

# EDITOR'S PLATE RUNNETH OVER.



2/Lt. Patricia Turner

A highway bulletin board with only the word THANKS wouldn't adequately express the appreciation of all members of the Florida Wing to 2Lt. Patricia "Trish" Turner,

FLWG Asst. PAO and Editor of FLORIDA FACTS.

Trish's plate has finally spilled over with ever increasing demands from CAP, family and church...and it was a very large platter. These demands caused Trish to submit her resignation as Asst.PAO/Editor.

Florida Wing Commander Col. Andrew Skiba accepted the resignation with the deepest of regrets. "Lt. Patricia Turner provided an invaluable information resource for our members. As Wing Commander, I know first hand that such dedicated, capable and hard working individuals are not easily recruited. Trish's editorial capabilities will be sorely missed."

The last issue of "Gater CAPers", the Florida Wing magazine was published in October 1991. On a spasmodic basis, that wing journal was replaced by the Florida Wing Bulletin. In April of 1996, at the request of Lt. Col. Allan Rose, FLWG PAO, the responsibility for resurrecting the wing newsletter was assumed by Lt. Trish Turner.

The first issue of "FLORIDA FACTS" hit the stands in September 1996. It was a ten page effort that was filled with news about wing activities and member accomplishments.

Trish never sat on her laurels. Her dynamic energies inspired Group and Squadron PAO's to feed her news that enabled her to fill 20 pages in the April 1997 issue.

Only the few who have ever written, formatted and published a 20 page newspaper know that it is a monumental work effort.

Trish performed as FLWG Asst. PAO and Florida Facts Editor in a manner that lent pride to the Civil Air Patrol in the recognition that the broadest community sector was being made aware of the many accomplishments of Florida Wing and its members.

## CHIEF OF STAFF APPOINTS NEW EDITOR

Lt. Col. Valerie Brown, FLWG Chief of Staff announces the appointment of Major S. Buddy Harris as the new Editor of FLORIDA FACTS.



Major Harris will serve as Editor/Publisher of the Florida Wing newsletter in concert with FLWG PAO Capt. Albert J. Ferraro

"Buddy is not new to the role of PAO and Editor", said Col. Brown. "In that capacity with the Marco Island Senior Squadron he has been the recipient of Florida Wing's OUTSTANDING PUBLIC AFFAIRS OFFICER OF THE YEAR for 1994, 1995 and 1996. He was also recognized for OUTSTANDING NEWSLETTER in 1991, 1994 and 1995 and the Southeast Region awarded Buddy the Exceptional Service Award as SOUTHEAST REGION PUBLIC AFFAIRS OFFICER OF THE YEAR for 1995 and 1996."





# VIEW FROM THE PERCH

**COL. ANDREW SKIBA**  
*Florida Wing Commander*

**A**s we approach the first anniversary of my tenure as

Florida Wing Commander, I'd like to share my thoughts with all the members of the Wing on two very important statements.

The first statement is by Secretary of the Air Force, Sheila E. Widnall and Air Force Chief of Staff, Gen. Ronald R. Fogleman. The statement explains the meaning of the newly adopted core values for the USAF. It explains in broad terms, the application of the three core values, *Integrity First, Service before self and Excellence.*

Civil Air Patrol, as the official Air Force Auxiliary, has also adopted those values as ours. They are being introduced to all new members as part of the Senior Member training program. I have asked our new Florida Facts newsletter editor, Major Buddy Harris, to include a copy of the Air Force core value statement as part of this column. The statement defines these core values in very clear terms. As you review the statement, I believe you will be able to identify how they apply to our performance and expectations as CAP members.

The second statement that I want to share with you is the Florida Wing Mission State-

ment which is very simple. By its' simplicity, the statement very clearly defines the mission of all members of the Florida Wing.

**FLORIDA WING, CIVIL AIR PATROL, Pride and Professionalism in Volunteer Service.** If we exhibit professionalism in all our activities as CAP members, we will all find pride in our accomplishments. The public perception of CAP, as a professional organization, will be enhanced and we can all share the pride associated with that image. The added term, "In Volunteer Service" points out to everyone the contribution that is part of our commitment to the Civil Air Patrol and our service to America.

When we talk about 'Mission Statements' and 'Core Values' we need to identify our own internal values within the the Florida Wing. These internal values can be broken down into two categories, and defined in simple terms that everyone can understand.

## PEOPLE VALUES - SAFETY FIRST.

Safety must always be the number one consideration in all our involvement in Civil Air Patrol activities.

The recent aircraft tragedy involving a California Wing aircraft participating in a missing aircraft mission, once again points out that we can never take safety for granted.

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in the Florida Wing this year we have had two aircraft incidents and one vehicle incident which resulted in damage to the aircraft and the vehicle. Fortunately none of these incidents resulted in injury to the occupants. One of the aircraft incidents had the potential for a serious accident.

As you should all recall, I have instituted a Wing Safety Policy which requires every member of our Wing, whether a cadet or senior member, to commit to evaluating and reducing any risk associated with any CAP activity to the absolute minimum. I have also made it clear that no Civil Air Patrol member will engage in any activity with an unacceptable level of risk.

**PEOPLE VALUES - EVERY MEMBER IS PART OF THIS MISSION.**

We in CAP are more than anything else, a people organization. I have stated many times that you, our members, are our most valuable asset.

Our people can only be an asset when they are part of the mission, no matter what it may be. As participants in any of the three basic CAP missions, everyone one of us must be recognized as a contributing member of the team. Equally important, we must also recognize that we have an obligation to live up to those core values that are part of our overall commitment as an integral member of the Air Force team.

**PERFORMANCE VALUES - DO THE RIGHT THING, THE RIGHT WAY.**

I can think of no simpler statement about the way that we are expected to do our job in the Civil Air Patrol. We have ample guidelines within our CAP regulations, and policies.

Several years ago, at the direction of General Anderson, our past National Commander, all departments of Civil Air Patrol were tasked to review, simplify, or eliminate confusing, redundant, or ambiguous CAP regulations

As a result of many committees, staff members, and input from all level of members from the field, we have regulations and policies which are easy to understand and apply to everything we do in the Civil Air Patrol.

If we use common sense, good judgment, and follow the regulations and guidelines that have been established to guide us in our CAP activities, then the results will almost certainly be professional and of which we can truly be proud.

*Colonel Andrew E. Skiba*

Commander, Florida Wing

# Air Force adopts new core values

By Sheila E. Widnall and  
Gen. Ronald R. Fogleman

Secretary of the Air Force and  
Air Force Chief of Staff

Since assuming our respective roles as secretary of the Air Force and chief of staff, we both have traveled to innumerable bases, meeting with officers and enlisted at every level.

Buffeted by events that are all too familiar to the readers of daily newspapers, we've seen challenges to our promotion system that raise issues of integrity. We've had tragic accidents that raised issues of command leadership and accountability. We have called for and received extraordinary levels of operations tempo and personnel tempo from our people, to remind us that military service is not a job, but a noble calling.

Throughout this, we have become convinced of the need to continually articulate the core values of our institution.

The Air Force holds certain ideals, certain values, that are at the heart and soul of the military profession. Over the past few months, we've been in dialog to refine and express the essence of these values in a small number of qualities.

We have looked at the six core values established for the Air Force as part of our quality initiative, as well as those adopted by the major commands, and distilled them into these three: **Integrity first, Service before self, and Excellence.**

Integrity, service, and excellence. Three simple words that epitomize the core of the military profession: the bedrock of integrity, fortified by service to country, which in turn fuels the drive for excellence. These values must be introduced to our new members as they enter the service and must be reinforced throughout their careers.

Integrity is essential. It's the inner voice, the source of self-control, the basis for the trust that is

imperative in today's military. It's doing the right thing when nobody's looking.

In this world of "me first" and relative ethics, honesty is still the hallmark of the military professional. Service members must know the right thing to do and have the moral fortitude to do it.

