



# 'Gator CAPers



VOLUME 16, NO. 1

McCOY AFB, FLA.

FEBRUARY 1975

## FLORIDA WING ANNUAL CONFERENCE

The Sheraton-Towers Hotel welcomes the Civil Air Patrol of Florida for the Annual Wing Conference February 15-17, 1975.

If you have not already mailed the reservation form included in the December Wing mail-out, use the one below.

A full schedule is planned...

### Friday

Wing Boards & Committees

### Saturday

Cadet Special Activities Selection	
General Assembly	0900 hours
Seminar Sessions	1100 hours
Personality Adjustment (no host)	1800 hours
Awards Banquet	1900 hours
Cadet Dance	2100 hours

### Sunday

Wing Commander's Call	0900 hours
Wing Promotion Board	After Commander's Call

Florida Wing CAP Annual Conference '75

Reservation Request Form

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

MAIL TO:

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

Sheraton-Towers Hotel  
5780 Major Boulevard  
Orlando, Florida 32805

CITY \_\_\_\_\_ STATE \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

Attention: Reservations Mgr  
CAP Conference - Feb. 15-17

Will arrive on: Date \_\_\_\_\_ Time \_\_\_\_\_

Location: Intersection of  
I-4 and the Sunshine Parkway.

Will depart on: Date \_\_\_\_\_ Time \_\_\_\_\_

Single (one person) \$18.00 \_\_\_\_\_

Double (two persons/two beds) \$24.00 \_\_\_\_\_

**y'all come!**

## '74 IACE CADET STOPOVER AT OCALA

The twentyfive visiting International Air Cadets and their escorts were guests of Joe and Mary Capiel for a chicken barbeque at the Wild Oaks Farm in Sparr last summer.

Representing the Philippines were Michael Fitchel Yu and Maria Ana Rula. Shu Par-Lai represented the Republic of China.

The cadets' bus was an-hour late arriving so it was a hungry group that lined up for chicken, baked beans and all the trimmings. Dessert was specially decorated cake complete with a tiny yellow airplane.

After a stop at Silver Springs, the cadets traveled to Orlando to Disney World and the Kennedy Space Center and then on to Miami. Washington D.C. was the last stop on their itinerary before they returned to their native countries.



Photo top — Group escort Colonel Robert Pinney with cadets Maria Ana Rula of the Philippines, Alex Deytrikh of Great Britain, Michael Fitchel Yu, Philippines, and Shu Par-Lai of the Republic of China.

Photo Below — Specially decorated cake in honor of IACE cadets' visit.

The young people were from Great Britain, The Republic of China and the Philippines. The 19 member British delegation—largest contingent in the group, was escorted by RAF Squadron Leader Murray Roger from the RAF base in Brampton, Cambridgeshire. The cadets included Alex Deytrikh John Miller, Jeff Spenser, Dave Hill, Richard Covell, Scott Wilson, and Robert Cook, among others.



## REMINDER

We have a new address.

The GATOR CAPERS is resuming publication after a somewhat extended absence, we thought we'd use this issue to catch up on some of the things we missed during the last half of 1974. We're glad to be back and hope that '75 will be a good year for all of us in Florida Wing.



# VIEWPOINT

## CIVIL AIR PATROL 1975

### THE PROBLEMS . . . . THE CHALLENGE

It is no secret to any of you that Civil Air Patrol, its very survival as an organization, is now being tested by forces both internal and external to ourselves. The Cadet Program nationally, after several years of declining membership, is now down to fewer than 30,000 cadets. The Air Force has reduced staffing support at National Headquarters and within the Region and Wing LO offices twice during the past 12 months and further cutbacks are anticipated. By July of 1975 all T-29 aircraft will have been phased out of the Air Force inventory, and this will virtually eliminate the ability of the eight Region LO Headquarters to furnish Civil Air Patrol with airlift support. If these adversities were not enough, the economy is now officially in the jaws of "stagflation." Out-of-control inflation combined with slowly increasing recession makes the dollar very dear indeed. As we are all keenly aware, CAP is a pay-as-we-work organization. Promotions, which each of us have received as we moved up to our current assignments, added more \$0's to our CAP paychecks. Some of us now receive compensation in excess of \$000,000. In short, this is both an extremely trying and an extremely critical time in the 33-year history of the Civil Air Patrol.

