

Civil Air Patrol

FLORIDA FACTS

Florida Wing



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TECHNOLOGICALLY ADVANCED MOBILE INCIDENT COMMAND CENTER IS OPERATIONAL

A multi-purpose use Mobile Incident Command Center for use by the Collier County Airport Authority [CCAA] for aircraft incident management and disaster communications and by the Marco Island Senior Squadron for Civil Air Patrol Search and Rescue communications and mission base is now fully operational. It was adapted from a used Emergency Medical Services ambulance.

An emergency response lighting system of strobes, bars, wig-wag high beams and a siren/public address system surrounds the vehicle chassis. This vehicle makes use of small footprint electronics and communication equipment and provides air conditioned work space for five person command staff plus the driver and right seat passenger.

All equipment was selected to be responsive to aircraft accidents, disaster assessment, search and rescue, ground-to-air communication as well as interagency support. Installed is a VHF-FM transceiver, a HF/VHF/UHF transceiver with automatic antenna tuner, handheld VHF transceiver, 8 cordless telephones, 5 handheld radios, a county interagency transceiver and 2 cellular telephones at the driver panel. In addition, there is one AMPS and one Digital phone connected to an answering machine with FAX capability. A Personal Computer is connected to a scanner/printer/FAX/copier and to an Automatic Position Reporting System. The HF antenna is a 23-foot marine HF whip that

is stored in three sections and can be deployed in minutes. A 30-foot collapsible mast with erection tools and guy wires is stowed and can also be easily deployed at an incident site. Power is provided by two 4D batteries and a 4kW gasoline generator stored in a chassis compartment.



The command staff has a large fold-down table with folding chairs, a white board, clock, television, radio and weather receiver, video and still picture cameras, spare parts, supplies, marine charts, aviation sectionals and street maps. For search and rescue missions there is a Direction Finder, handheld Global Position-

ing System [GPS] receiver, portable strobe light, a litter, first aid kit, fire extinguishers, refrigerator and water cooler.

A large "CAP RESCUE" is on the roof and CCAA and CAP seals are on the chassis. The white vehicle has "INCIDENT COMMAND CENTER" in white letters on a blue stripe. The entire vehicle layout and equipment selection was planned by Capt Karl Geng and installation was by Capt Geng and LTC Monte Lazarus. Communications equipment was donated by CAP Major Edwin Shanks [deceased], Siemens Information and Communications Networks and the Collier County Airport Authority. The vehicle is owned and maintained by CCAA and equipment is maintained and operated by the CAP.

COMMANDER'S COMMENTS



COL. ANTONIO PINEDA
Florida Wing Commander

I just returned from our annual National Convention and Board Meeting in San Antonio, Texas. Thanks to the U. S. Air Force, Florida Wing was provided with military airlift which made possible more members -

cadets and seniors - to attend at a reduced cost.

One of my proudest moments was seeing our West Broward Composite Squadron cadets conducting the POW/MIA ceremony during the main banquet. This touching presentation is a proud tradition of Florida Wing and this team was invited to Texas by our National Commander, Brig Gen James Bobick. It was also extremely gratifying to be presented with the National Disaster Relief Award and to have our wing chaplain, Lt Col Ralph Rivers receive the National Chaplain of the Year Award. The Disaster Relief Award belongs to you, as day in and day out you perform CAP's missions.

CAP REORGANIZATION

During the meeting, the board voted on several issues that will have dramatic effects on the future of Civil Air Patrol. One was approval of a new constitution and bylaws which reconstitutes the Board of Directors that will now include representatives from the U.S. Air Force

and general aviation. The approved constitution and bylaws outlines the selection process for corporate officers, defines the powers and responsibilities of these officials, criteria for membership, and provisions for a Membership Action Review Board. The board reelected Col Richard Bowling as national Vice Commander and Gen Bobick appointed Col Phillip S. Groshong as Pacific Region Commander and Col Dudley L. Hargrove as national Inspector General.

The Air Force Inspector General, Lt Gen Nicholas B. Kehoe was the guest speaker at the convention banquet. The General's speech underscored the theme "Positioned for the Future." He concluded, "There is much work to be done, so let your imagination take flight." Brig Gen James Bobick then said, "We have worked together with Air Force staff and members of the U.S. Congress to outline a new foundation for the Air Force Auxiliary, which will result in positive changes for our organization. To this end, we are grateful for the efforts Gen Kehoe put forth on behalf of Civil Air Patrol over the past year."

Nearly 800 CAP members took part in the convention and I, for one, see an extremely bright future for the Civil Air Patrol with the increased support and involvement of the U.S. Air Force in aerospace education, cadet programs, emergency services missions, training and community events.

We will have available and will be applying more modern, high-technology capabilities that will enhance all the emergency and drug eradication mission services that you perform in your communities. This newsletter

contains informative articles about the newly developed Satellite Tool Kit [STK] Program.

FLORIDA INTERACTION

Also in this issue is a story about our recent meeting in Tallahassee with Lt. Governor Frank Brogan. The presentations made by members of the wing were extremely well received and were 'eye openers' to the government officials in attendance as to the services CAP renders to the state.

MISSION READINESS

We must always remember that our highest priority is to be the best trained and to always be mission-ready. For our aerial missions, one imperative to our response ability is our aircraft. Nationwide, Civil Air Patrol has 530 aircraft, some gliders and hot air balloons. This airplane fleet is the largest in general aviation in the world. Florida has 19 airplanes allocated for our mission performance needs. Proper maintenance of this valuable asset is essential to our performance and level of safety. Captain Ben Coleman, our wing Maintenance Officer, has had a dire need for assistance and I am pleased to advise that Steve Drew has recently volunteered to fill that role. The replacement aircraft for N99261 has been flown in and I will be assigning this aircraft in the next few weeks. In the meantime, the aircraft will be inspected for any necessary repairs and maintenance.

Any corporate aircraft or appropriate member owned or member-furnished aircraft may be utilized for authorized missions. Reimbursement for member aircraft used for a mission is outlined in CAPR 173-3, Payment for CAP Support. Upon receipt of completely

and correctly filled out CAPF 108, Mission Reimbursement Requests with receipts for fuel, each will be processed through channels by Lt Col Mike Brown. It is the responsibility of every pilot and mission coordinator to use proper codes to record and forward complete information regarding mission flights.

Similarly it is the responsibility of pilots and maintenance officers to be thoroughly familiar with CAP Regulation 66-1, Aircraft Maintenance. We must adhere to all reimbursement request policies for any repairs performed. Only a Wing Commander or above has the authority to commit CAP to a repair order of any type. The Work Order number is the Commander's authority. Without a work order number, you are not operating on behalf of CAP or Florida Wing.

Further, to improve our level of response ability, I am arranging for the installation of a TAIT 100 channel mobile radio to be installed in every corporate van that is assigned to a squadron or group unit. I am pleased to advise that every group has now been assigned a van. This multi-channel radio has a repeater talkaround that switches into a simplex mode allowing you to communicate without the use of a repeater.

CADET ACTIVITIES

The International Air Cadet Exchange Program was an overwhelming success. From experience, I know that didn't just happen! It took the untiring efforts for many months of Senior and Cadet members and host families. This was a fellowship and training activity for cadets to and from 15 nations. All the participants have my sincerest gratitude.

PROP WASH

Here's a great training project that every cadet and composite squadron can easily construct. Create a "runway" using masking tape on a non-carpeted floor. Have a steady ladder off of one end with a length of fishing line tied to it and a broom handle or other suitable rod at the other end with the other end of the fishing line tied to it. A model airplane is then hung from the fishing line using two 'eye' hooks.

The cadet sits cross-legged at the broom handle and the AEO or other helper releases the aircraft when the cadet indicates "ready". The object is to land the aircraft safely on the runway. Not as easy as it looks! It's a good idea to use a model that is easily repaired as landing gear and weapons tend to be spewed all over the tarmac!

Capt Jeff Stahl
Coral Springs Cadet Squadron

Welcome to Major Thornton Konkell, Group 4. In close concert with Lt Col David Fuller, Florida Wing Safety Director, a safety article will now be a regular feature in this newsletter.

This provides a special emphasis to Col. Pineda's motto- Safety, Safety, Safety.

Attention all Public Affairs Officers: CAP PAM-PHLET 190-1, "Guide To Civil Air Patrol Public Affairs" - Volumes I and II is now available from the CAP Bookstore for \$2.75 which includes shipping and handling. This 150-page handbook, more than one year in creation, was prepared by the National Headquarters Marketing and Public Affairs Department under the direction of Mary Nell Crowe. The Guide is comprehensive, succinct, user friendly and chock full of valuable information. It will soon become every PAO's 'bible'.

Squadron Leadership School, SLS, is a two day school designed to introduce members to the functions and missions of a Civil Air Patrol squadron. It is one of the requirements for successful completion of Level 2 of the Senior Member Training Program. This school will be held

on 21 and 22 October at the Fire Science Institute in Daytona Beach. Any CAP member can attend. Cadets that attend will not receive credit towards their senior member progression.

Major David Younce
Daytona Beach Composite Squadron

CAP outdoor advertising billboards are now starting to appear in fourteen states throughout our nation. Florida is one such state.

The full color billboard shows a CAP member in a flight suit with a young person and a C-172 aircraft. The copy reads, "CIVIL AIR PATROL - Where Imagination Takes Flight." There is a Web page address as well. Keep alert and please advise Chief of Staff, Lt Col Matt Sharkey or Lt Col S. Buddy Harris, FLORIDA FACTS Editor, when you see one. The date of find and billboard location is the information needed. Ideally, we would appreciate a photo of the billboard and its site. This is exciting exposure of CAP to the general public. Let's capitalize on it to the fullest extent in those locales where these billboards might appear.

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SQUADRON CLIPS

The Lee County Composite Squadron has designed an outstanding web page which is now posted on the Internet. The site is 'user friendly' and has very informative links to current "Cadet Activities", "Cadets in Action", and other "Pages of Interest". The URL is http://www.geocities.com/ser_fl_040/index.htm.



CAP Brig Gen Richard Anderson was elected President of The Spaatz Association [TSA]. Gen Anderson was the only Spaatz Award recipient to become National Commander of CAP. Gen Anderson is an active duty U.S. Air Force Lt Col and Joint Service Officer currently serving at Headquarters, U. S. Pacific Command, Hawaii.

Past and present CAP cadets who have earned the Civil Air Patrol Cadet Program's highest award - the General Carl A. Spaatz Award-are members of the Spaatz Association. TSA was founded to provide a means to focus the talents and experience of award recipients, now scattered across a variety of civilian and military positions of responsibility.

Also elected to the Association's Board of Directors was FLWG Director of Marketing and Public Affairs, Capt George Navarini. Other TSA officers from Florida include Vice President Mike Murphy and Treasurer Eric Haertel. The Spaatz Association was founded in 1994 and meets annually in conjunction with the CAP National Board Meeting.

Capt George Navarini
Spaatz # 407



The Deland Composite Squadron recently sold thousands of T-shirts at the Daytona 500 Auto Races for a most successful fund raiser. They also had a very successful effort at the Pepsi 400 Races. Lots of hours by lots of Cadets and Senior members were required since these two affairs were all day and evening events and attendance was in the many thousands.



Murray Cohen [left] receives his well deserved promo-

tion to the rank of Major from Boca Raton Senior Squadron Commander, Major Aaron Modansky [right]. Major Cohen formerly served in the Infantry during the Korean conflict.



Photo By
Lt Col Herb Miller



University of South Florida scientists led by Dr. Juan Sanchez-Ramos and Dr. Paul R. Sanberg have discovered that harvested bone marrow stem cells may be used to replace brain cells ravaged by Parkinson's Disease, stroke or other neurological diseases. Dr. Sanberg is a Major and member of the Citrus County Composite Squadron, owns several interesting aircraft and is a CFII.