Integrity is the bedrock; next comes service before self. Military service is not just another job. It's an uncommon profession that calls for people of uncommon dedication. Every military member realizes, from day one, that his or her individual needs will be subordinate to the needs of the nation.

The Air Force requires a high level of professional skill, a 24-hour-a-day commitment, and a willingness to make personal sacrifices. When people forget that basic tenet, careerism and self-interest can emerge, doing the most damage when displayed by the leader.

A leader unwilling to sacrifice individual goals for the good of the unit cannot convince other unit members to do so. The mission suffers with potentially devastating effects. While personal goals often coincide with Air

Force goals, there is no room for personal agendas at the expense of the institution or the American people.

Which brings us to the third core value: excellence. In today's society, some people resign themselves to just getting by. Because we've been entrusted with our nation's security and a good portion of the national treasury — because our mission often involves the risk of human life and sometimes national survival — because we are authorized to act on behalf of our entire society — then the obligation to excel is a moral obligation for members of a professional military force.

The line between incompetence and immorality is a thinner line in the military

profession than in any other calling. For that reason, "excellence in all we do" is not just a slogan, it is a first-line core value for every Air Force member.

**Integrity first ... service before self ... excellence in all we do.** Such times call for a reminder of the core values of our institution, values which serve as a beacon toward the right path. They set the standard for our behavior, our service to country, and our treatment of one another.

They ennoble us by reminding us of the importance of the profession we've chosen, the oath we've taken, and the demands placed upon us.



Reprinted from Q Vision

# PROP WASH

by Major S. Buddy Harris

Lt. Col. Fred and Major Eileen Swearingen advise that their daughter Melissa's surgery went off without a hitch. She didn't need all the blood offered - 18 pints for a fact. Melissa is resting at home and is recuperating rapidly. *All of our prayers were answered.*

Wing Commander Skiba attended the Change-in-Command Ceremony at Group 8 in Naples. He officially swore in the new Commander, Major Charles Krout and thanked the retiring Commander, Lt. Col. Charles Dinsmoor for his past service. Major Krout has been a CAP member since 1990 with the Marco Island Senior Squadron and served as their Aerospace Education Officer. Group 8 has 350 members in six squadrons.

Speaking of members, Florida Wing currently has 2156 seniors, 1743 cadets for a total of 3899 members. This record membership is due to the prize-winning efforts of Maj. Skip Munger -31 recruits, Capt. Linda Rose-28 recruits, and 1Lt. Freytes Mendez-26 recruits. The SRQ Composite Squadron ranked Florida as hav-

ing the largest growth in any squadron in the nation. As of August, CAP nationally had enlisted 12,775 new cadet and new senior members.

The new Uniform Manual, CAPM-39-1 is now available. Lots of changes, so every member should have a copy. To order, call the Bookstore at 1-800-633-8768.

To contact FLWG HQ by phone, call (813) 828-4300 or toll free 1-888-FLA-WING; Wing office hours are 0830 to 1630 (closed on Sunday and Monday). You computer whizzes can e-mail [Wingsfl@aol.com](mailto:Wingsfl@aol.com) and you can reach the home page at <http://www.capflorida.org>. CAP National Headquarters web site is <http://www.cap.af.mil>. Finally, if you want to subscribe to the Florida Wing Mail Host, just send an e-mail to: [capfl@capflorida.org](mailto:capfl@capflorida.org). In the message, enter the words: **subscribe-capfl.**

CAP National Hq. Public Relations Chief Charlotte M. Crowe advises that, "Brook Ballot from the Discovery Channel's "Star

Morning" show is in need of video and still shots of volunteer aid in the aftermath of hurricanes, specifically Hortense and Erin." This is a great opportunity to gain national exposure for CAP and your squadron, so send those materials to Charlotte ASAP.

**Attn: All PAO's. If you haven't already subscribed to the PAO mail host, send an e-mail to [Majorjorjor@ca0408.cap.gov](mailto:Majorjorjor@ca0408.cap.gov) and in the message send "subscribe cap-pao." You will be in contact with PAO's throughout the nation sharing invaluable ideas and experiences.**

Col. Skiba wants to assure that a copy of FLORIDA FACTS is provided to every Florida Wing member. Printing and postage costs have been the deterrent to date. A proposal is in the offing that might eradicate this financial dilemma.

~ ~ ~ ~ ~  
↓ **Sappy Holidays** ↓  
↓ **to one and all!!** ↓  
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# A VISIT TO THE AIR FORCE RESCUE COORDINATION CENTER



Just a single step beyond the security controlled doors brought me to the heart of the Air Force Rescue Coordination Center [AFRCC] located at Langley Air Force Base, Virginia. AFRCC is the single federal agency responsible for coordinating search and rescue [SAR] activities in the continental United States. AFRCC also provides SAR assistance to Canada and Mexico and technical training to sixteen other SAR participating nations.

The center is fully equipped with extensive audio, video and digital communication equipment and highly sophisticated computers. A comprehensive resource file in the center lists federal, state, local and volunteer organizations which conduct or assist SAR efforts.

I had a particularly warm feeling meeting the personnel that I have interacted with at ungodly evening hours while serving as Mission Coordinator. AFRCC functions around the clock and is manned by personnel trained and experienced to coordinate SAR operations.

A sense of awe is developed quickly when one sees the vast network of foreign countries, numerous satellites, various receiving and transmitting stations, extensive SAR agencies and organizations, multi-disciplinary functions and capabilities brought to bear in response to a single alarm.

Presently, eight satellites continuously circle our planet Earth. Four are operated by Russia and four are operated by the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration [NOAA]. These polar orbiting and geostationary satellites provide envi-

ronmental and weather observations. Each additionally carries a Search and Rescue Satellite Aided Tracking [SARSAT] payload that detects and locates emergency beacons activated by people in distress. These payloads are provided to the U.S. by Canada and France. Russia operates similar instruments known as COSPAS aboard their satellites. Both are used in an international cooperative SAR effort called, appropriately enough, COSPAS-SARSAT Program.

NOAA satellite emergency beacon detections are transmitted directly to the United States Mission Control Center [USMCC] located in Suitland, Maryland. A nearly immediate plotting of the coordinates leads to the determination as to which country-U.S., Canada or Mexico- the signal is assigned. When the assignment is to the U.S., the data is immediately communicated to AFRCC.

AFRCC's computer screens are continuously showing the satellite coverage arc over the continental U.S. It is rare when a satellite tracking sensor is not covering every portion of our country. Another screen with a map of the U.S. shows first alert detections as a yellow lightning symbol pinpointed to the area of detection. A second alert changes the color of the lightning symbol to blue. This gets an immediate response and a SAR controller or controllers initiates an intensive pursuit.

AFRCC is tied directly into the Federal Aviation Administration's [FAA] computer network. If the situation involves an aircraft, FAA conducts a review of all radio communications with the objective of ascertaining the last position. Concurrently, other FAA groups begin a check of all possible airports where the plane might have landed. AFRCC, in the meantime, contacts relatives, friends and business associates of the pilot and pas-

sengers that were on board. Through these contacts, AFRCC determines the pilot's intentions, his flying capabilities, emergency equipment and other pertinent information which could assist if a SAR becomes necessary.

All Air Route Control Centers [ARTCC's] can recall NTAP's [National Track Analysis Program] data which is a radar track that shows the route of flight and last radar position. Any Emergency Locator Transmitter [ELT] alarm signal is immediately tracked and plotted.