This is also a challenging time for the Civil Air Patrol. For wherever problems arise, challenge is nearby. And with challenge is opportunity—the opportunity for each person to meet the challenge and assist in the solution of the problems which are plaguing our organization. Many of us are already meeting the challenge, attempting to solve the problems, and trying to push personality conflicts aside in a sincere attempt to overcome the obstacles which are eroding our program. Others, unfortunately, are not making that extra effort. We are holding positions of leadership but exhibiting none of these leadership qualities. We know that our position requires hard work and many hours of effort, but we give minimally of ourselves preferring to bask in the sunshine of past accomplishments. We enjoy telling others about the "good old days" and past grand achievements of Civil Air Patrol while the real work goes unattended.

Florida Wing needs leadership and it needs it now! Florida Wing needs Wing Staff Members and Group Commanders who are self-motivated, tireless, and proud of the Civil Air Patrol. Men and women who will put aside personal feelings and work for our Wing and the Civil Air Patrol and the objectives of our program must step forward and be counted at this time.

The number one goal of the Florida Wing for the year 1975 will be to accomplish with excellence the overall established mission of the Civil Air Patrol: 1) Search and Rescue, 2) Cadet Program, and 3) Aerospace Education, and thereby be an example of superior performance to our fellow members in the other 51 Wings. We will "make it happen" in 1975, not just for ourselves, but more importantly, for Civil Air Patrol.

RICHARD L. LEALI, SR., Lt. Colonel, CAP  
Executive Officer  
Florida Wing Staff

## a note from the editor

Well, we're back again, but with a few changes. We are now separate from the Wing Information Office and concerned only with getting GATOR CAPERS out each month.

Our mailing address is PO BOX 3576 AMF, MIAMI 33159.

The paper should usually be in the mail soon after the fifteenth of each month and we plan to pick up whatever's in the box by the 10th. If it comes later it will be considered for the following month's issue.

We welcome stories and photos from you all, cleared through your unit commander, of course. Your comments on the program may be published on the "Viewpoint" page. Remember, specific grievances must be taken through the proper channels as outlined in the CAP Reg's.

Wing staff officers who wish to write regular columns should get the material in by the 10th. Please get your application blanks and reservation forms for special activities in before the last minute.

### A FEW WORDS ABOUT PHOTOS.....

Everyone likes to see his picture in the news but many of the photos received at GC are not as good as they could be. Almost anyone can take a good photo if he keeps the following suggestions in mind.

Be sure your photos are clear with good contrast. If they are too dark they won't reproduce well. There's no harm in setting up an "action" shot where the light and background are better. Have your subject fill the picture. Most photos have too much "lost space" in the foreground and background.

Black and white photos are best for our purposes. Since color snapshots are usually taken for the squadron scrapbook, why not keep one camera loaded with black and white and specifically assign one member to make a picture story of your activity for Gator Capers and other news releases.

Plan your pictures to tell a story and you'll get the best results.

### SOME ACTIVITIES THAT ARE GOOD FOR A STORY....

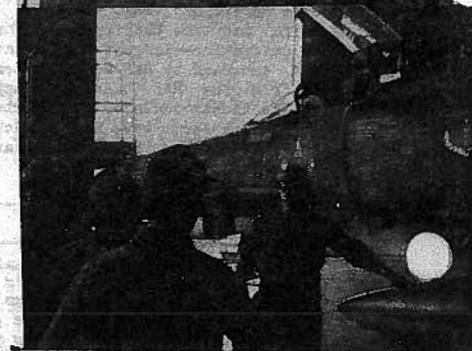
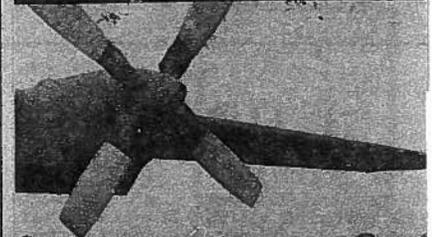
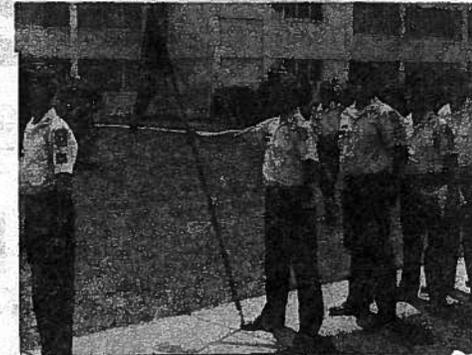
- Awards or decorations awarded to members
- Rivouacs
- Change of command
- Community activities (parades, telethons, etc)
- Dinners and dances
- Drill competitions
- Fund raising campaigns
- Flight scholarships
- Field trips
- Members who join the Armed Forces
- Move to a new meeting place
- New members (especially VIPs)
- Nomination to service academies
- Open house
- Orientation rides
- Purchase of aircraft or other equipment
- Promotions
- Presentations
- REDCAPS & SARCAPS
- Special activities
- Sponsoring organizations
- Staff training sessions
- Special achievements by members
- Visitors or guest speakers