Dr. Sanberg stated that the findings indicate that such manipulated stem cells may also be used to treat spinal cord injury to brain trauma and even Alzheimer's. The next step would be to test if these cells would transplant successfully and transform into the right kind of cell, and demonstrate that these are every bit as good as embryonic cells that are taken from the brain.

This marks the second major announcement by USF neurology researchers this year. Earlier, Maj Sanberg revealed that nicotine may ease symptoms of Tourette's Syndrome, a rare disease that causes twitching and sudden, inappropriate outbursts.

1Lt Paul Siglock
Citrus County Composite Squadron

WING COMMANDER MEETS WITH LT. GOVERNOR FRANK BROGAN

Florida Wing Commander, Col Antonio Pineda led a contingent of CAP members to Tallahassee to meet with Lt. Governor Frank Brogan. The meeting was pre-arranged by Ms. Jodi Chase of the law firm Broad and Cassel to avail to CAP the opportunity for updating Mr. Brogan on the current work performed by members of the Florida Wing Civil Air Patrol as a service to all the citizens of Florida. CAP's Emergency Services and the Cadet Program were presented by Lt Col Jerry Glass, a former cadet himself, who told Brogan of the countless hours of training and missions performed by CAP members, often at their own personal expense. Highlighted were only a few recent missions that included the



Lt Governor Frank T. Brogan

tornadoes in Orange County, 1998 wild fires on thousands of acres, and Hurricane Andrew.

The Middle School initiative and mentoring program was mentioned as having turned several cadet's lives around as a direct result of their participation. Col Pineda proudly told about the more than 200 cadets who attended the recent encampment at the Embry-Riddle Aeronautical Institute.

The state's annual appropriation was reviewed in relationship to the increased services CAP has committed to provide to the Florida Division Of Emergency Manage-

ment during times of disaster and in providing manning assistance at the State Emergency Operations Center.

Other CAP members who accompanied Col Pineda were Lt Colonel Valerie Brown and Lt Colonel Don Wood.

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT IS IN HIGH GEAR

The Search Tool Seminar recently held by 1Lt Ray Hayden, FLWG Director of Professional Development 'packed the house' with standing room only of members all across Florida Wing.

The seminar was most powerful and valuable training for the attendees as they received 'hands-on' experience with installing and configuring the software. Lt. Hayden exclaimed, "It took an entire day for me to fill the 'hard drive' in my head with all the data and awesome information that we were taught in just this one day course."

This was the first training opportunity provided to Florida Wing members to learn the technologically advanced search and rescue program that has been and is continuing to be developed by the CAP-STK Team as detailed in the articles on Pages 7 and 12. This program fulfills all three of CAP's core missions - - Cadet Program, Emergency Services and Aerospace Education.

The objective of the training session was to

illustrate how our emergency search and rescue response can be faster, more effective, more efficient and more productive by increasing our probability of detection and improving our coverage of electronic searches as well as searches for downed aircraft or missing persons.

Col Pineda observed that, "This Search Tool program provides a 21st century technological future for Florida Wing. Though our percentages of finds has always been high and one that has been an inspiration for me, this new advancement will avail an even improved rate of success for our mission efforts."

"We all train long, hard and continuous to be the finest search and rescue organization in the state. Saving lives is our highest priority and objective."

"I am extremely grateful to the Search Tool Team that have employed their expertise toward development of this highly advanced rescue response program. I am also pleased that one of the members of the team, Capt. Karl Geng, is a member of the Florida Wing. The Civil Air Patrol and its members make me very proud to be a part of this organization," concluded FLWG Commander Antonio Pineda.

CAP CROSSES THRESHOLD INTO SPACE TECHNOLOGY EDUCATION AND EMERGENCY SERVICES.

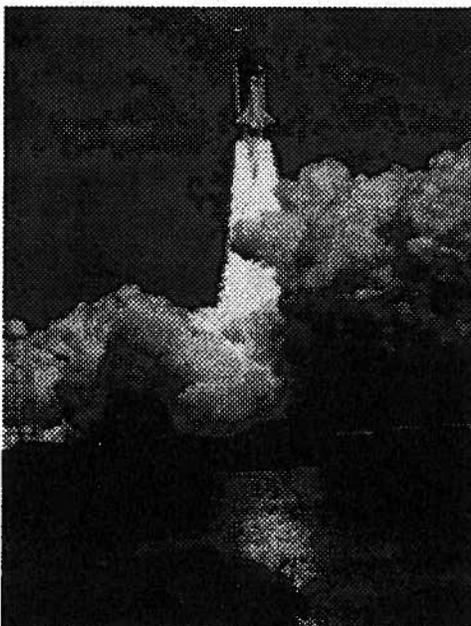
Analytical Graphics, Inc.'s [AGI] Satellite Tool Kit [STK] takes CAP across a new threshold into the world of Orbital Mechanics. As Lt Col Drew Alexa, National Project Officer of the CAP-STK Education Program recently said, "The CAP-STK Aerospace Education Program bridges the gap between flight and space for thousands of cadets learning state-of-the-art space technology." Under Lt Col Alexa's direction, a learning, training and curriculum development center has been established at Peterson AFB in Colorado Springs, Colorado.

Lt Col Mike McNeely, California Wing was appointed to head up the CAP-STK Education Program. "Now our cadets can experience today's space technology and share in the excitement of space." McNeely, working with CAP members across the country in a team environment, has developed and implemented the CAP-STK Education Program.

One of the principal reasons for locating the education facility at Peterson AFB was the fact that Analytical Graphics, Inc. - manufacturer of the satellite analysis software - has an office in Colorado Springs with a staff of experts who assist CAP with technical expertise, support and on-site training.

STK demonstrations and training classes are being set up at Wing, Region and National CAP Conferences, as was recently accomplished in San Antonio. In keeping with the CAP Congressional task of providing aerospace education to the public, CAP will share the CAP-STK program and curriculum with educators from coast-to-coast via the annual National Congress on Aviation and Space as well as workshops at colleges and universities throughout our nation. The current course requires 32 hours of classroom training.

In addition to this CAP-STK Education Program, another team of CAP members has been assem-



bled to develop the Emergency Services Program using STK. This program will be referred to as CAP-Search Tool [ST]. Major Mark Strobel of the Wisconsin Wing heads the team and Captain Karl Geng, Florida Wing, is Special Projects Officer. Back-up support is provided from AGI by Paul Graziani, President and CEO [and a former CAP Cadet]; Michael Limcangco, Director of Technical Services; Frank Snyder, Technical Resources Manager; Mike Shepherd, Technical Support Engineer; and Roy Hanson, Educational Alliance.

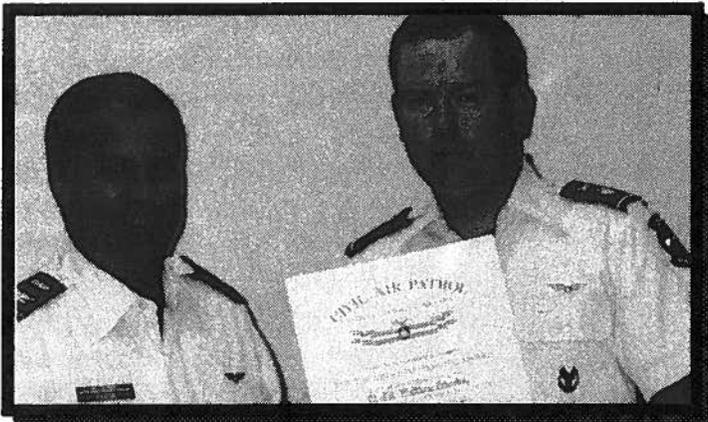
The use of Search Tool [ST] as a mission asset will aid CAP in fulfillment of its search and rescue task - another CAP Congressionally assigned responsibility. Using STK/Visualization Option [STK/VO] and the new STK/VO Earth Imaging, CAP will be able to increase mission capability, efficiency and effectiveness.

Mission teams will now be able to preview and analyze sortie effectiveness prior to any aircraft taking off. The line-of-sight coverage of ELT and EPIRB signals as affected by topographic conditions, actual FAA radar coverage in different areas, the tracing and retracing of flight paths - planned and actually flown, determination of SARSAT and COSPAS availability [the search and rescue satellites from the United States and Russia] are only a few of the breakthrough technologies that are being developed by this team. The third quarter of this year is the team's deadline for having certain aspects of the program operational.

"Time is a critical element in search and rescue work when it comes to saving lives," said Brigadier General James C. Bobick, CAP National Commander.

See "CAP's 21st Century Search and Rescue Program" - page 12.

PHOTO MAT



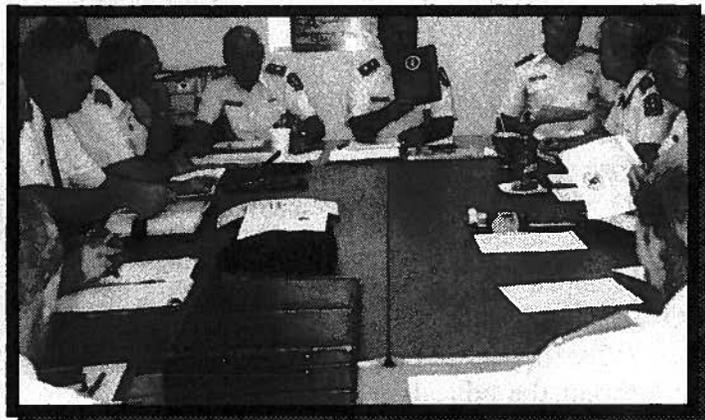
Florida Wing's Chief of Staff, Lt Col Matt Sharkey receives an Exceptional Service Award, from Commander Tony Pineda, for his untiring efforts for the wing.



Florida Wing Commander, Col Antonio Pineda presents the well deserved rank of Major to Wing's Assistant Chief of Staff, Eileen Parker .



l to r Group 8 Commander, Capt Christine Ferry and C/ILt Mark Lawson, MacDill Composite Squadron, take a shift painting the Florida Wing Headquarters Building.



All Group Commanders attend Command Call at MacDill AFB and meet with Col Tony Pineda, Vice Comm. Richard Valone, CoS Matt Sharkey and Asst. CoS Eileen Parker.



Family members and Florida Wing Staff create standing room only at the graduation ceremonies of the first group of cadets to graduate the Blue Berets Course.



Capt Jay Jasen receiving Commander's Commendation Award for his long, outstanding service as Florida Wing Director of Senior Programs



LATE BREAKING NEWS

Nearly every cadet in the Florida Wing is eligible to receive the President's Student Service Award. Those who have performed at least 100 hours of service within a 12 month period are eligible for a Gold Award. Each Squadron Commander should obtain Certification Forms which are available from: *President's Student Service Awards, P.O. Box 189, Wilmington, DE 19899-0189* or go to *web page* www.student-service-awards.org for direct print-outs.

 A panel of judges from the Air Force Association reviewed 82 Aerospace Education Foundation [AEF] Grant Applications and selected 32 winners. This is the largest group of grant applications the AEF has ever received from Civil Air Patrol units. Each of the winners will receive a check for \$250. Out of the 32 national grants, Florida Wing received three - Central Florida Composite Squadron, Clearwater Composite Squadron and the Tallahassee Composite Squadron. Col. Antonio Pineda remarked, "It is again apparent that Florida CAP Wing continues to lead the nation. My sincerest congratulations to the leadership and members of these three squadrons." Vice President Richard Ortega of the Aerospace Education Foundation reminds the winners that they are required to file a follow-up report to HQ/CAP/ETA describing how the AEF grant contributed to their aerospace educational efforts.

 LTC Donald Wood, FLWG/DOS, has started to receive NPX 138 VHF-FM radios that will be installed in all of our corporate aircraft. The radio has a large range of capabilities and can be easily learned from the PowerPoint presentation on the NHQ website. Every unit, even if you don't yet have this new radio installed in your unit's plane, should review the presentation. Remember, during a large scale mission, you may be assigned to an aircraft other than the one in which you normally operate. The address is <http://www.ntc.cap.gov/comm/nat.cfm>. The link just

below the radio will take you to the PowerPoint presentation.