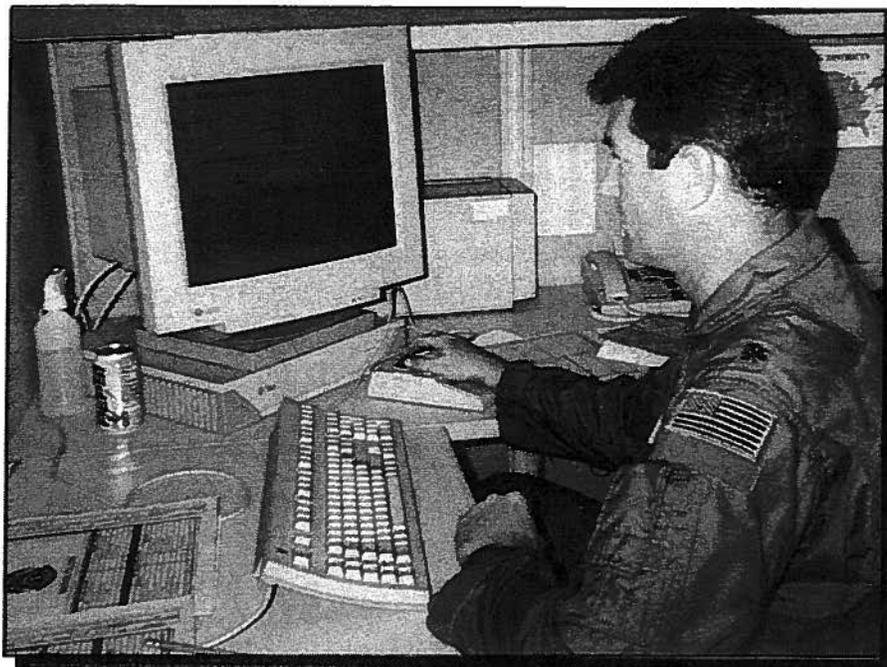
This extensive intelligence gathering and analysis successfully filters out approximately 85% of all such alerts. Of the remaining 15%, the Civil Air Patrol effectively conducts approximately 75% of all aerial and ground search activity.

When a mission is assigned to the CAP, a red circle surrounds the blue lightning symbol on the computer screen. An AFRCC Controller is assigned the mission and it is then assigned to a CAP Mission Coordinator to determine need for launching of aircraft, ground teams, personnel on mission alert status, and activation of a communication network. When these resources are engaged in a SAR mission, the Air Force reimburses CAP for communication expenses, fuel and oil, and a share of aircraft maintenance expenses. In addition, CAP members are covered by the Federal Employees Compensation Act in the event of injury while participating in a SAR mission.

AFRCC's duty is to save lives and aid the injured. They are prepared at all times to perform this duty quickly and efficiently, placing it before personal desires and comforts. AFRCC's motto is "These Things We Do, So That Others May Live." AFRCC saves an average of one life every day and has saved 12,800 lives since 1974.

See AFRCC, Page 5

## AFRCC VISITED continued from Page 4



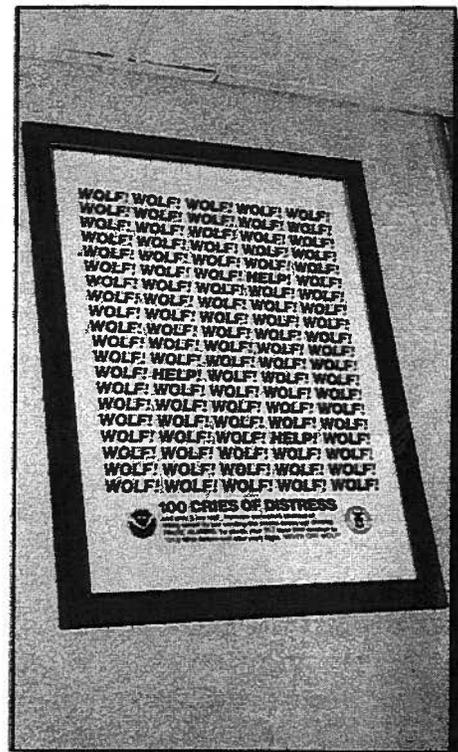
An AFRCC Controller working intensively on one of the various Search and Rescue missions that he has been assigned.

Aircraft carry ELT's that are normally triggered by the impact of a crash. Ships carry floating Emergency Position Indicating Radio Beacons [EPIRBs] that are activated by immersion in water. Both devices also can be activated manually.

ELT's and EPIRB's transmit on a radio frequency of 121.5 MHz and 406.025 MHz. The 121.5 MHz frequency provides the location of emergency beacons with an accuracy of about 5-12 miles. The 406 MHz frequency provides the location of people in distress with an accuracy of about 1-3 miles. The 406 signal contains digital information unique to each beacon which provides a link to information contained in a registration data base. This registration data helps the SAR team to identify the vessel or aircraft in distress and greatly speeds up the response time.

In spite of all that I learned during my AFRCC briefing, I felt that there was as much still to learn. I can't adequately express my thanks to Col. Graf, Captain Monroe and Captain Holmes and all the AFRCC personnel for the limitless courtesy, cooperation and consideration accorded to my wife and me. Many Air Force officers and airmen approached me on the base to relate their experiences with or as a member of CAP. I was very proud! If you are ever at the southeastern Virginia shore, do make Langley AFB a must see.

by Maj. S. Buddy Harris



A plaque on the AFRCC wall depicting that only three of every one hundred calls for help are actual distress situations...but each must be treated as life-threatening.

### EIGHTH AIR FORCE HERITAGE MUSEUM IS A TRUE ADVENTURE

Just minutes from downtown Savannah, you'll discover a museum unlike any other.

From its humble beginnings in WWII to its ultimate domination of the skies over Europe, the Eighth Air Force is a story of the greatest air armada ever committed to battle.

This history is depicted in the museum in a journey through sight and sound and exhilarating emotion. A visit is an adventure for young and old.

# HAPPY 50TH, USAF!

On September 18th, the United States Air Force, the youngest branch of the U.S. Armed Forces, celebrated 50 years of air power.

The role of the Air Force, providing combat capability and defense of our nation, has remained unchanged since the birth of the USAF following the successes of World War II.

Originating from the U.S. Army



Air Corps, today's Air Force became a separate command when President Harry Truman signed the National Security Act of 1947



while, appropriately, on board Air Force One, which was then a C-54 known as the 'Sacred Cow'.

The objective of the Air Force has always been to establish air superiority and to provide services for humanitarian missions around the globe. The U.S. Air Force has distinguished itself in the skies over Korea, Southeast Asia and in Desert Storm.

Happy birthday and "Aim High!"



## NEW ACTIVITY and SERVICE RIBBONS ANNOUNCED

New activity and service ribbons have been approved for wear by CAP members.

The Command Service Ribbon is awarded to senior members who have held a command position, or combination of command positions, continuously for a period not less than one year. The basic ribbon is awarded to members who serve as a squadron commander. A bronze star is added to indicate service as a Group Commander, silver will indicate service as a wing commander, and gold will indicate a region commander. Only one device depicting the highest position held will be worn and the ribbon is worn before the Red Service Ribbon.

## UNIVERSITY HISTORIAN SEEKS WW II MEMORABILIA

Florida State University in Tallahassee has established the Institute on World War II and the Human Experience, and is seeking donations of privately owned memorabilia to preserve the legacy of the aging WW II generation. The institute is concerned with the loss of irreplaceable materials related to the Second World War.

"We are interested in personal papers, letters, photos and other memorabilia", said Professor William Oldson of the FSU His-

tory Department. He's appealing directly to the veteran, defense worker and their families to help collect, preserve and display artifacts and memorabilia of that time.

Anyone interested in helping out, donating materials, or learning more about the program may contact Professor Oldson, in care of the FSU History Department, Tallahassee, FL 32306-2029, by phone at 850 644 9541 or by FAX at 805 644 6402.

## LISTENING and TWO-WAY COMMUNICATION are LEADERSHIP IMPERATIVES.

Maxwell AFB, AL....Whether you are a cadet or a senior, there are some very important leadership concepts with which you must be familiar. Men and women, young and old, want to do a good job, and when they are given the proper environment, they will do so, advises Col. David Brown, National CAP Membership Director.

Our leaders must make sure that all members understand the mission and priorities of your unit, along with the philosophy of leadership. To really feel included in the CAP culture, members should know why the organization exists, its basic values, and the way it values and cares for its members and the people and communities it serves.