Good news?  
Why not share it

## SNAPSHOTS

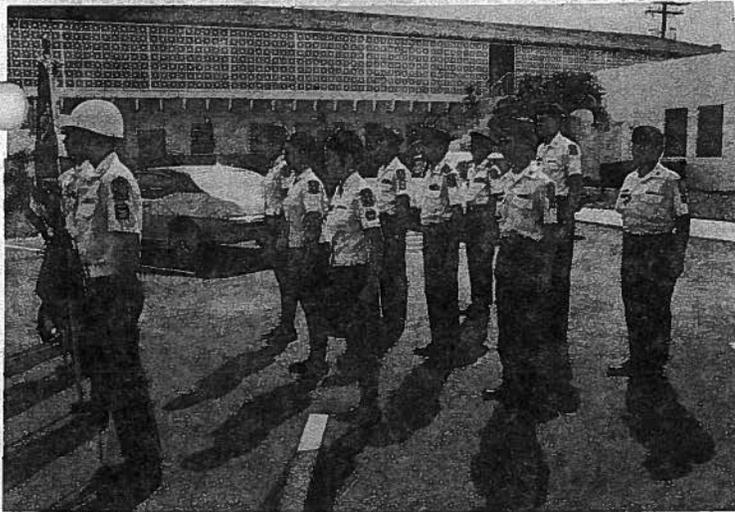
### SER ENCAMPMENT



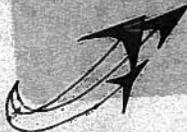
## Pompano Beach Cadet Squadron Activities



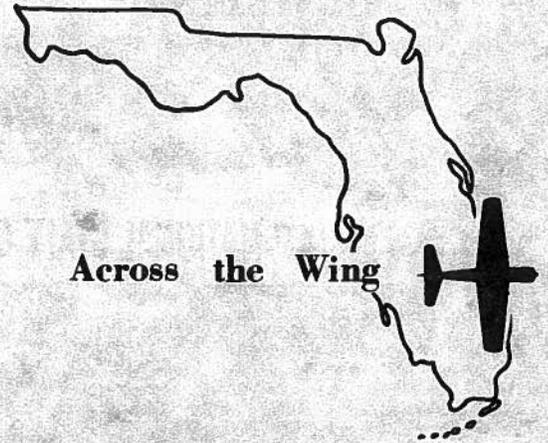
Cadet Jim Mims received his Amelia Earhart Award Certificate September 11 from LColonel Donald Cunningham, Florida Wing Chief of Staff. Jim also earned his solo wings last summer after completing only 6.5 hours of dual flight training. Congratulations, Jim!



POMPANO BEACH CADET SQUADRON was invited to attend a Fourth of July parade by their local Air Force Recruiting Office in Deerfield Beach. The parade was held in Margate, Florida. Attending the parade were eleven cadets and two senior members. They participated to help better community relations and to make the public more aware of the Civil Air Patrol. After the parade, cadets enjoyed refreshments and a carnival. (USAF Recruiting Office Photo)



POMPANO BEACH cadets held a three day rocketry bivouac last July which was attended by 15 cadets and six senior members. The outing took place at Horsehoe Acres in Boca Raton and featured a competition in three categories—duration, accuracy, and altitude. Cadet Paul Emerson won the altitude when his entry reached a height of 1050 feet. He also won the accuracy contest, landing his rocket 15 feet 6 inches from the launch rail. The duration category was won by Cadet Gunter Joras whose rocket remained aloft for four minutes. Joras' also won first place for the best looking rocket.



Florida Wing pilots joined in an August search mission for pilot Donald Cooper of North Philadelphia, Penn. Cooper's single-engine Bonanza was reported missing August 11 on a non-stop flight to Pompano Beach.