 Chaplain, Capt Dewey E. Painter, Sr. announces the second Group 2 Chaplain's Seminar is scheduled for 28 October at the Hampton Baptist Church in Hampton. Learning from the success of the previous seminar, a lunch will again be served. All Chaplains, Moral Leadership Officers and prospective members should plan to attend.

 A 60,000 acre fire in lack Hills, South Dakota has been declared a disaster area by Pres. Clinton. Fire fighting resources are assigned from the military, Forest Service, fire reserve units, and the Civil Air Patrol. CAP is flying airborne imaging missions. The CAP videos were feature discussion items at a recent Forest Service meeting and South Dakota Governor William Janklow, who was in attendance, commended CAP for the assistance. SD's Adjutant General and SD National Guard Commander, Brig Gen Killey were enormously impressed by the value of the video picture. CAP's mission was expanded to aerial video of perimeter fire suppression efforts, video downlink to the ground station at Custer, and video concentration of homes and livestock in the line of fire-spread. All downloaded videos were accompanied by latitude/longitude coordinates from aircraft GPS.[See CAP photo of raging fire from aerial video on page 29].

Lt Col Michael Marek
PAO South Dakota Wing

 2Lt Lili Bartoletti, Personnel/Public Relations Officer for the Pasco Cadet Squadron received a well deserved Life Saving Award from Wing Commander, Col Antonio Pineda. Bartoletti was cited for an outstanding humanitarian service in saving the life of a 94 yr. old New Port Richey woman who had fallen, broken her hip and lay helpless on the floor of her home until she was found by Bartoletti. Lt Bartoletti obtained emergency assistance and accompanied the elderly lady in the ambulance to the hospital. She continued to provide moral support to the woman until family members could be contacted.

WING'S WORDS OF WISDOM

Our total membership roll again increased 7.6 percent from 1998. Our fleet of aircraft [19, exclusive of gliders] has flown 2091.7 tach hours for the first six months of this year with SRQ Composite Squadron flying 198.0 hours, Hillsborough 1 Senior Squadron flying 197.5 hours and Marco Island Senior Squadron 177.3 hours.

The 2001 National Cadet Competition is scheduled for 23-27 June at the U.S. Air Force Academy. Drill and Color Guard competition will be included.

The Southeast Region will conduct an Aerospace Education Conference on 30 November - 1 December in Cocoa Beach.

The use of social security numbers serving as your CAPSN will be discontinued by the end of the year, as determined by the National Board at the recent Conference in San Antonio. Every member currently has an assigned ID number within the CAPWATCH Data System. This number will replace the current CAPSN and will be used on renewal issue membership cards.

The CAP National Board also decided to purchase an additional 15 new Cessna aircraft for the CAP fleet over the next 15 months.

The scholarship fund currently has a remaining balance of \$80,000. Cadet and Senior members are encouraged to apply for these funds for college, vo-tech and career usage.

Cadets may still request a uniform under the new "Free Cadet Uniform" program. The recently announced extension is short term and all requests should be submitted without delay.

In a show of appreciation for achievements and accomplishments of more than 80 members who were honored recipients of awards at the Florida Wing Conference-2000 and various other members who provided support services toward making the conference an outstanding success, Commander Tony Pineda personally mailed more than 200 photos with a personal message to each.

Col. Pineda was brimming with pride when meeting with the Southeast Region Commander, Col. Joseph Meighan and the National Commander, Brig Gen James Bobick at the National Conference in San Antonio. Each again stated that the Florida Wing Conference 2000 was the very best wing conference they have ever attended. Both were immediately

invited to attend the 2001 conference already scheduled to be in Daytona Beach. This conference will honor all CAP members that have served more than 40 years, as well as Florida Wing's two Honorary Members.

Col. Pineda is feeling a double sense of pride from the expressed interest by National Headquarters in wing's newly implemented Aircraft Pilot's Program, OSI's evaluation rating of 'outstanding' of wing's recently refined Finance Program, and NHQ's appointment of Capt. Karl Geng to the newly formed CAP-STK Team

CAP has successfully completed 169 missions assigned to Florida Wing by the U.S. Air Force. Four of these missions were searches for missing aircraft.

Wing Chaplain Lt Col Ralph Rivers proudly reports that Florida CAP has the largest chaplain service group in the nation with 49 chaplains and 9 Moral Leadership Officers. In 1999, more new chaplains were recruited than any other wing. The Florida chaplains traveled a total of almost 32,000 miles and spent over 4000 hours in nearly 9000 supportive meetings with various unit members.



CADET CAP'ERS



The 2000 Florida Wing Summer Encampment held at the Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University in Daytona Beach was an incredible kick-off for the millennium and the basis of life-long memories.

This was the first such encampment attended by 178 cadets, who were joined by 28 cadet staff members and 10 senior members for a total attendance of 211. Unit leadership and moral leadership classes and technical classes provided by the Air Force were an emphasis of the schedule which also included precision drill and technical workshops. Field tours included the FAA facilities and control tower, and the flight simulator section at Embry-Riddle. Demonstrations were provided by local Sheriff's Departments rescue teams, helicopter rescue units, narcotics unit with drug sniffing dog, U.S. Coast Guard, Search and Rescue Dogs and a HH-60G Pavehawk with a 301st Rescue Squadron crew from Patrick AFB.

The graduating class was inspected by Wing Commander Antonio Pineda and he, plus many other wing Staff Officers, observed the traditional Pass in Review parade. "In the closing moments of the encampment, it was heartwarming to witness the number of new friendships that had formed and the new level of camaraderie that was created by the experience. We are truly fortunate in Florida to have such a high level of quality, dedication and professionalism for our cadets and exhibited by our cadets," said Major Frank N. Haas, Commander of Group 4. Florida Wing Vice Commander, Lt Col Richard Valone observed, "This encampment was extremely well organized and was the best I ever had the pleasure of attending. My heartiest congratulations to each of the graduate cadets."



The Pasco Cadet Squadron had nearly 100 squadron personnel, family members and guests at their annual Awards Banquet. It was a gala affair honoring the efforts and achievements of many cadets. An added element was the formal recognition of the close cooperation between the squadron and the Air Force JROTC. The squadron has achieved unpre-

cedented growth with more than twenty new cadets in training which has resulted in a reorganization of the squadron into two flights. New Cadet Commander C/Major Tara Guthrie stated, "this will provide for better training opportunities and more staff positions." Former National Commander Brig Gen William Cass described how he attained the recognition as 'father of the Blue Beret Leadership Training Program' and how, with Brig Gen Deahl, Commander at MacDill AFB, a new Blue Beret Training Program is being established. Currently 27 Pasco Cadet Squadron members are participating. Squadron Cadet Robert Johnson has commenced his basic training at the U.S. Air Force Academy in Colorado.

2Lt Lill Bartoletti, PAO



Homestead Middle School Cadet Squadron 280 has always considered aerospace education, leadership, discipline, high moral standards, and integrity as its principle training elements. The squadron has now added sponsorship of an after school Drug Demand and Reduction Program for the Homestead Middle School.

1Lt Kathy E. Paine, PAO



Summertime has been a busy season for the CAP Cadets. Cadets have engaged in the Air Force Advanced Pararescue Orientation Course, or the honing of mountaineering skills, learning search techniques, practicing rescue methods, orientation flights, glider training flights, overnight hikes and week-long encampments.

Perhaps they visited distant shores in Austria, Belgium, Canada, France, Germany, Hong Kong, Israel, Japan, Netherlands, Norway, Philippines, Sweden, Switzerland, Turkey, or the United Kingdom as part of the International Air Cadet Exchange Program. These CAP cadets switch places with cadets from these 15 countries with the objective of promoting international understanding, goodwill and fellowship among the youth of the world.

Charlotte M. Crowe, Chief, Public Relations

CAP'S 21st CENTURY SEARCH AND RESCUE PROGRAM

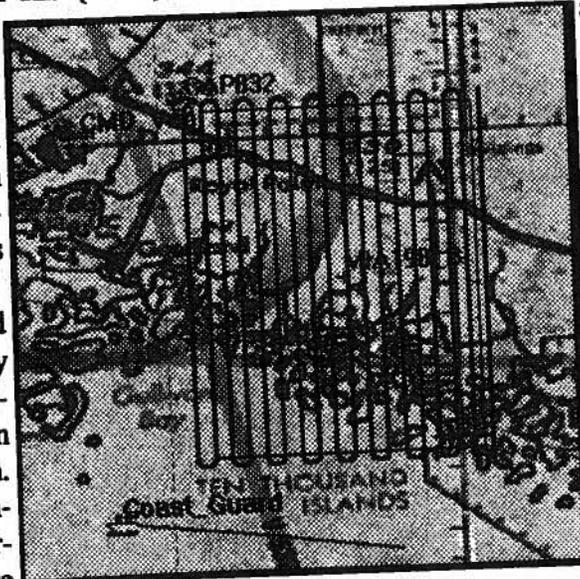
With thanks to Paul Graziani, President and CEO of Analytical Graphics, Inc. (AGI), the Civil Air Patrol Emergency Services Program is 'lifting off' into the 21st Century. Having been given AGI's newly developed computerized technology known as the Satellite Tool Kit (STK), a CAP Emergency Services Program team, headed by Major Mark Strobel with Captain Karl Geng as Special Project Officer, in close concert with AGI engineers, are developing an emergency services Search Tool.

This new search and rescue program will totally change the planning, implementation and verification process of a CAP mission. The following scenario is anticipated to become the normal operational procedure for every CAP unit.

Assume the Air Force Rescue Coordination Center [AFRCC] at Langley AFB, Virginia contacts a Florida Wing Alerting Officer advising of a downed aircraft. An Incident Commander [IC] is assigned the mission and the mission base personnel are all assembled. When the IC contacts AFRCC for briefing, a download of the last known position, flight path and coordinates of an ELT signal is transmitted.

This information is then entered into the Search Tool [ST] on the computer and the probable search location is retrieved on electronic media displaying sectional, 2D and 3D terrain imagery. A search pattern is then overlaid and dynamically analyzed for maximum coverage probability. This search pattern can be varied based on such elements as angle of sun; terrain; air crew of two, three or four; plane type and altitude; parallel tracks and separation; tracks in east/west or north/south configuration with variable entry points into and out of the grid; etc. The mission base team will preview

and analyze the effectiveness of multiple sorties without a single aircraft taking off. These alternative search patterns can be quickly compared, additional alternatives can be quickly displayed and analyzed, until the optimum is developed. In mountainous terrain, prevalent in other states, the ELT line of site transmission of signal coverage analysis can also be performed.



Once selected, the flight details are printed out and provided to the mission crew. The crew uploads this data into the GPS aboard the plane. After the flight, the data is downloaded and the actual flight path flown by the air crew is now analyzed for coverage and Probability of Detection. Follow-up sorties are then planned to cover areas not searched or inadequately searched. In addition, because of the nearly real-time simulation capability of the Search Tool, the mission base can 'fly the mission on the computer' as

the search aircraft actually fly it. Thus separation between several search sorties both in horizontal and vertical plane can be carefully monitored.

It is reasonable to anticipate that future technology will make possible the coupling of GPS data to automatically be sent from the aircraft in packetized digital format to the mission base so that they can have real-time flight monitoring.

As this scenario illustrates, this ST will also be an invaluable tool in aerial search and rescue crew training and mission capability certification. Air crews - pilots, observers and scanners - will be able to maintain current status of their mission qualifications and increase their efficiency and effectiveness without an ounce of fuel being expended.

An increased level of safety will also be attained as a direct derivative of this ST program.

Captain Karl Geng, CAP-STK Emergency Services Program Special Project Officer provided substantial technical inputs for this article as well as the story appearing on Page 7.