One of the best motivation and retention tools we can use is *listening*. Effective members, and effective leaders in particular, have to be in touch with unit members and have to maintain *two-way communication* with them.

The most important factor to motivate the individual is *individual recognition*. In the non-volunteer world, surveys show that individual recognition is more important than salary, bonuses, or promotions in determining overall job satisfaction. When working with volunteers who are investing their money to join CAP, the recognition factor becomes tremendously vital in member satisfaction and retention.

Most people, from minimum-wage

workers to corporate executives, want to be creative. They want to identify with their organization's success. They want to contribute to their workplace and society by making it a better place to live—more comfortable, safer and more exciting. Their greatest reward is receiving acknowledgment that they make a difference, that they did contribute to making something meaningful happen.

“Missions For America” is what CAP is all about. Providing volunteers opportunities to succeed while recognizing and congratulating them on their success leads to an organization growing in size and vitality—ready to take those missions into the next century.

## PERSONAL SHOPPER PROGRAM AVAILABLE AT MACDILL EXCHANGE

When you visit MacDill AFB and shop at the Army and Air Force Exchange's main store you are likely to see a new program in force.

The new program is called PERSONAL SHOPPER, and it's designed to assist shoppers who may need a little extra help.

Two AAFES sales associates wearing red polo shirts with blue ribbons saying Personal Shopper are available to aid customers.

You may need a gift suggestion, or may not be sure of the location of a particular item you want, or the location of Customer Service or the Lay-A-Way counter. You

are encouraged to ask for assistance from these special Personal Shoppers.

Ask the greeter at the ID stand to refer you to these Personal Shoppers who are available everyday until 6 p.m.

## INTERNET PROVIDES RETIREE ROAD MAP by Doug Gilbert

American Forces Press Service

Whether you are planning to retire from the military or already have, you're going to want a continuous source of current information on your benefits. The Internet now provides an easy to follow road map to make your information seeking journey easier to navigate.

- **Air Force Retiree News**  
[<http://www.afpc.af.mil/afretire/>]  
This site provides health care information, Survivor Benefit Plan, financial services, commissary and exchange information, Social Security, travel and leisure, consumer items and Veterans Administration.

- **Army Echoes**  
[<http://www.odcsper.army.mil/prod/retire/echoes.htm>]  
Information on everything from base closings to worldwide veteran activities. Currently there is information on Medicare, the DoD plan to take care of retirees over age 65, recently approved by Congress and the president.

- **Department of Veteran Affairs**  
[<http://www.va.gov/va/htm>]  
All about veteran programs and benefits.

## Annual Florida Emergency Management Exercise Scheduled for December

by Lt. Col. Bob Gray, Jr.  
Commander, Group 1

The Florida Health and Medical Response Agency, Emergency Support Function 8 [ESF] is well under way in preparing for the annual exercise. The Florida Wing is an active, essential part of their team and mission.

This year's exercise will again be held on 5 - 7 December at the State Forestry Training Center in Withlacoochee [near Brooksville].

All supporting agencies will be reporting to the center on Friday, 5 December. Time to be announced.

The exercise on Saturday will include Disaster Medical Assistance Teams [DMAT] that will be dispatched from MacDill AFB and Orlando. The CAP will provide communications support at all three sites. Helicopter operations will be accomplished at the Withlacoochee site. The CAP will provide forward landing area management. Finally, an airlift will be used to provide management oversight at the two offsite locations. The CAP will provide this airlift.

Wing Commander, Col. Skiba will assign the Mission Coordinator for this exercise.

In the 1996 exercise, CAP was authorized 35 participating members. This year, CAP is authorized for 70 participating members. Messing and housing is not yet worked out but it will be improved from last year.

Funding for the exercise has been requested.

The long-range plan for this mission is to have members from the northern, central and southern sectors of the state become experienced in the exercise regimen. Last year, the Panhandle took the lead, received the training experience and participated with others from central Florida. This year central Florida will take the lead with support from the Panhandle team and LTC. Gray.

Major Jorge Del Rio, Group 6 Commander will be working in coordination with LTC. Gray. Major Del Rio has been very active with the central Florida DMAT in Orlando. This DMAT possesses and is responsible for the deployment and operation of the Mobile Support Unit [MSU].

The following specialty qualifications are needed to conduct this exercise:

- Mission Coordinators
- Ground Team Leaders
- Ground Team Members
- Mission Pilots
- Administrative Personnel
- Air/Ground Operations Personnel

Qualified members interested in

participating in this important state exercise should send their qualifications, interests and availability information to FLWG Hq. CAP is particularly looking for participants from south Florida since next year they will be the hosting group.

Cadets are an integral part of our ES Program and they will be an important participating group in this exercise. The ESF 8 Director and staff have made known how impressed they were in prior exercises with the discipline and professionalism of our cadets.

This exercise is an ongoing Florida Emergency Management mission and its effects could be felt anywhere in the state whenever there is a natural or man-made disaster. This mission is complex and demands a significant effort level to achieve the exercise expectation.

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### A CAP ODE

*I am your son*

*I am your daughter*

*I am proud*

*to be entrusted by you*

*to fulfill "Missions for America"*

*I am generations strong*

*yet I am one family*

*of one heart, one mission*

*I will serve you, I will assist you*

*I am your nation's Civil Air Patrol.*

*Anonymous*

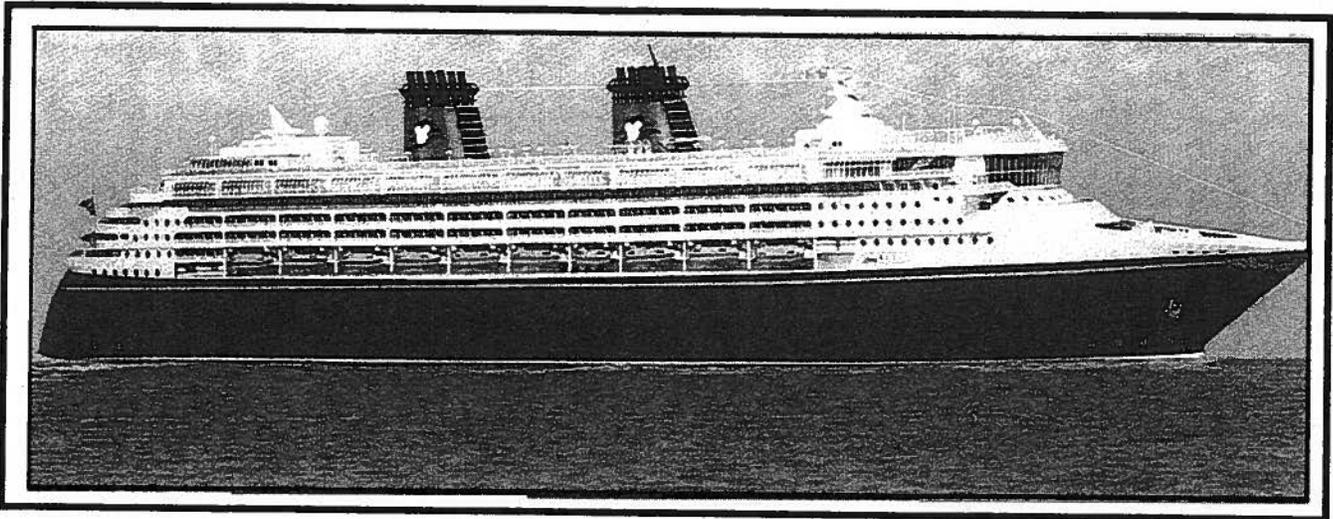
## 1998 SOUTHEAST REGION CONFERENCE TO BE "FUN IN THE SUN" ON THE HIGH SEAS.

If you thought the 1997 Southeast Region Conference in Orlando was the best ever, it's going to be topped by the 1998 conference which will be held aboard an American Dream Cruise liner.

lars in the casino.