CAP search planes took off from mission headquarters at Deland Municipal Airport at 7:30 a.m. August 12, slightly more than two hours after the search was ordered.

The search area extended from Brunswick, Georgia to Pompano Beach and inland. Other bases of operation were set up in Brunswick, Jacksonville, and West Palm Beach.

After a week of fruitless searching by CAP, military planes, and local law enforcement officials, the mission was suspended. CAP volunteers flew 293 missions for a total of over 505 hours in the air.

The Charlotte County airport came alive with activity last September when pilots from throughout southwest Florida congregated for a fly-in hosted by the Peace River Chapter of the Experimental Aircraft Association and the Civil Air Patrol.

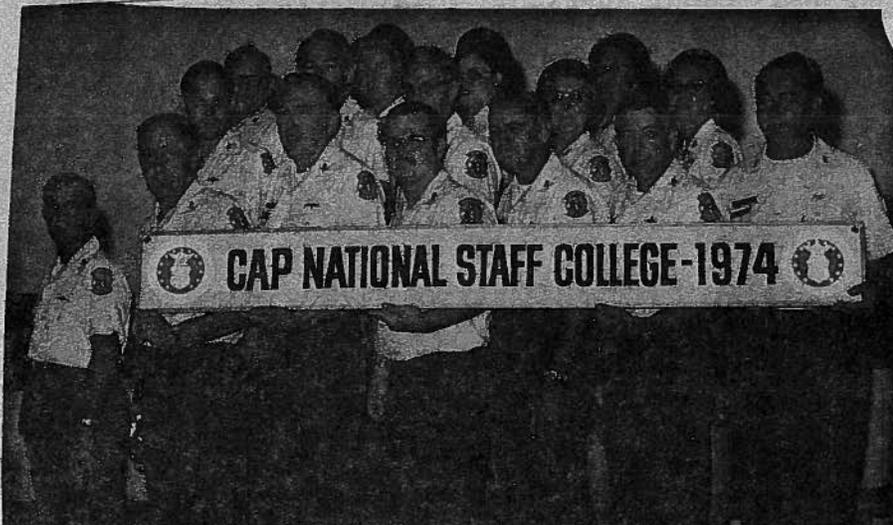
Awards were made for the best spot landing, best homebuilt aircraft and antique plane, best design and best cross-country time.

The Civil Air Patrol EXCEPTIONAL SERVICE AWARD, First Bronze Class was awarded to LColonel Dorothy M. Puffpaff for the period 1 January 1970-1 June 1974.

NORTH TAMPA CADET SQUADRON members C/Sgt David Langston and C/MSgt Bartlett have been presenting the CAP program at high school assemblies in their area. The presentations last 45-60 minutes and include films "Cadet Wings in the Civil Air Patrol" and Group Three's trip to Washington, D.C. These are followed by a question and answer session.

As a result of this recruiting drive, the squadron's cadet staff has increased from two active cadets to eighteen in a five week period. Four of the most recent recruits are Nick and David Tedesco, Brent Simon, and Richard Thornhill.

Charlotte County residents contributed 37 gallons of water and more than 50 large boxes of food and clothing to the victims of Hurricane Fifi in Honduras. CAP cadets from the CHARLOTTE COUNTY COMPOSITE SQUADRON worked with high school Honor Society teens to load the supplies on the large truck which carried the items over to Tampa for airlift to their destination.



### THEY MADE IT !!

Another group of Florida Wing seniors managed to survive the week of lectures and seminars--not to mention Project X--and graduated from the 1974 National Staff College at Maxwell AFB, Alabama.

The graduates are: (top row) 1Lt M. Foskette, 2Lt C. Miller, Capt. F. Dorough, (second row) Maj. D. Moseley, Capt. B. Douglas, 1Lt W. McClintock, Capt. F. Harlow, Maj. Clara Lee, 1Lt M. Douglas, (front row) Maj. L. Wilson, LCol E. Steigener, LCol. L. Tyson, Capt. R. Miller, LCol B. Pilcher, Maj. R. Lee, and Capt. H. Rigdon.

Captain Ben Douglas went to school a 1Lt and came home a Captain. How's that for fast results? He received his bars from none other than General Westberg, the National Commander. (Photo below)

(Photos and info from Major Dave Moseley, Group 20)



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