MISSION MEMOS



SEARCH FINDS MISSING AIRCRAFT

A pilot flying a Pitts S1-T [acrobatic aircraft] was reported overdue by his wife. Air Force Rescue Coordination Center [AFRCC] assigned the mission to CAP Alerting Officer, Lt Col James Webster.

Capt. John Bayne assumed responsibility as Mission Coordinator and mission base was set up at the Indian River Co. Sheriff's helicopter hangar. Majors Bill Passinos and Gary Owen, Majors Borner and Parker, and LTC Harvey Russell and Major Les Schwartz were the air crews. Ground Team Leaders and members were mobilized, as were Chaplain Hemskey and Rivers. Search and Rescue planning was initiated for the Vero/Pompano area. At 4:25 a.m. the crash site was spotted and, regrettably, the pilot had suffered fatal injuries. When Chaplain Hemskey returned from his visit to the pilot's family, the mission was closed.

Maj Gary Owen, Grp 6 Commander

SRQ COMPOSITE SQUADRON HAS A MISSION "FIRST".

At a recent squadron meeting, 17 seniors and cadets were mission certified as having completed a four-day ground team school conducted by Group 5 Commander, Major Steve Bell. The squadron's first trained ground team was then established with 4 Ground Team Leaders [GTL's] and 13 Ground Team Members. [GTM's]

Major Bell left the meeting only to return five minutes later to advise that AFRCC had just assigned a search mission to him and he mobilized 4 GTL's and 3 GTM's to initiate a search of the Manatee Air Park. No Electronic Locator Transmitter [ELT] alarm signal was

acquired and an air crew was launched. The alarm signal was acquired and the air crew directed the GT to a 26 foot boat moored behind a condo in Bradenton. The alarm was silenced and the Ground Team had their first 'find' within just hours of having been mission certified.

GEORGIA WING LEARNS VALUABLE LESSON

Georgia Wing was alerted to an ELT mission but all their planes, except one, had flown to Florida for Counterdrug Training.

The remaining plane flew to the Pine Mountain Airport that was at the coordinates relayed by the search satellites. The signal was acquired and the crew assumed it was coming from a plane at the airport. The CAP plane landed but in spite of taxiing on all runways, the signal could not be picked up again. The crew concluded the ELT must be in a closed hangar and took off to return to base. When airborne, the signal was again picked up and tracked. The crew soon found a crashed aircraft just off the airfield. Lesson learned: track every ELT as if it is a life threatening crash.

**1Lt Rick Williamson
Dir. Public Affairs, Georgia Wing**

NON-PILOT LANDS PLANE

On return to Tampa, CAP Flight [CPF]824 was requested by Air Traffic Control [ATC] to locate an aircraft in distress. The Piper Cherokee Six was located and the non-pilot passenger in the right front seat advised that the pilot was unconscious and that he and 4 other passengers were aboard. He was able to maintain flight at 700 foot altitude which was too low for ATC radar and radio to pick him up. The CAP plane flew at 2500

feet and was visible and able to communicate with ATC. Another plane with a flight instructor aboard, who luckily had previously flown in the distressed aircraft, advised that he had the CAP plane in sight and would try to 'fly' the other plane in. CPF824 flew the 'high bird' position while the passenger was being instructed what to do for a landing. After a few attempts, the instructor maneuvered above and behind the pilotless plane and talked him through power, flaps, pitch attitude, and prayer. The plane touched down, bounced three times, crossed a ditch and coasted up a taxiway. No injuries, minor damage to the plane, and a fabulous example of general aviation and CAP saving six lives.

Capt Gary Owen and LTC R. L. George

SAFE EMERGENCY LANDING

A CAP air crew in Middle Eastern Region began to lose oil pressure and were forced to make an emergency landing. There were tense moments at mission base when they heard the "Mayday" call and in the aircraft as the crew accomplished their emergency procedures. Fortunately the C-172 landed safely in a very short hayfield. A prime example that CAP is not exempt from being the "searchee" rather than the "searcher". While waiting to be located, the crew appreciated the CAP requirement for the wearing of personal survival equipment. The Air Force axiom "Dress for Egress" means 'if you're not wearing it, you don't own it'.

**Major Russ Reichmann,
Assistant FLWG DOV**



Major Humbert Gressani, Commander of Naples Senior Squadron received the following letter:

I would personally like to thank you for the continued support provided by your organization. The Civil Air Patrol has provided thousands of flight hours in support of the Coast Guard's mission of Search and Rescue. The flights conducted by the Civil Air Patrol have accounted for countless disabled or distressed boaters receiving assistance from the Coast Guard, commercial towing, state law enforcement and good Samaritans. In particular, your assistance in locating Emergency Position Indicating Radio Beacons [EPIRB's] have saved the Coast Guard countless dollars and man hours utilized in pursuing and locating these distress signals by minimizing the need for Coast Guard resources. The Civil Air Patrol has also aided in search and location of overdue boaters. Without such a valuable air resource, search times would be more than doubled and the effect to search in areas inaccessible to boats would be diminished. Thank you again for your continued volunteer support you have provided over the years. We look forward to working with your organization in the future and to hear your voices over the radio as you fly these most valuable patrols.

**J. M. Henson, Commanding Officer,
Fort Myers Beach Station
United States Coast Guard**

Cadet Major Amanda Morris recently spent several hours with Col Tony Hinen of the 6th Air Operations Group at MacDill Air Force Base tour-

ing the operations. More than an hour was spent learning the flight simulator and flight testing the equipment. As an Air Force Academy graduate, Col Hinen was a tremendous resource of information and explained the criteria for entering the academy. With only two and a half years to go before graduating, Cadet Morris has so far met all the requirements and is now more certain than ever before that the Air Force Academy is in her future.

Cadets MSgts Mitch Foster and Craig Harridge have earned their Billy Mitchell Award and Cadet Commander Capt Derek Cameron has received his Amelia Earhart Award.

Apollo Beach Cadet Squadron

The CAP Headquarters building at MacDill AFB is under total refurbishment under the direction of Capt Ray Spengler, FLWG Logistics Officer, Group 8 Operations Officer, Officer-in-Charge of Blue Berets and, soon to be Officer-in-Charge of Fun 'n' Sun 2001. The entire facility has been cleaned, dry wall partitions have been installed and spackled, all walls and ceilings are freshly painted, carpets have been shampooed, furniture rearranged in more functional layouts, phone/modem outlets and additional computers installed, and contemporary and historical displays are in process. In addition, the entire headquarters building is so planned that conversion to a mission base is nearly effortless. A Communications Room is already operative with an HF, VHF, antennas, phone bank and computer; a Ground Team and Air Crew Search and Rescue Planning Room is in process with Miami, Jacksonville and Orlando Sectional Charts covering a full wall; Briefing/Debriefing/Dispatch area has been laid out and a Mission Coordinators office will be available.

All work is provided by volunteers Capt Christine Ferry, Group 8 Commander; C/1Lt Mark Lawson, MacDill Composite Squadron; Capt Larry Gray, FLWG Emergency Services Trainer; 1 Lt Bob Lynch, FLWG Transportation Officer; Lt Col Dave Lawson, FLWG Counter Drug Officer; and Jacques Lawson [Dave's son, non-CAP]. Even more amazing-the project is under budget and substantially ahead of schedule.

Col Tony Pineda announced that a new Mault airplane has been purchased to serve as a tow plane for Florida Wing's new gliders.

CAP members may now apply for any Professional Development course that is available to any Air Force member. Lt Ray Hayden, Director, FLWG Professional Development states that the catalogue of courses is huge. The courses are available from the Air University, Extension Course Institute. Instructions for obtaining these courses are available on-line at the FLWG webpage. Only one course may be applied for at a time. Certain courses earn the student college degree credits with transcript provided on request. For those members who have successfully completed the Senior Officer Course, a diploma is now available but must be applied for. For further information contact Lt. Ray Hayden at rhayden@mediaone.net.

Have you ever dreamed of this ultimate fantasy - having a retired Navy Commander with a vast knowledge and understanding of vintage aircraft, who served as a fighter pilot in World War II and the Korean War serve as a Tour Guide? Look no further than the vacation capital of the USA, the Orlando area's Fantasy of Flight and Mr. George Kesler. The North Tampa Cadet Squadron recently toured the Fantasy of Flight under the guidance of Mr. Kesler. The owner of the facility, Mr. Kermit Weeks, buys vintage aircraft and his team of expert restorers miraculously bring them back to flying condition. If a particular aircraft is not available any longer, than a replica is made from the original blue prints. For example, the Red Baron's Fokker Dr 1 is currently being constructed. Mr. Kesler estimated it will take 3,000 hours to build this plane. Daily you can see Mr. Weeks flying one of his restored aircraft. This is a trip worth taking.

2 Lt Linda E. Trimpey, AEC



From The MAILBAG

The Pasco Cadet Squadron members have earned numerous awards, promotions, and special recognitions during the past nine months. Thanks for giving them frequent and hearty 'Well Done' coverage in the wing newsletter.

2Lt Lill R. Bartoletti, PAO

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I wish to publicly thank the members of the Fernandina Senior Squadron for their dedication, and especially for their cooperation with the Florida Department of Highways in their recent hurricane evacuation study. This is a very important part of our county's overall Emergency Management Plan.

David Howard, County Commissioner
Nassau County, District 2

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I am writing to let you know how much I enjoy the FLORIDA FACTS concerning activity within the Florida Wing. Being a snowbird from New York Wing I only spend the late fall and early winter months in Florida. I attend meetings at Citrus County Composite Squadron. I am attached to the Finger Lake's Group as IG Officer, Rochester, N.Y. Have been a member of CAP for 28 years and served as Squadron and Group Commander. Please keep the FLORIDA FACTS coming.

LT Col Watson D. Hartway
New York Wing

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Many thanks for the fine job you are doing with FLORIDA FACTS. I look forward to reading my son Robert's copy even though I am no longer a member of CAP. Robert

served as Lt Col, Cadet Commander of the Pasco Cadet Squadron from its inception until his recent appointment to the U.S. Air Force Academy. I'm sure Rob will want to continue to keep abreast of the Florida Wing happenings. He is presently in the second half of Basic Cadet Training and really has few minutes to spare. Hopefully, after BEAST is finished he'll have a few extra minutes to read the next issue of FLORIDA FACTS. Thanks again.

Lee Seiner

.....

Lots of good comments from the patients at the Veterans Administration Hospital in Miami about the last issue of FLORIDA FACTS. The copies you provide disappear quickly.

Lt Col Lynn Puglise

.....

Dear Col Pineda,
What a great job Lt Col Buddy Harris has done daily, weekly, monthly and yearly publishing the Florida Wing's newsletter. He did over and above at the Florida Wing Conference 2000 gaining info and photos and behind the scenes reporting to us.

1 Lt Thomas A. Kuzmar
Naples Senior Squadron

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FLORIDA FACTS is a great publication. Keep up the good work.

Lt Col Herb Miller
Boca Raton Senior Squadron

.....

Thanks for the fine job you do on FLORIDA FACTS.

Lt Col Bob Gray, Jr.
Group One Commander

.....

I look forward to each issue. You are doing a great job with FLORIDA FACTS.

P. Ken Smith
Editor-Propwash

Charlotte County Composite Squadron 8051

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We love each and every newsletter. Looking forward to the next FLORIDA FACTS.

Major Sharon Taylor
Lt Col David Mikelson

.....

Just received my current edition of FLORIDA FACTS today. It is without a doubt one of the BEST CAP publications I have ever read. Congratulations.

Lt Col Warren H. Bernstein
Inspector General Staff

.....

I appreciate all that you do to make FLORIDA FACTS the premier CAP newsletter. In the June issue, there was a sentence in my "FROM PULPIT TO PEN" article, page 20 that was mangled and didn't express the meaning of the paragraph as intended. It was supposed to read, "Study after study in a variety of institutions, particularly those which depend on volunteers, have shown that the best way to reach and keep new members happens when an acquaintance, friend, or family member invites the individual to come and see something they think is good."