As the theme of the conference will be **Training and Retaining**, there will be some very educational sessions including Cadet

and a photo ID. This includes, either a Passport, original Birth Certificate, or a copy of the certificate with a raised seal. In accordance with established rules, "Guests under 21 years of age must be accompanied



Just block out the weekend of June 26th and arrive at the Port of Miami by 10 a.m. to attend an informal briefing by U.S. Customs before boarding the Ecstasy around noon for lunch and a fun-filled educational three night cruise.

You will depart Miami at 4 p.m. and arrive in Nassau at 8 a.m. on Saturday, with a 24 hour layover so that you can see the sights before arriving back in Miami on Monday at 8 a.m.

During the cruise you will have time to relax, enjoy the gourmet meals, view the splendor of the Vegas style revues, dance to your heart's content, and maybe even win a few dol-

and Senior Program, Communications and other related subjects...and they will be scheduled so they will not interfere with the activities of the cruise.

The more members who attend and the more cabins that are booked will lower the cost. At the present time, the booking costs \$345.50 per person, inside cabin and \$418.50 for an ocean-view cabin. The prices include all Port Charges, but exclude gambling, alcoholic beverages, soft drink beverages and tips. There are no upper/lower berth cabins.

All participants are required to have proof of American citizenship

by a parent, relative or guardian 25 years or older in the same state-room." A relative or guardian must have a parental permission letter.

This is a no 'uniform' activity, so bring sport clothes, swimwear, dress wear and comfortable attire.

To reserve, send a deposit check made out to *American Dream Cruises* dated November 1, 1997 for \$50.00 and send it to **SER 98 Conference, P.O. Box 7027, Hollywood, FL 33081-1027**. This will guarantee your space. If less than the minimum reservations are booked, the cruise will be cancelled and your check will be returned.

# WORDS OF WISDOM FROM WING

## WING COMMANDER RE-ISSUES SAFETY RULES.

Wing Commander Skiba emphatically re-issues Rules of Safety :

**RULE NO. 1 - Fly safely and conduct yourself safely.**

**RULE NO.2 - Don't forget Rule No. 1.**

## END OF FY REPORT

Chief of Staff, Lt. Col. Valerie Brown reports that FY'97 reflects no loss of life or serious injury, BUT three aircraft incidents have cost several thousand dollars each in repairs and corrective action for the pilots involved. "SAFETY must be practiced every day in every way by every one if we are to protect our assets, both our members and equipment", said Lt.Col. Brown.

National Headquarters, CAP has mandated special emphasis on safety. A special National Board was convened in December '96 solely for that purpose. All wing and region commanders were required to attend. It was concluded that a new way of thinking must evolve. Each time an

aircraft is moved from its hangar or tie-down, each time a driver checks out a CAP vehicle, each time members enter a flight line, they must think *Safety First*, and act accordingly.

## NEW TECHNOLOGIES CREATE OPPORTUNITIES

We live in a time of exponential change. New technologies create opportunities each day that were previously unimagined.

FLWG Chief of Staff Brown states, "The Civil Air Patrol is in the midst of change at a national level which affects each of us. This is in addition to the many changes we have undergone in Florida Wing this past year. We must position ourselves to respond to changes in technology, changes in legislation, changes in our communications licensing requirements, changes in FAA policy, and changes in the Emergency Services community. These changes often bring increased hazards and liability, as well."

"It may not be easy to maintain technical proficiency", continued Brown. "The requirements are many and time consuming as well

as costly. But proficiency and currency must be maintained by all Emergency Services personnel and all aircrews if we are to be able to deliver in emergencies. 'Always Vigilant' is not just a motto, it is a necessity to survive in the '90's."

Lt. Col. Brown additionally stated, "Decreased staffing by other agencies creates more demand for the services of Civil Air Patrol. Tremendous opportunities exist right now for increased mission flying. Increased surveillance technology also provides new mission capabilities. Will we meet the challenge? Not without vigilance, not without technical proficiency, not without effective communication, not without identifying our resources, not without learning to play as team members with other agencies whose resources compliment our own, not without compliance with regulations, and not without training will we be able to meet these new challenges."

## NEW YEAR'S RESOLUTION!

Do your job well, forward reports on time, develop plans to improve, communicate your needs and ideas through proper channels, and commit to make the system work rather than circumventing it.



## NEW MESSAGE FROM YOUR ^ EDITOR

I totally agree with Commander Skiba that we all owe a loud "well done" to former Editor, Trish Turner for an outstanding job in reviving this newsletter. I thoroughly enjoyed working with Trish in providing her with news stories for each edition and I will now enjoy receiving stories she will be providing to me. Trish did, and will continue to do, CAP proud.

Now that you the reader have gotten to this page, you have just completed reading one-half of the December Issue of **FLORIDA FACTS**.

This is your newsletter and it is singularly intended to inform, educate and please the reading membership.

I intend to provide you with National Headquarters, Florida Wing and other wing's news - good and bad - in the belief that a well informed membership will tend to decimate rumors, grumbling and unrest.

I would like to provide you with Group and Squadron happenings for a two-fold purpose; first, to deservedly recognize your accomplishments and dedicated service

[as recommended by Col. David Brown - see page 7] and, second, to inform you of other member's successes and failures as a guide in your plans and programs. First and foremost, it is a proven fact that we learn best and quickest from the experiences of others.

These goals can only be accomplished for you by your providing me with reports as to what you have scheduled, what you have achieved and any other group/squadron news. Photos will also be truly appreciated.

TO ALL PAO's, please include me on your mailing list for copies of all your news releases, PR releases, and newsletters that you produce.

TO ALL MEMBERS, please send me your ideas, thoughts, promotions, experiences, and, if you wish, a signed Letter to the Editor. No, it doesn't have to be typed or in journalistic style. Handwritten notes that are readable and provide only factual content will be gladly rewritten by me for publication. Credit by-lines will be provided to all who submit stories, so please provide your rank.

No anonymous submittals will ever

be an inclusion of Florida Facts.

Remember, an Editor should report the news, never create it.

See you again in Volume 3, Issue 1 dated April '98.

You can send your submissions to:  
Major S. Buddy Harris  
192 Gulfport Court  
Marco Island, FL 34145

E-MAIL: [nfn07736@naples.net](mailto:nfn07736@naples.net)  
FAX: 941 642 5501 [call 941 642 0613 first]



## CONGRATULATIONS

Recipients of CAP NATIONAL  
AWARDS - 1997

Col. Andrew Skiba  
NATIONAL COMMANDER'S COMMENDATION

Capt. Linda J. Rose  
F. WARD REILLY LEADERSHIP

Coral Springs Cadet Squadron  
SQUADRON OF DISTINCTION

*You make us all very proud to serve with you.*

## LAST MESSERSCHMITT 109 CRASHES

Attention all 8th Air Force vets - The last flying Messerschmitt 109 recently crashed at an air show at the Imperial War Museum in Duxford, England.

It was the plane's last planned public appearance. The pilot escaped unharmed after the ME-109 flipped over in a field after over-running the runway during an emergency landing.

Observers reported seeing a trail of black smoke from the engine and that the engine did not appear to be providing power on the forced landing attempt.

Thus ends an infamous era!

## NEW AIR FORCE CHIEF OF STAFF CONFIRMED

The Senate recently confirmed Gen. Michael E. Ryan to serve as the Air Force's 16th Chief of Staff.

Gen. Ryan, currently the commander of the U.S. Air Forces in Europe and the Allied Air Forces in Central Europe, also becomes the first son to follow in his father's footsteps as senior military leader of any U. S. military service. Gen. John D. Ryan served as Air Force Chief of Staff from 1969 to 1973.

Gen. Ryan takes the place of Gen. Ronald R. Fogleman.

