed directions to Cadet Ashley to relay to the Forest Ranger. The Ranger and bulldozer, enroute to the fire, passed through foliage so dense that the air crew frequently lost sight of it.

The Forest Ranger was able to quickly deal with the remote wild fire and reported that it appeared the fire was started by a lightning strike. He advised that without our quick actions, the fire would have quickly spread and become uncontrollable in short order since the area around the fire was extremely dry and dense. It was evident that lives and homes would have been at risk.

All parties returned safely to base. "Group 2 and the Gainesville Composite Squadron performed competently and professionally. I'm very proud," said Wing Commander Tony Pineda.

Capt Peter Leet, Group 2 Executive Officer

FLORIDA FACTS

FLORIDA WING - CIVIL AIR PATROL
U.S. AIR FORCE AUXILIARY
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