Lt Col Chaplain Ralph E. Rivers

VETERANS, FAMILY MEMBERS ELIGIBLE FOR BURIAL BENEFITS

Excerpted from "Thunderbolt" - MacDill AFB

Most veterans and certain family members are eligible to receive certain benefits available from the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs.

Burial in National Cemetery

Burial benefits include a gravesite in any of our 119 national cemeteries with space available, opening and closing of the grave, perpetual care, government headstone or marker, grave liner for casketed remains, and a Presidential Memorial Certificate - at no cost to the family. Cremated remains are buried in the same manner with the same honors.

How to make burial arrangements

The national cemetery in which the burial is desired should be contacted at time of need. Scheduling can be done seven days per week for interments on Mondays through Fridays. The cemetery director will provide information regarding funeral services, floral arrangements, headstone or marker inscription, and procedures for burial of veteran's spouse or dependents when they predecease the veteran. If both spouses are veterans two gravesites and headstones or markers may be requested.

Flag Benefits

The VA provides nearly 484,000 American burial flags for deceased veterans annually. When burial is in a national, state or post cemetery, a burial flag will be provided. When burial is in a private cemetery, burial flags may be obtained from the VA Regional Office, national cemeteries, and most U.S. Post Offices by completing VA Form 2008, Application For United States Flag For Burial Purposes, and submitting with it a copy of the veteran's discharge papers. VA cannot provide flag holders for placement on private headstones or markers. These can be purchased from private manufacturers.

Presidential Memorial Certificates

A Presidential Memorial Certificate is an engraved

paper certificate signed by the current president, to honor the memory of honorably discharged deceased veterans.

History

This program was initiated in March 1962 by President John F. Kennedy and has been continued by all subsequent presidents.

Administration

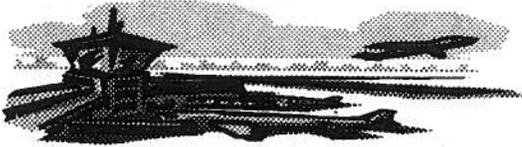
The Veterans Administration administers the Presidential Memorial Certificate program by preparing the certificates which bear the president's signature expressing the country's grateful recognition of the veteran's service in the U.S. Armed Forces.

Eligibility

Eligible recipients include the deceased veteran's next of kin and loved ones. More than one certificate may be provided by request.

Military Funeral Honors

"Honoring Those Who Served" is the title of the Department of Defense program for providing dignified military honors to veterans who have defended our nation. Upon the family's request, the law requires that every eligible veteran receive a military funeral honors ceremony to include folding and presenting the United States Burial Flag and the playing of Taps. A military funeral honors detail consists of two or more uniformed military persons with at least one a member of the veteran's parent service of the Armed Forces. The DoD program calls for funeral home directors to request military funeral honors on behalf of the veteran's family. Veterans' organizations may assist in the provision of military funeral honors. When military funeral honors are desired at a national cemetery, they are arranged prior to the committal service by the funeral home. Questions concerning this program or requests for additional information should be sent to Military Funeral Honors, 9504 IH-35 North, Suite 320, San Antonio, TX 78233-6635



operations briefing

Lt Col David Lehtonen
Florida Wing, Director of Operations

Florida Wing Operations is an integral part of Florida Wing, responsible for pilot certification and operation of the aviation fleet. Personnel assigned to this directorate oversee Stan/Eval, Training, Current Operations, Counterdrug, AFROTC, CAPR 60-2 Inspections, and Aircraft Maintenance.

To better inform the wing, I would like to address some of the questions that have been of concern to some of our members in recent weeks.

There appears to be confusion about how the NHQ mandated Safety Down Day [SDD] briefings will be completed. Operations restates that those pilots unable to attend a briefing meeting could satisfy the requirement by reviewing the video tape provided to each Group Safety Officer. This brief updates the status of the Safety Down Day requirement.

- ◆ As to the requirement of who has to attend a SDD meeting, there was some confusion whether or not new pilots to the program and transfers in from other wings needed the briefing. The clarification that was received from NHQ is that only those CAP pilots who were in the program prior to 26 June 2000 needed the briefing. This means that new pilots and transfers in from other wings who joined the program after 26 June 2000 are exempt from the requirement.
- ◆ The video tape has been edited and returned to Operations. However, Operations still is in the revision mode and has not yet approved the tape for duplication. Our alternative plan provides for Wing approved SDD Instructors shall provide the briefing from time to time using the Operations briefing materials. The SDD Instructors are:
Group 1 - Kevin Vislocky and Doug Kelley;
Group 2 - LTC Mike Brown; Groups 3 and 8 - Walt Schamel and Steve Drew; Group 4 - LTC Dave Lehtonen; Group 5 - Col Andy Skiba; Groups 6 and 7 - Major Luis Garcia and Major Russ Reichmann. The CAPF 103 must be returned to Major Russ Reichmann for credit.

Finally, why was the briefing presented by Operations Staff instead of sending the information to the Groups?

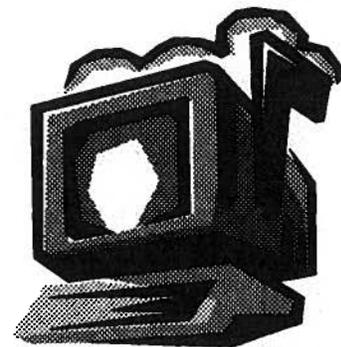
Very simply, NHQ required that there be an active discussion to adequately present the propeller strike story and this was best accomplished by having the Operations Staff conduct the briefings.

The Florida Wing Supplement 1 to CAPR 60-1 is another set of requirements that is sometimes misunderstood. In compliance with NHQ requirements, each wing is required to develop standardized procedures for their wing. Florida Wing's Supplements were reviewed by the Southeast Region DOV and submitted to and approved by National Operations, without modification. As the U.S. Air Force continues to develop a more comprehensive Flight Management Program, many of the items in our supplement will be addressed in a revision of CAPR 60-1, due to be released later this year. These changes will be made for a number of reasons, not the least of which is CAP's insurance writer and the U.S. Air Force looking for ways to make the flight program safer. The items supplemented by Florida Wing have flight safety as the principal motivator.

Reports from Current Operations indicate that a few units occasionally miss the deadline for submission of Aircraft Reports and Maintenance Checks. Florida Wing Operations strives to always meet the submission timeframes as required by NHQ, so we again request that each unit send your reports and checks to Current Operations prior to the 10th of each month. NHQ in recent memorandums has reassigned aircraft from Regions reporting low utilization hours. Your cooperation through timely submissions will assist us in identifying low utilization rates to help prevent reassignment of FLWG aircraft.

Wing Operations personnel will continue to strive for improved flight operations and to work through Groups and Squadrons for planning training exercises, providing timely information, etc. Group and Squadron Operations personnel should regularly check the Operations web page to obtain pertinent information for their commander. Bilateral information flow is the best way we can improve FLWG Operations to better serve you and your units.

E-MAIL EMISSIONS



TO ALL CAP COMMANDERS:

The current CAPR 60-1 policy authorizing certain command levels to issue flight releases within their command even though the individual is not a 'designated FRO' nor has never attended the formal training course is hereby cancelled as of 3 August 00. The FRO Training Course was designed to assure that everyone issuing a Flight Release Number is operating according to approved guidelines and is trained to exercise the same level of judgement in the process. All Flight Release Officers will complete the FRO Training Course before any FRO authority is exercised.

The Flight Release Officer procedures are one of the best mechanisms CAP has to maintain the highest degree of safety within our flying programs. When, in the opinion of the FRO, a flight release would require unnecessary risk to personnel or equipment, a flight release can be denied by the FRO. Commanders can assist by making sure the FRO's have continuous access to all information available having any impact on the decision to issue a flight release. Please make sure everyone understands and supports the change to the FRO Program.

/signed

JAMES C. BOBICK
Brigadier General, CAP
National Commander

The Professional Development Course is now available on the National CAP webpage. The course is very detailed with a lot of great information. Professional Development is a sub-unit of Aerospace Education. To see other internet options for Professional Development, feel free to go to the national website and browse through! The Aerospace Education button is the one to click on. The next menu will have a Professional Development/Senior Programs hyper link to even more data. The address is http://www.capnhq.gov/nhq/aeroed/ACSC_Prof_Dev_Modules/CAP/cap.admin/cap_homepage.htm

2 Lt Ray Hayden, Director
Florida Wing Professional Development

The new Seminole Cadet Squadron is a combination of the former Seminole Cadet Squadron of Sanford and Sabal Cadet Squadron of Longwood. The combined squadron builds on the strengths of its predecessors and will continue in the best traditions of the Civil Air Patrol.

The new Seminole Cadet Squadron has seen a boom in both cadet and senior membership, fielded distinguished participants at many Group and Wing activities, and excelled in fulfilling each of the CAP missions. This merged squadron is now the largest and most experienced unit in Group 4

All CAP Squadrons are encouraged to earn the Aerospace Education Excellence Award [AEEA] in 2001 through using the Aerospace 2000 Activity Booklet, Vols. 1-5 projects. Our squadron has now won this award for four years straight. The requirements were easier this year-one project during each of the first six months of the year instead of nine total as in previous years. These hands-on projects are great with cadet squadrons' study of Aerospace: The Flight of Discovery - we not only use them throughout the year but with other community center groups. The squadrons that earn the award receive a nice certificate. For next years booklet, contact CAP National Headquarters , AE Division.

2 Lt Linda E Trimpey, AE Officer
North Tampa Cadet Squadron

The National Check Pilot Standardization Course will be conducted on 28 and 29 October, 2000 at the FAA Safety Center at Lakeland Linder Airport.

Major Luis Garcia,
FLWG DOV

IN RECOGNITION



PROMOTIONS

Major S. Buddy Harris, FLWG Staff to Lt Colonel
Capt Eileen Parker, FLWG Staff to Major
Capt Al Ferraro, FLWG Staff to Major
1Lt Mathew Wiland, Boca Raton Sr. Sq. to Captain
1Lt George Selby, Boca Raton Sr. Sq. to Captain
1Lt Angelo Paone, Boca Raton Sr. Sq. to Captain
2Lt Irving Lotter, Boca Raton Sr. Sq. to 1Lt
2Lt Phillip Lotter, Boca Raton Sr. Sq. to 1Lt

AWARDS

**Capt Jay Jasen -Commander's Commendation for invaluable service as
Florida Wing Director of Senior Programs.**
Lt Colonel S. Buddy Harris - Paul E. Garber Award
Boca Raton Cadet Squadron - Unit Citation
Major Charles A. Soriano - Grover Loening Award

RETIREMENTS

Lt Colonel Hughes E. Harper - 58 years of service
Captain Annie P. Lawrence - 34 years of service
Captain Ira P. Hill - 32 years of service

THIS PERIOD IN HISTORY

JULY

July 1942 - CAP Border Patrol is initiated.
1 July 1946 - President Truman signs P.L. 476 incorporating the CAP.
1 July 1948 - CAP transferred to Headquarters Command of the USAF.
1 July 1970 - Col Robert C. Owen is 13th Wing Commander until 17 February 1974
31 July 1981 - Col Howard R. Cumler serves as 16th Wing Commander until 31 August 1984

AUGUST

31 August 1943 - Coastal Patrol Submarine duty discontinued. Mission accomplished.
1 August 1977 - Col Richard L. Leali, Sr. is 15th Wing Commander till 31 July 1981
10 August 1996 - Col Antonio Pineda is 22nd Wing Commander until 14 December 1996
18 August 1998 - Col Antonio Pineda again serves as Wing Commander [24th]
29 August 1992 - Col Ernest Lewis is 20th Wing Commander until 28 May 1994
30 August 1967 - Col Samuel Dupont Jr. is again Wing Commander [11th] till 15 March 1968

SEPTEMBER

18 September 1947 - U.S. Air Force created as separate command-Happy Birthday USAF!
26 September 1947 - Gen Carl A. Spaatz becomes USAF Chief of Staff
1 September 1984 - Col Samuel G. Spieker, Jr. is 17th Wing Commander until 24 June 1986

FROM PULPIT TO PEN

I attended the National Conference and Board meeting in San Antonio, Texas in August. If you have never attended a National Board meeting, I hope you will. The 2001 Board meeting is scheduled to be in Cincinnati, Ohio in August.