## PILOT UPDATE FORMS, GENERAL FORMS AND INFORMATION LINKS NOW ON NHQ WEB PAGE

A new form on the National Headquarters [NHQ] Web Page makes it easy for pilots to update their Form 5 date, Form 91 date, BFR date and Medical date with the NHQ database on a current basis rather than the once-a-year data collection via the renewal form. This new form can be acquired at [http://www.cap.af.mil/nhq/dp/dpp/update\\_pilot\\_info.html](http://www.cap.af.mil/nhq/dp/dpp/update_pilot_info.html).

The following are general forms and information links that have recently been added to the NHQ Web Page:

- Online Form 8 [Request for Forms and Publications]
- Online Marketing and Recruiting Material Request Form
- Online Address Change Form
- MS-Access Downloadable Database of Personnel Data
- Online Form 18 [Operations Monthly Activity Report]
- Online Form 82 [Counterdrug Monthly Activity Report]
- Link to "The CAP Officer" Journal
- Link to "The Spaatz Association"
- Link to "National Interagency Counterdrug Institute [NICI]"
- and others

Lt. Col. David Crawford, Chief, Information Systems gets all the credit for the continual expansion of internet resources for CAP. Just check out <http://www.cap.af.mil/misc/whats-new.html> to see the array of items on the NHQ Web Page.

## MEMORANDUM FROM: LT. COL. ANDREW SKIBA

### Subject: Opportunity for Advancement

1. In any organization, people and assignments are constantly going through change. The Florida Wing is constantly seeking talented and ambitious members to fill vacancies which exist, or may become available at various times.

2. When I became the Wing Commander, I knew very few of the FLWG members. I went through a significant education process to learn the culture, personalities, problems, and good things about our wing and the people in it. One of the things I learned is there is a large pool of talent in our wing.

3. I am asking that any member of the Florida Wing who is interested in being considered for any Command or Wing Headquarters Staff assignment to provide a brief personal resume to me, specifying the assignment or position for which you would like to be considered. Send the resume to me at Wing HQ or you may FAX it directly to me at 941 693 9310. While the position you are interested in may already be staffed or assigned, I will utilize this resource as my first source for candidates. Please include all information that will assist me in the interview and selection process. The pay is low but the rewards are high. You are our most valuable asset.

# NTC IS ESTABLISHED

Submitted by Malcolm Kyser,  
Chief of Communications, CAP NHQ.



The CAP National Technology Center [NTC] is now established in Virginia.

This activity resulted from the Government Excess Equipment Refurbishment Plan which was initially briefed to the National Board in March of this year and finally presented to the National Executive Committee [NEC] in May. The NEC approved the plan and preparations for operation of the center were initiated.

The mission of the NTC will be to acquire, process, rehab, and distribute communication and computer equipment from many diverse sources. Principally this will be from other federal agencies which are funded to constantly upgrade their systems. The NTC will develop and maintain liaison with these agencies and work to acquire the equipment needed to refurbish CAP's communication system and to move the communications program forward. This will all be done, to the greatest extent possible, at no cost to CAP units or CAP members.

Through early efforts, NTC already has approximately \$2-\$3 million dollars worth of equipment on hand. Much of this equipment is pristine. Some is brand new and in the manufacturer's original shipping containers. The equipment includes mobiles, hand-helds, bases and repeaters as well as code keys, computers, and even a tactical microwave system. The NTC will process this equipment to meet CAP demand, refurbish it as necessary and prepare it for turnover to the CAP.

The budget approved by the NEC provides for the funding necessary to operate the facility, pay the salaries of two technicians, purchase parts and supplies necessary to perform the rehab of the equipment and to ship that equipment to CAP units.

Two technicians are already on board. They are Lt. Col. David Wharton, CAP and Major Mark Kunkowski, CAP. As part of the National Headquarters team, they will strive to make the NTC a valuable tool for the future equipping of CAP.

The NTC is located in Richmond, Virginia on a major Defense Logistics Agency [DLA] facility, known as Defense Supply Center Richmond [DSCR]. As a part of the DSCR team, the NTC has full access into the Defense Re-utilization and Marketing System [DRMS] computer system. This makes possible the constant review of inventory of the Defense Reutilization and Marketing Offices [DRMO's] worldwide searching for specific items of interest, hold, freeze, and ship those items directly to the NTC loading dock.

NTC may finally yield the harvest of equipment CAP needs for its growth and progress. Logistics for requesting equipment from NTC is in development and will be announced at a later date.

# CENTRAL FLORIDA COMPOSITE SQUADRON IS NEWLY CREATED

*FLWG Vice Commander, Col. Pineda and Group 6 Commander, Major Del Rio presented command of newly created squadron to Capt. Nick Spenser.*

**submitted by 1Lt. Trish Turner, PAO**

On Wednesday, 8 October, the Central Florida Senior Squadron [08259] and Orlando Cadet Squadron [08133] officially merged to become the Central Florida Composite Squadron [08259]. Both squadrons have met on opposite sides of the Orlando Executive Airport for several years and were combined to make a stronger unit.

A ceremony to commemorate the merger was held in the parking lot of the Headquarters building of the Central Florida Senior Squadron located at 315 Maguire Road in Orlando. The cadets and senior members from both squadrons were in full dress uniform as Col. Tony Pineda, Florida Wing Vice Commander and Major Jorge Del Rio, Group 6 Commander retired the flags of both the Orlando Cadet Squadron and the Central Florida Senior Squadron and presented command of the newly created squadron, Central Florida Composite Squadron, to Capt. Nick Spenser. At least 30 guests, mostly family members, watched the ceremony and were quite impressed. Following the ceremony, everyone went inside the building for short

speeches presented by. Col. Pineda, Capt. Spenser and C/Major Shane Turner, Cadet Commander. The festivities included goodies provided for the occasion.

The merger brought together 12

senior members have been added and one senior member has transferred from another squadron in the State of Florida.

Great things are expected out of this new squadron as Capt. Spenser plans, with his staff, to conduct more Orientation Flights for the cadets, provide Emergency Services classes for all and many other exciting activities.

The cadet staff are teaching Phase 1 classes and classes to help the advancing cadets to better understand their material. Aerospace Education classes are being taught by S/M Sherwin Hamada, who works at the Kennedy Space Center and Moral Leadership classes are taught by LTC Harvey Pittman, an Air Force retiree who is a professor at the International Seminary in Zellwood, Fl. Many senior members have career skills that will enable them to conduct CAP classes to train both the senior and cadet members. Everyone is looking forward to the benefits that will result from this merger.



Col. Tony Pineda, [L.] passes new squadron flag to Major Jorge Del Rio[r.] who will then pass flag to new squadron commander, Capt. Nick Spenser [c.]

senior members and 33 cadets from the Orlando Cadet Squadron and 40 senior members from the Central Florida Senior Squadron to bring the total of members in the Central Florida Composite Squadron to 85 members. Since the merger, five new cadets have signed up and several more have expressed interest, two new

# NATIONAL CHECK PILOT STANDARDIZATION COURSE SUCCESSFULLY COMPLETED

As the sun was rising, so was the level of aircraft activity as 14 CAP aircraft entered the landing pattern at the Lakeland-Linder Airport on Saturday, 25 October. After parking the aircraft, the pilots proceeded to the FAA Safety Center building to attend a two-day National Check Pilot Standardization Course [NCPSC] under the direction of FLWG DOV, Major Luis Garcia.

and an AM radio broadcast station. This check pilot course required Maj. Garcia to expend months of continuous coordination time with various entities. The program's success made those efforts quite apparent.

On Saturday, 35 pilots began two days of intensive training and evaluation. Attendees completed 8 hours of

Wing Commander, Col. Andrew Skiba; and LTC. Obie Young a check of logbooks and airworthiness certificates was completed, by LTC. Mike Brown; Oklahoma Wing Commander, Col. Walt Schamel and Capt. Don Terrill and Capt. Robert Taylor of his staff.

All of the attendees commented on the professionalism of the staff and quality of instruction/evaluation.