A National Board meeting and annual Conference is more than the sum of its big meetings, seminars, and formal occasions. It's a time to meet and get to know the senior members and cadets from around the nation. It's a time to look over the displays and see some things you've not seen before and spend some money. Most of all, a National Board and annual Conference is an affirmation of all the good that Civil Air Patrol is capable of giving back to our nation and local communities.

I was also impressed with the spirit of good will, cooperation, common desire for a continued productive relationship between the Air Force and its auxiliary, Civil Air Patrol. The keynote speaker at the banquet, Lt General Nicholas B. Kehoe, affirmed the strength of that relationship in his address.

One of the highlights of the banquet was the presence of the Florida Wing POW/MIA Ceremonial Team. I was close enough to the action to observe the members as they performed their drill. I came away with the feeling that these young people understood the deep meaning and purpose behind their activity. This was one of life's moments that will remain forever etched in my memory.

I attended most of the opportunities for Chaplains, I was pleased that there were many Chaplains present from around the nation, including Puerto Rico. It's nice to renew friendships and make new ones.

I was personally honored with the national 2000 Senior Chaplain of the Year Award. My wife, Sharon, was there to share in the celebration.

Now on to something else. I want to urge that Chaplains and Moral Leadership Officers make every effort to participate in the wing activity at River Ranch Resort, October 6, 7, 8. I plan to be there. I believe that this will be a very worthwhile opportunity to network, relax, and have a good time.

The first year of the new millennium is well on its way to becoming history. Its season of time is nearing a climax. However, there is still a lot to do as we continue shaping the role of Florida Wing for the next generation. Like the first talking movie said, "You ain't seen nothing yet."



LT. COL. RALPH E. RIVERS
FLORIDA WING CHAPLAIN

NEWS FLASH!

Secretary of Defense, William Cohen has issued Certificates of Recognition to the following people:

- *William F. Klosterman
- *Harold Knuckles
- *Richard Otwell
- *Duane A. Richardson
- *Russell W. Richardson

MacDill AFB has been trying to locate these persons and has requested our assistance.

If any CAP member has any knowledge of any of the above mentioned persons and/or their addresses, please notify LTC Evelyn Holdren at CAP HQ North, , 2700 Eagle Staff Court, MacDill AFB, FL 33621 or FAX 813-828-4429

LTC Donald Wood, FLWG Emergency Services Director advises there will be a new set of regulations published to replace CAPR 50-15 and 55-1. The exact timing for these new regulations [CAPR 60-3, 60-4, and 60-5] has not been set. There are a few draft copies of the suggested regulations. If you see such a document, remember it is only a draft. Until such time as these new regulations are officially released, CAPR 50-15 and 55-1 and applicable wing supplements remain in force.

To all of you that participated in the Safety Down Day, I want to thank you for your efforts in keeping Florida Wing safe and complying with the directive from our National Commander. Each day that passes our Florida Wing gets better and this is principally because of you, our members, who are so dedicated to making the wing the best in the nation.

Colonel Antonio Pineda
Florida Wing Commander

Lt Gen Charles R. Holland has been nominated by President Clinton to receive his fourth star and has also been selected as the new head of the US Special Operations Command with headquarters at MacDill AFB. Holland is the first 'air commando' to be nominated for a fourth star, and the first Air Force officer ever to be selected to head USSOCOM. US Special Operations Command has about 46,000 service members assigned to it, and nearly 11,500 are active-duty or reserve airmen.

Armed Forces service personnel under the age of 18 are now prohibited from being deployed outside of the United States and from entering into any armed conflict. Currently there are only about 3,300 active-duty personnel in all the services under the age

of 18. Voluntary recruitment into the military would be allowed for those age 16 or older. This policy was recently signed by President Clinton and requires ratification by the Congress - a process that could take a couple of months, to several years.

NASA has picked seven Air Force officers for the astronaut corps. One of that elite group is a former CAP Cadet who was awarded the Gen Carl Spaatz Award #648 in 1983, Major Eric Bloe is presently a member of the Eglin Composite Squadron at Eglin AFB. Major Bloe is also an Air Force test pilot assigned to the 46th Test Wing at Eglin AFB. Major Bloe has already reported to NASA's Johnson Space Center to begin training and evaluation. The selected airmen and their likely crew positions are: Lt Col Kevin A. Ford, Calif. (pilot); Maj B. Alvin Drew, Fla. (mission specialist); Maj Ronald J. Garan, Jr., Fla. (pilot); Maj Michael T. Good, Fla., (mission specialist); Capt Robert L. Behnken, Calif. (mission specialist); Capt Terry W. Virts, Jr., Calif. (pilot)

Lt Col George Williams
Deputy Commander, Group 1

“CIVIL AIR PATROL, I Simply Love It...”

As a 13 year old, 9th grader, I hadn't the slightest clue about leadership, airplanes, teamwork, or drill. But I would soon find out all about it.

I joined Civil Air Patrol in December 1997 after reading an article about it in an Air Force magazine. I had never heard of CAP. Regardless, I went out with my mother to the closest squadron [Camp Shelby Composite Squadron, Mississippi Wing] and looked around. It didn't impress me much, but I decided it would not hurt to join, having no idea that one day I would be an aspiring leader in it. So, I kept on going to the weekly meetings, and gradually tried to earn rank.

As a Cadet Airman Basic, I wasn't too enthusiastic about Civil Air Patrol. I hated being told every week to shine my boots, stand at attention, and the lots of other rules. I really dreaded those 'nit-picky' inspections, never realizing at the time that one day I would be the Inspecting Officer critiquing each and every uniform.

As time progressed, I actually began to enjoy CAP. I made several great friendships throughout the Mississippi Wing, and met several awesome senior members who influenced me greatly, making a large impact on my life.

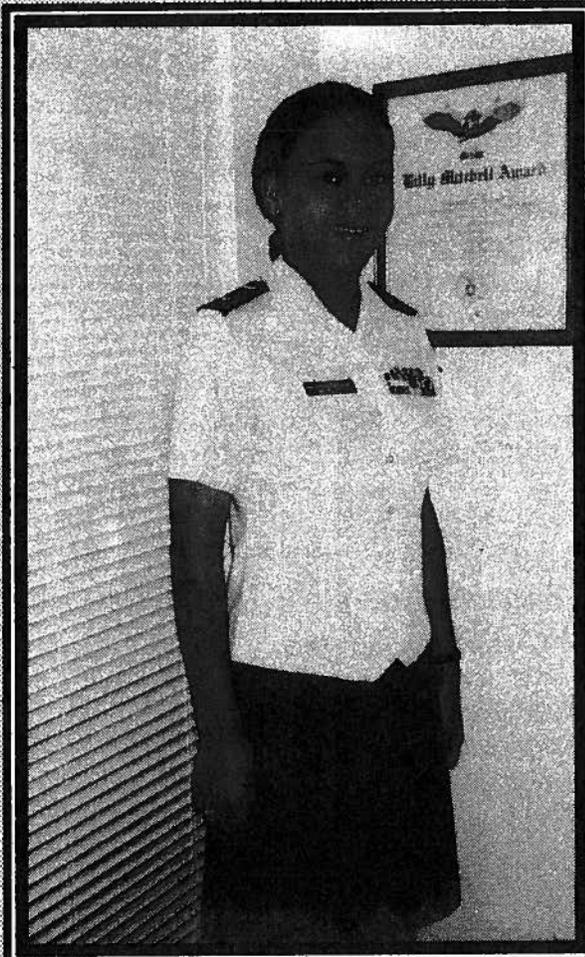
I went to an encampment, and I must admit it was the best week of my life. The first day I was ready to go home; I didn't know how I was going to handle this snapping to attention for officers 'junk', and how to

make hospital corners on beds. But as the week went on, I absolutely loved it. I loved being in an all-female flight, feeling like a team, and striving to be the best and outshining the guys.

That summer I also participated in the Southeast Region Drill Competition at Tyndall AFB in Panama, Florida. I was finally starting to feel that I belonged, especially since I wasn't a Cadet Airman Basic anymore. I started striving to be an officer and actually taking the achievements seriously. The next summer rolled around and I couldn't imagine a whole summer without the challenge of encampment, so again I applied - but this time as staff. That was the second best week of my life!

I was a Flight Sergeant and boy did I love it! My flight was awarded Honor Flight at graduation, so then I really thought I was a hot shot. Then came the spectacular award, the Mitchell - I was now an officer, you know, one of those people with responsibility, leadership, integrity, and the list goes on.

After being a Non-Commissioned Officer for so long, it was a great surprise to finally have achieved the first large step that cadets take in the Civil Air Patrol Cadet Program.



**1/Lt Draupadi Beloved
Venice Cadet Squadron - Deputy Commander**

I have learned so much in Civil Air Patrol it is absolutely amazing. I met Brig Gen Bobick, our national commander at Mississippi and Florida Wing Conferences, and heard him relate his life story to avid listeners.

See CAP , page 28



MARK YOUR CALENDARS NOW!



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

23 September-1 October Southeast Region College, Tyndall AFB, FL

14 October

Florida Wing Staff Meeting

18-19 October

Cadet Fall Round-up

21-22 October

Squadron Leadership School, Daytona Beach Comp. Sq.

28- 29 October

Check Pilot's School, Lakeland-Linder

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

HAAS RECEIVES FAA APPOINTMENT

Major Frank Haas, Group 4 Commander has been appointed as an Aviation Safety Counselor by the Federal Aviation Agency. Major Haas' responsibilities include fostering high levels of safety in CAP flight operations through the FAA Wings program, counseling pilots on aviation safety matters, assist the FAA FSDO and Safety Center, assist transient pilots with local information, write articles about aviation safety for magazines or other periodicals, conducting safety activities for airmen, and other safety functions. Major Haas will serve the Orlando Flight Standards District Office through August 2001. Major Haas trained for this appointment in both Orlando and Lakeland.

GROUP NOTATIONS



Group 8 Commander, Capt Christine Ferry reports that 3 Senior, 4 Cadet and 2 Composite Squadrons with more than 350 members now compose the Group. This number will increase as a result of a very active recruiting drive that is underway. A very loud 'Attaboy' to Lt Col Ken Freeman, who designed a number of squadron websites which, added to all others, makes Group 8 probably the only Group in Florida Wing that is 100% Internet represented.



20 members from six squadrons attended the Group 4 Radio Operator's Course conducted by Capt Chip Maher, Project Officer and Group Commander Major Frank Haas. The class learned that without competent communications, CAP can not perform its missions for America. 6 students successfully completed the B CUT course and all students had a chance to send and receive messages over the radio. 14 students completed the A CUT portion of the communicators course and all attendees received their approved applications for Radio Operators Authorization.



Group 2 Chaplain, Capt Dewey E. Painter, Sr. has started a Quarterly Chaplain and Moral Leadership Officer Seminar. The members of the Hampton Baptist Church donated their facility and provided a full country cooked meal of ham, chicken, blackeye peas, green beans and other goodies. The six hour seminar was opened by FLWG Chaplain, Lt Col Ralph Rivers. The Chaplain's Workbook and Guide was discussed in depth covering the role of the Chaplain, CAP Reporting Requirements, recruitment, and ways to conduct Moral Leadership Lectures.



1Lt Heather Tanaka of the Deland Composite Squadron conceived, planned, organized and directed the Group 4 Summer Picnic held at the

DeLeon Springs State Recreation Area in Northwest Volusia County. More than 60 members from the Valencia, Patrick, Deland, Daytona, Lake and Seminole Squadrons were in attendance.