Major Garcia is Florida Standardization and Evaluation Officer and oversees more than 300 pilots flying 19 corporate airplanes in one of the largest CAP wings in the nation.

Last year, Major Garcia conducted the NCPSC for the first time, in conjunction with the Oklahoma Wing, at the FAA Safety Center. This center is one of only two in the country and has state-of-the-art facilities and equipment for quality training. The building has a full video production studio, classrooms that can hold as many as 300 students, two conference rooms



Major Luis Garcia [l.] greets Capt. Morris Groover [r.] who just landed in the newly painted Cessna 182.

classroom instruction which included Cockpit Resource Management, Pilot Judgment, Evaluating the Evaluator, Form 5/Form 91/ CAP 60-1, Flight Ops, Accident Causes, FAA Emphasis Items, and FLWG Emphasis Items.

Under the watchful eyes of AF/CAP LO, Col. Mark Lee; Wing AF Reserve Officer, LTC. Phil Curry;

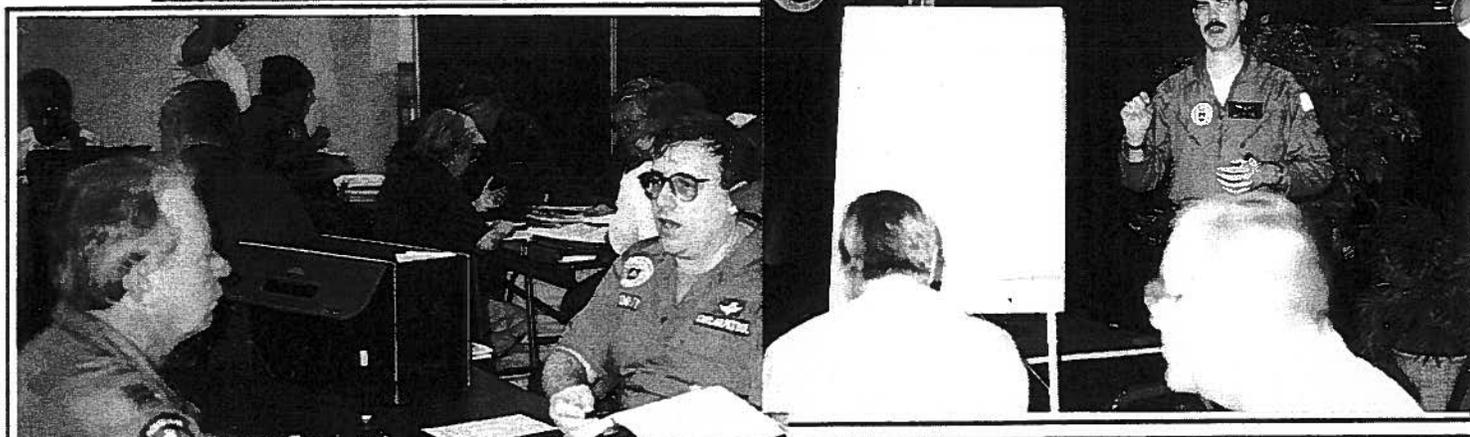
Maj. Garcia said, "This is the second NCPSC that I have conducted and I am extremely pleased with the turnout and the improved level of professionalism that we are achieving."

LTC. Mike

Brown added, "Col. Skiba is demanding improved levels of safety and professionalism. This course assists in that accomplishment."

Finally, Chief Check Pilot -Grp. 8, Capt. Peter Baker said, "This annual course assures we will produce high quality check pilots that will assure a group of highly proficient pilots for the Florida Wing."

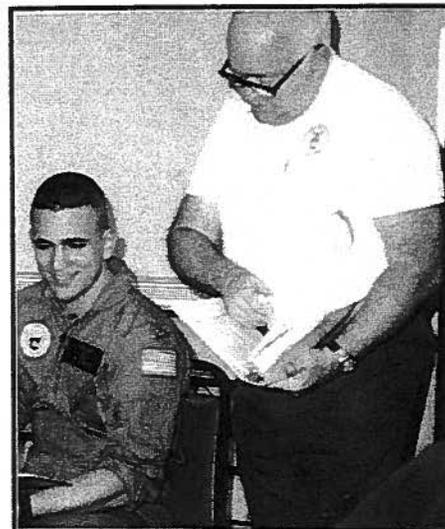
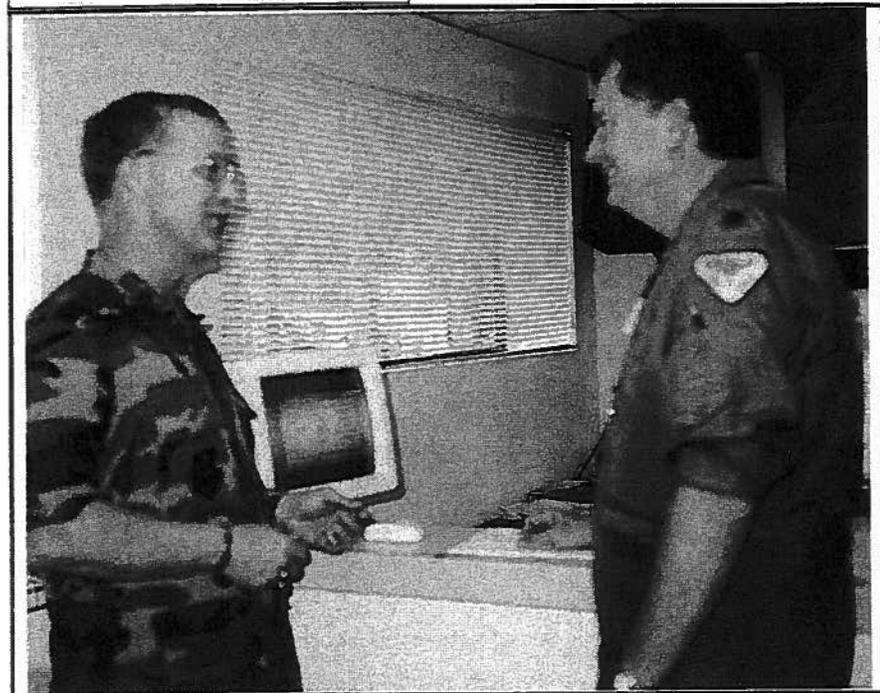
**Capt. Russ Reikmann serves as class instructor.**



**Capt. Peter Baker instructs group of assigned pilots.**



**LTC. Phill Curry [l.] discusses AF evaluation with LO, COL. Mark Lee [r.].**



**Major Luis Garcia [l.] unsuccessfully attempts to relax for a moment during the intensive training course.**

# NATIONAL COMMANDER ADDRESSES COMMAND CALL

The October Command Call was held at

the Orlando Marriott World Center in concert with the Aircraft Owners and Pilots Association-AOPA EXPO 97. Major Alex Kaplan, Group 5 Commander was Project Officer. Group and Squadron Commanders and FLWG Staff Officers were joined by National Commander, Brig. Gen. Paul Bergman; Executive Director, Col. Paul J. Albano Sr. and Marketing and Public Relations Director Mary Nell Crowe.



**NATIONAL COMMANDER, BRIG. GEN. PAUL BERGMAN addresses Command Call.**

outstanding job, but we all have to do more."

Director Crowe added, "CAP's image and level of recognition has increased enormously in the past two and one-half years. This public awareness of our accomplishments and activities and recognition of our uniform places an added responsibility on each of us for achieving a higher level of professionalism."

Col. Skiba reported:

\*20 new Cessna 172's will be delivered to CAP by January '98. Wing will fly our assigned aircraft during the break-in and warranty period, then the aircraft will be rotated to the groups.

\*Aircraft utilization must be increased to no less than 15 hours per month.

\*Training funds are still available.

\*Funded flying activities require Air Force oversight and no less than 45 days are needed for LO review and approval. An OPS Plan is also required for prior evaluation.

\*Our CD mission hours must be increased. Presently, we are second to Georgia in the Southeast Region.