All brought an array of scrumptious salads, pastas, vegetables, fruits, desserts accompanied by hamburgers and hot dogs cooked by Majors Myles Saulibo and Frank Haas. Group 4 provided all the paper goods, ice and soft drinks.

Coincidental with the picnic at the park was the re-enactment of a battle from the Seminole Indian War on a nearby open field. The 'battle' included cannon and musket fire and was viewed by hundreds of visitors. Members also toured a myriad of campsites demonstrating the 1800's style of bivouacking, camping, and crafts.

Group 4 members then took to canoes and swimming and other fun activities which included dipping in the icy cold springs.

At one point the Valencia Cadet Squadron hid a training Electronic Locator Transmitter [ELT] and a large contingent spent an hour searching it out. Major Haas commented it was great weather, in a great park, with great friends and gorging great food.



All Groups are advised that the Inland Search and Rescue School is going to be held from 13 to 17 November 2000 in Tavares. This 5-day course is a comprehensive, graduate-level study of inland search theory and its application to planning land and air searches for missing persons and aircraft. The course is directed toward SAR leaders in federal, state and local emergency services and law enforcement agencies, as well as Civil Air Patrol, international and volunteer SAR agencies. For additional information contact Capt Larry Gray, FLWG Chief ES Training.

SAFETY FIRST

Major Tek Konkel, Group 4 Safety Officer

Is your unit receiving a safety briefing every month? CAP Regulations require a safety meeting be conducted on a monthly basis. If your unit is not being briefed on safety, as required, why not?

Perhaps the reason is the National Safety Bulletin tends to be somewhat redundant and commanders and safety officers aren't aware of other resources to obtain relevant safety information for presentation. There are, in fact, many sources for safety information. The Internet is one possibility. Do a search for 'safety' and see what comes out. Certainly more than anyone could use for one briefing. Refine the search to 'flight safety' or any other safety topic and you eliminate much that is not relevant. Most governmental agencies, at every level, as well as private corporations publish safety bulletins that can serve as a starting point in developing a safety presentation. Some of these publications address environmental as well as personal safety. Has anyone read about bee and wasp infestation and the resultant safety hazards they produce? Another topic covered in a safety bulletin that recently crossed my desk was building integrity. Exclusion of water, wind and insects are safety issues. But only if they are discussed are people made aware of them.

Regarding wind and water exclusion, we are currently in the midst of hurricane season. Most of us who have been Florida residents for a few years probably feel inundated with all the reminders for need of prior planning when it comes to hurricanes. Yet, every year the media show us pictures of last minute planners frantically buying emergency supplies. Again, the Internet is a wonderful source for hurricane related topics. What about disaster recovery? Have you been briefed on what CAP does for disaster recovery? One of the most important things we can do for ourselves is to develop a "telephone tree" using land line, cellular and VHF technology to stay in touch with each other. Remember, after the disaster it is too late to plan for recovery. These are topics that can be devel-

oped into comprehensive safety briefings.

Safety from fire is always a current topic for a briefing. Are your members aware of possible sources of fire that are always present? Remind them about fire extinguisher inspections. A fire extinguisher that hasn't been inspected, and recharged, when necessary, is just a useless piece of metal if a fire occurs. Why not start a fund raising program selling fire extinguishers? Perhaps your unit can promote safety in the community by partnering with a fire safety organization to sell extinguishers. This activity not only benefits your unit by profit from the sales, but benefits your community in building safety awareness and generates some great publicity for your unit..

One of the best safety sources is an Air Force magazine named the "Combat Edge". It is published by the Air Combat Command on a monthly basis. This full color, glossy publication is usually 32 to 36 pages with one or two page articles that cover topics applicable to many interests. Given the target audience, expect several of the articles to describe flight safety that may not directly target to Civil Air Patrol units, but which may be modified to suit your purposes. Some recent topics included chain saw safety, rollerblading safety, swimming safety, motorcycling and bicycle safety, mobile phone safe use, as well as many on flight safety, some of which could easily be modified for CAP use. These were all well written and easy to read. Perhaps the best thing about this magazine, for your purposes, is that it is free for the asking and it shows up in your mail every month. To subscribe to the "Combat Edge", e-mail to:

barbara.taylor@langley.af.mil All that you need to provide is your unit's complete mailing address [including 9-digit zip code], quantity desired, and a point of contact and phone number.

It is not the job of the commander or safety officer to teach the unit every nuance of safety, but to develop in each member an awareness or *attitude of safety*. When it comes to safety, attitude is everything. Remember, *think safety, act safely, be safe.*

CADETS DEPICT KOREAN WAR MEMORIAL



Memorial Day was a very special day for Korean War veterans who attended the ceremony at Glen Haven Cemetery in Winter Park. Baldwin Fairchild Funeral Homes, the event coordinators, had designated that part of the service be especially dedicated to the Korean War veterans in remembrance of their service 50 years ago.

The announcer, Bud Hedinger, WKCF TV news anchor, said that members from the Civil Air Patrol would depict the Korean War Memorial statue in Washington, DC. Then 19 Civil Air Patrol members, dressed in BDU's, green ponchos, helmets and carrying rifles, solemnly walked in front of the viewing area in a V shaped formation, looking around as if on patrol. Suddenly they stopped and froze in position for about 10 seconds. An audible gasp could be heard from the crowd and they were given a thunderous round of applause.

The participants in this Memorial Day service were 13 cadets and 2 senior members from the Central Florida Composite Squadron, 2 cadets from the McCoy Cadet Squadron and 2 cadets from the Seminole Cadet Squadron. Following their part in the ceremony the CAP participants observed the rest of the program and then met with many of the veterans and also with Bud Hedinger.

A few weeks following the program Capt. Trish Turner, project officer for the event, received a call from Charlie Eby, a Marine Corps veteran of the Korean War. He had been impressed by the Civil Air Patrol's part in the Memorial Day service and asked if he could have 19 CAP members to depict the Korean War Memorial in a Veteran's Day parade in downtown Orlando this November. He has made the machine gun and radio like the ones in the real statue and is also working on getting other items that will make us look more authentic. We are looking forward to participating in the November 11th parade in Orlando, which will be broadcast on television.

Capt. Trish Turner

FINANCE REPORTS REQUIRED

CAPR 173-1 requires all Unit Finance Officers to have a Finance Report for FYE 9/30/00 to their Group Finance Officer NLT 20 October 2000. Group Finance Reports must be submitted NLT 1 November 2000 to Capt Bill Ferguson, FLWG/FO

6TH AIR REFUELING WING WINS TROPHY

MacDill AFB's Air Refueling Wing won the Best Overall Air Mobility Wing Trophy from 80 teams of active duty, reserve airmen and foreign forces. Proficiency in air transport skills was scored by evaluators from throughout the Air Mobility Command.



Pentagon Ceremony For First Female Soldier To Be Promoted To Major General In Army National Guard.

The Florida Army National Guard recently promoted Marianne Mathewson-Chapman, an accomplished nurse, to the rank of a two-star general. The Desert Storm veteran staked her military career on the idea that every soldier counts.

Maj Gen Roger Schultz, director of the Guard said, "It's an honor to serve with this soldier." Mathewson-Chapman holds a doctorate in nursing, is the Army's deputy surgeon general, medical consultant to the adjutant general for Florida, and is the civilian director at the Veteran's Health System in Bay Pines, near St. Petersburg.

Gen Mathewson-Chapman's well known reputation was acquired when she used to peer into tanks to make sure Guard soldiers were wearing their hearing protection. This is the nurse who set up lemonade stands outside Mojave Desert briefing tents to make sure soldiers had plenty to drink. She put her foot down and let it be known that soldiers counted during a tour of duty in Turkey. When she went to war during Desert Storm, she established 44 active and reserve component hospitals in five Southwest Asian countries.

Jeanne Mathewson, her mother, was a Navy Nurse in Florida during World War II and father, Marine Capt Robert Mathewson, was a WW II fighter pilot and a helicopter pilot who was rescued after being shot down during the Korean conflict.

Public Affairs Officers Research Media Resources.

When they were newly appointed, a Region Public Affairs Officer [PAO] and a unit PAO were bewildered with the task of compiling a listing of local media which is so vital to initiating a public affairs program. Lt Col Karen L. Copenhaver, Middle East Region Director, Marketing and Public Affairs recalls initially using telephone books as her prime resource and later discov-



ered a publication entitled "Comprehensive Media Guide". The guide contained all media, its type, format, address and other pertinent information. "As soon as my media list was compiled, I began to visit as many as possible...and still do. Nothing can substitute for one-on-one contact and getting to know the media in your area," advised LTC Copenhaver. "Media personnel like to be able to associate a face with news story submissions. Remember, they appreciate your help by providing them with news stories," said Copenhaver.

Skrabut van der Vliet, a newly appointed squadron PAO was overwhelmed as to who to contact when he wanted to release his first news story. He subsequently discovered "Yellow Pages" on the Internet and successfully pulled up listings of newspaper, radio, and television stations in his immediate area. When his squadron initiated a recruiting program, he entered "school" as the search term and developed a list of all middle schools in a 20-mile radius. Every school principal was sent an introduction letter, a color brochure of the Cadet Program, five morning announcements, and a news release for the school paper. "All it takes is some innovative effort to overcome what appears to be a daunting task," concluded PAO Vliet.

Training Ends With Mid-Air Collision

Student pilot Barbara Yeninas experienced a mid-air collision in which two small aircraft locked together and landed safely. Alan Vangee, CFI, also survived the freak collision at the Plant City Airport. "All I saw was a wheel coming right through the windshield of my Cessna 152. We were practicing take-offs and landings when another pilot landed his Piper Cadet on top of ours", said Vangee. "I heard him call downwind, then base leg, and he said he 'had the Cessna in sight'....but there were two Cessnas in the pattern. "We were on final when his landing gear hit us from above" continued Vangee.

After colliding, the two planes descended as one and Vangee landed both safely. When they came to rest the other pilot emerged from his cockpit to assess what happened. He knew he hit something but couldn't see what it was since the Piper Cadet is a low wing aircraft. He said, "I knew I landed but I couldn't figure out why I was so high off the ground."

Thomas A. Home, AOPA Pilot

Continued
CAP, page 22

In my 2 1/2 years as a CAP member, I have done and experienced everything I could get my hands on including cadet incentive trips to Wright-Patterson AFB and Washington, D. C., Florida and Mississippi Conferences, bivouacs, parking details, drill team competition, two encampments, Wing Christmas parties, Cadet Advisory Council meetings, and Orientation flights. I have experienced two different squadrons in two different states.

At 16 years old, I feel like I have done it all already. Civil Air Patrol has given me a sense of pride, duty, morality and integrity. It has shown me that I can get somewhere from nowhere, that I can inspire young cadets, and be inspired. Not to mention the life lessons I have learned along the way.

I felt inspired to write this article to thank Civil Air Patrol for everything it has given me, and to encourage CAP cadets ranging from Cadet Airman Basic to officers to take advantage of all the opportunities CAP offers and makes possible.

My special thanks goes to Florida and Mississippi Wings, especially the senior members who have taught me many lessons and helped me mature, and the cadets who have been there with me through thick and thin, and made all my CAP activities a blast!

Civil Air Patrol has been a big part of my life, and still continues to be. As a current member of the Venice Cadet Squadron, my days are still full with CAP activities, weekly meetings, and staff meetings. So, as a cadet, I say to my fellow cadets, be a part of CAP, and make it a part of you.



SATELLITE PROCESSING OF ELT SIGNALS TO BE PHASED OUT

The International COSPAS-SARSAT Program which uses satellites that relay distress signals from 121.5 and 243 MHz to alert search and rescue authorities, will be terminated. Those mariners, aviators and individuals using emergency bea-

cons will need to switch to those operating at 406 MHz if they want to be detected by satellites.