\*Miami Springs Optimists Cadet Squadron took first place in the Southeast Region Cadet Competition. They will compete in the National Cadet Competition [NCC] representing SER, in December at Maxwell AFB.

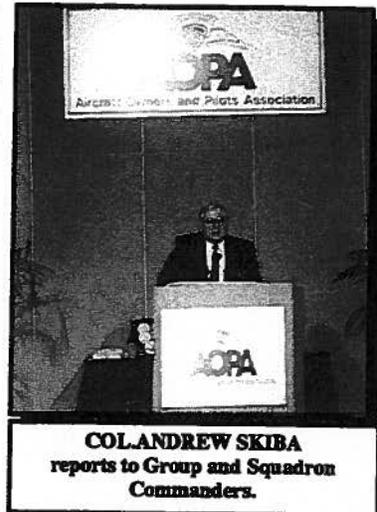
\*15 March '98 is deadline for submission of candidate names for National and Southeast Region Awards. Recommendations shall be sent directly to FLWG HQ.

\*FLWG '98 Conference will be on 5, 6 and 7 June at Cocoa Beach Comfort Inn. Exciting tours to Patrick AFB and Cape Kennedy and informative seminars are in the offing.

\*Cadet Orientation Flight funds are available at the cadet units. Flights by other support units shall be requested of and paid directly from the cadet unit.

\*FRO's must complete the new FRO Training Program. No flight release

shall be authorized by a non-certified FRO. \*All flying units will have a no-notice safety compliance inspection. Maintenance, flying and pilot's records must be in order and in accordance with regulations..



**COL. ANDREW SKIBA reports to Group and Squadron Commanders.**

\*Contracts shall be signed with three pre-screened FBO's and maintenance rates shall be pre-established. Parts will be provided to the FBO by

CAP. Three Maintenance Coordinators have been appointed to expedite the maintenance program.

\*Vice Commander, Col. Tony Pineda has been assigned responsibility for Cadet Programs and Logistics. Vice Commander, Col. Larry Durham has responsibility for Senior Training and Operations/Maintenance.

Col. Skiba concluded, "Finally, Safety is the key word for all. Think Safety, Teach Safety and Practice Safety...always. Dumb and stupid actions that endanger our members and assets will not be tolerated. You are doing a fine job and I know that this request for an elevated level of professionalism will be accomplished."

Following Staff Officer's reports, Lt. Col. Valerie Brown concluded the Command Call and informed those present that our 'Vision Statement' is nearly finalized and it places an emphasis on developing pride and professionalism in volunteer service. Safety, professionalism, performance and dedication are all guiding beacons to the achievement of our mission."

Drew Steketee, a former CAP Cadet and now Sr. V.P. for Communications of AOPA opened the session with a back-grounder on the newly-created CAP Historical Foundation. He also showed a video highlighting the early flight activities of CAP during WW II. The CAP was created in direct response to the sighting of Nazi submarines in N.Y. Harbor and the sinking of 42 merchant ships within sight of land. CAP flew 250,000 hours, spotted 121 subs and actually sank one submarine within 21 miles of the Atlantic City, N.J. coastline. CAP's mission success has become a memorable achievement.

Gen. Bergman was pleased to report to the assemblage, "CAP's interaction with the Department of Defense and the Air Force has increased dramatically. CAP must continue to make greater strides toward increasing our level of professionalism so we may secure an increased relationship with the Pentagon. Florida Wing under the command of Col. Skiba is doing an

# AEROSPACE CAMPOREE HOSTED BY NORTH TAMPA CADET SQUADRON

submitted by 2Lt. Diane Meares, PAO

Boy Scout Troops and Civil Air Patrol Squadrons in the Tampa Bay area were invited to attend the first Annual Exploring Aerospace Camporee which was held at Boy Scouts of America Camp Brorein. The scouts could work toward their merit badges while the CAP cadets could work toward their first three ranks. The event was hosted by North Tampa Cadet Squadron. Planning and coordinating was provided by Commander, Capt. William Westcott; Cadet Commander, C/FO Tasha Meares; Aerospace Officer, S/M Joan Morales; PAO, 2Lt. Diane Meares; Bill & Carol Boyd, Post 243 and Boy Scout Gulf Ridge Council Leader, Danny Nevels.

The Aerospace Camporee began when 24 Cadets and 70 Boy Scouts, assisted by 59 adult leaders, checked-in and set up their tents. Just before 'lights-out' Mr. Nevels conducted an Astronomy Class in 'Mother Nature's Planitarium' - under the starry sky.



CAP Cadets and Scouts raise the American flag along with the Civil Air Patrol flag and the Boy Scouts of America flag during the opening ceremonies. This Aerospace Camporee was dedicated to Michael A. Westcott who passed away January 1997.

Following the morning ceremonies, scouts and cadets split into respective flights and patrols and travelled through nine different learning stations. Station 1 was Model Airplanes where different types of model airplanes along with videos were displayed. Station 2 was Weather where everyone learned atmospheric conditions and how relative winds affect flying. Station 3 was Rocketry where the construction of different types of rockets, rocket systems, and satellite orbits were taught. Station 4 was Forces of Flight where they learned basic flight maneuvers, axis of rotation, and drag. Station 5 was Communication with instructors teaching types of radios, compass navigation, and radio navigation. Station 6 was Flight Line, Station 7 was Maps, Station 8 was Engines and Station 9 was Flight Instruments.

The Sheriff's Department and Channel 13 News were scheduled to land helicopters at the camp grounds. The Sheriff's Department's helicopter had to depart, as it was setting down, to respond to an emergency call.

See CAMPOREE - Page 19

CAMPOREE from Page 18



Cadet Staff l. to r. Brad Gichen, David Raymond, Tasha Meares, Shawntai Westcott, Billy Westcott and Adam Yore.

When the Channel 13 pilot, Dale Williams landed, Cadets and Scouts met him and were shown around the helicopter. During this time, Rick Merrill from the West Pasco Model Airplane Club flew a model helicopter for the onlookers across the camp grounds

At the conclusion of the Camporee, all participants received ribbons. Rockets were presented to the winners of the Word Search and then all participants gathered at the Chapel for services and Fellowship. Everyone agreed this was "a great program and we can't wait for next year."

## MARCO ISLAND SENIOR SQUADRON WINS THREE WING AWARDS

The Marco Island Senior Squadron was recognized as the "Outstanding Squadron of the Year" for the third year in a row.

Major Richard Mandell was selected "Outstanding Safety Officer of the Year". Major Mandell also won this award in 1996.

Also honored was Major S. Buddy Harris who was recognized as the "Outstanding Public Affairs Officer of the Year". Harris has been the recipient of this award in 1994, 1995 and 1996.

## INTERNATIONAL AIR CADET EXCHANGE IS AN OVERWHELMING SUCCESS

Thanks to the exhausting efforts of Capt. Jason Jenkins and 1Lt. Eaton Litshaw the 1997 IACE program, in celebration of fifty years of inspiring good-will and fellowship internationally, was an overwhelming success.

CAP'ers Jenkins and Litshaw hosted exchange cadets from five nations...2 cadets from the Netherlands, 3 cadets from and 2 cadets from the

Group 6 members provided transportation, housing, Cadets were taken to Disney World, MGM Studios and Flights were arranged so that the understanding of flight dynamics



l. to r. Capt. Jason Jenkins and Lt. Eaton Litshaw

shaw hosted exchange cadets from Belgium, 2 cadets from the Norway, 3 cadets from Sweden United States.

vided coordination and assisted and other planned programs. The neyWorld, MGM Studios and Flights were arranged so that the understanding of flight dynamics

Capt. Jenkins and Lt. Litshaw programmed a grueling schedule for the cadets and were extremely successful in their efforts. Every exchange cadet was fast asleep aboard the bus transporting them to the airport for their flights home. The exchange cadets said, "Words aren't adequate to express how grateful we are."