Neither Russia or the United States have decided on an actual date but indicated it would be far enough into the future to avail adequate time for users to make the transition. However, starting in 2006, the Russian satellites will no longer carry instruments to receive 121.5/243 MHz signals nor will the satellites after 2009 owned by the United States Commerce Department's National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration.

A major factor in the decision to stop processing 121.5/243 MHz signals is due to problems in this frequency band which inundate search and rescue authorities with false alerts. This circumstance adversely impacts the effectiveness of life-saving services. Although the 406 MHz beacons cost more, they provide search and rescue agencies with more reliable and complete information to do their job more efficiently and effectively.

NOAA along with the United States Coast Guard, United States Air Force, the National Aeronautics and Space Administration, are responsible for implementing the COSPAS-SARSAT Program at the national level in the United States.

The implication of the COSPAS-SARSAT Program decision is that users of beacons that send distress alerts on 121.5/243 MHz should eventually be using beacons operating on 406 MHz if the alerts are to be detected and relayed via satellites. Meanwhile anyone intending to buy a new distress beacon may wish to take the COSPAS-SARSAT decision into account.

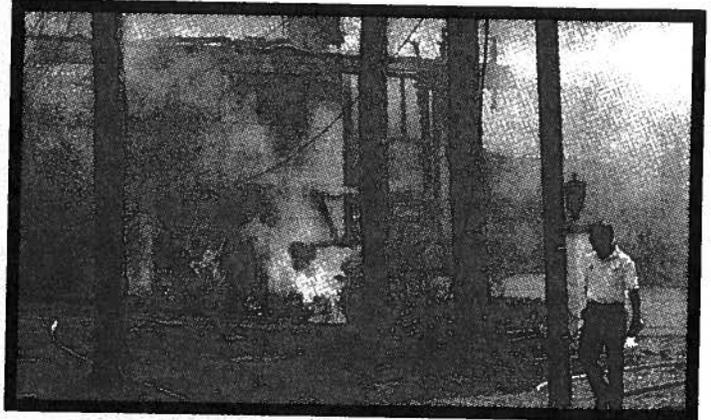
The three types of beacons in use are Emergency Locator Transmitters [ELT's] used on airplanes, Emergency Position Indicating Radio Beacons [EPIRB's] used on boats, and Personal Locator Beacons [PLB] used by land-based persons, such as hikers.

Bob Wiseman
Howard Squadron, Maryland Wing

PHOTO MAT II



20 volunteers from CAP Squadron 279 played 'victims' of a simulated disaster. Members of the Medical Squadron of the 482nd Fighter Wing put their emergency medical skills to the test.



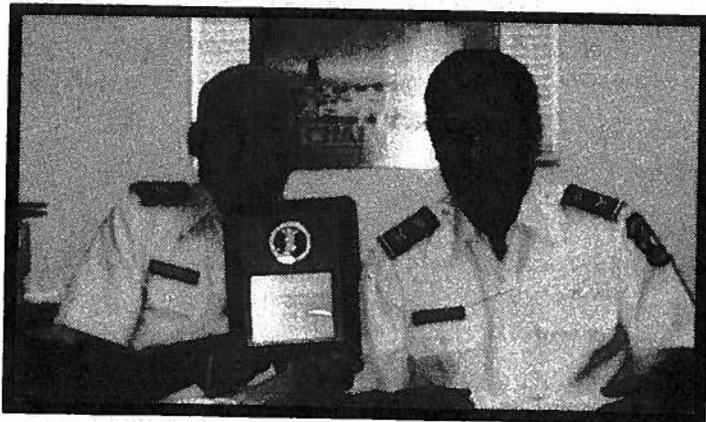
A fast moving fire totally destroyed the home of Lt Col Harold and Harriet Teeple. They and their two dogs escaped unharmed and dozens of Volusia firefighters finally extinguished the blaze.



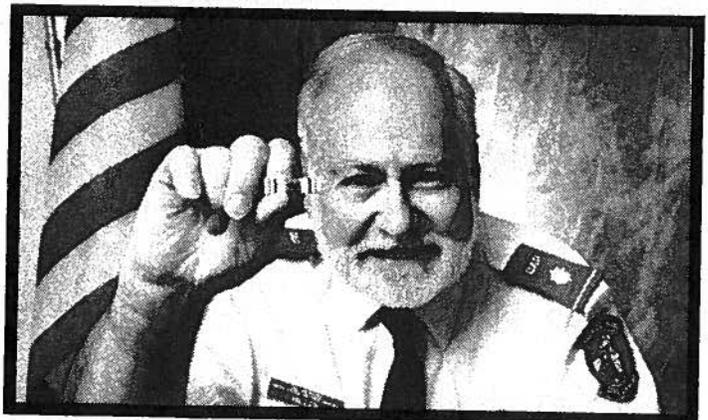
l to r Major Thomas Stefano accepts his promotion to Lt Col from Group 6 Commander, Major Gary Owen while Boca Raton Sr. Sq. Commander Major Aaron Modansky proudly looks on.



CAP Cadets providing crowd control at Airfest-2000 refill their canteens to avoid dehydration effects caused by the blazing sun. The three day affair attracted tens of thousands of spectators.



Florida Wing Commander, Col Antonio Pineda and Vice Commander, Lt Col Richard Valone proudly display the National CAP Disaster Relief Award received at the National CAP Conference.



Lt Col Herb Miller shows off the Fifty Year Clasp to his Red Service Ribbon. Two Years ago, Miller transferred to the Florida Wing from the New York Wing.

LATE NEWS

Continued from Page 9



The Civil Air Patrol has been invited to participate in Pioneer Days Festival Parade in South Orange County on Saturday, 21 October 2000. Last year, this annual parade was canceled due to a threatening hurricane. CAP has been asked to provide enough members to carry 50 state flags, Lt Col David M. Moseley, FLWG Ceremonial Guard, has all state flags as well as all U.S. military flags. "Potentially, we could put 65 flags on the street", said Moseley. The parade generates a crowd of about 20,000 and possible TV coverage. Moseley requests all Squadron Commanders that want to have their unit participate in this community event contact him at 352-787-1172.



Miami Senior Squadron One, one of the oldest flying squadrons in Miami-Dade County, celebrated a change of command. The ceremony took place in the Squadron Headquarters at the U. S. Coast Guard Air Station in Opa-Locka Airport. Group 7 Commander, Major William Lynch was in charge of the ceremony and passed the command to 1Lt Manuel Alfaro. Lt Alfaro is a member of the United States Army and his extensive military knowledge will certainly benefit the Miami Senior One Squadron and its staff. In accepting the command, Lt Alfaro stated his desire to expand all existing programs and to once again make the squadron the best flying unit in Miami-Dade County.

1Lt Adrian Casaula, PAO



Pride, patriotism, fascination and diversity are the key elements of the newly completed U.S. Air Force commercials which are scheduled for premier showing in movie theaters and on network and cable TV as of 2 September. This initiative addresses Air Force recruiting and retention challenges and goal for increasing visibility of the service. Even though the Air Force has met its recruiting goal for last year, they are not intending to sit on their laurels. The commercials are fast moving and dynamic. Watch for them!



More military veterans will have access to a dignified final resting place closer to home, thanks to a Department of Veterans Affairs

cemetery expansion project. Over the past two years, four new VA national cemeteries opened in Saratoga, New York; Joliet, Illinois; Dallas-Fort Worth, Texas; and Cleveland, Ohio. The National Cemetery Administration [NCA] has operated VA national cemeteries since 1973 [except Arlington National Cemetery, which is operated by the Army]. NCA's strategic goal is to ensure that the burial needs of veterans are adequately met.



Gulf Middle School's Dolphin Flight in Cape Coral has completed five years of operation since its establishment. Dolphin Flight conducts Orientation Meetings for all new Gulf Middle School students. Over 30 cadets from the Lee County Composite Squadron attend these Orientation sessions. Dolphin Flight now intends to conduct a cadet boot camp, sponsorship of the County Veteran's Day Parade, training of Emergency Services Ground Teams, and cadet Orientation Flights. Dolphin Flight's Faculty Sponsor is Lt Col James K. Spieth, USAR Ret./CAP.



The 2001 Florida Wing Winter Encampment is scheduled to be held from 26 December 2000 to 1 January 2001 at Tyndall Air Force Base, just east of Panama City. Any one desirous of serving a staff position, should contact Lt Col Robert Masiker at 561-742-2849 or Major Gary S. Swigert at 561-743-7190. This encampment is being programmed to be the best one ever held. Be sure to mark your calendar!



Two wing members have regrettably experienced misfortunes. Lt Col Amy Ruth Boxwell, Florida Wing's Aerospace Education Director, experienced a stroke and is in recovery therapy at Genises Elder Care, Rm. 7, 24 Trockhouse Rd., Severna, Maryland 21146. She would love to read your cards and notes. Let's keep her in our prayers.

A fast moving fire totally destroyed the home and contents of Lt Col Harold and Harriet Teeple. The Teeple's lived in the Deland house for 14 years and they and their two dogs escaped uninjured. It took dozens of Volusia firefighters to extinguish the blaze. Investigators are studying the cause of this devastating fire. Teeple is a Group 4 Staff member.

Lt Col Henri Casenove, FLWG

POW/MIA TEAM AT SAN ANTONIO



l to r C/Capt Scott Schaefer, C/2Lt Alex Perez, Maj Ed Wasserman, C/LTC Antonio Barroso, C/TSgt Victor Berriel, Col Antonio Pineda, C/2Lt Terry Reid, C/2Lt Sarah Gebo, Maj Eileen Parker and C/Capt Phillip Belnavis

The POW/MIA Team from the West Broward Composite Squadron performed the emotional memorial ceremony in honor of our heroic war veterans who were prisoners of war or are missing in action. The team was invited to the Civil Air Patrol National Board Meeting in San Antonio, Texas by National Commander, Brig Gen James Bobick after he saw their precise and solemn presentation at the Florida Wing Conference-2000. Team Director, Major Ed Wasserman noted the team was brilliant in their presentation and there wasn't a dry eye in the huge banquet hall. The team is now training for their forthcoming trip to the National POW/MIA Conference in Washington, D.C. at the invitation of Maj Gen Bernard Loeffke, USA, Ret.

2Lt Diane Reid

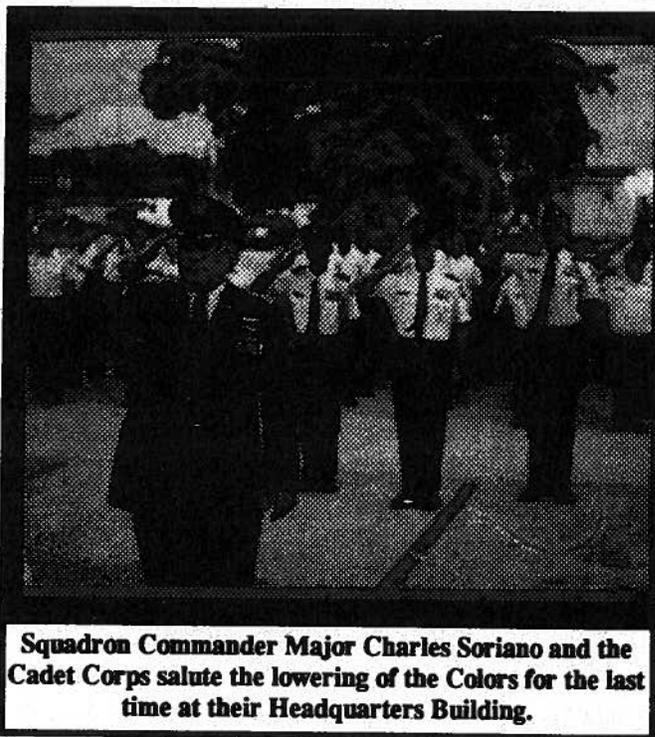
SAD DAY FOR CAP UNIT

In a somber ceremony at dusk, the honor guard slowly lowered the Colors for the last time at the headquarters of the West Broward Composite Squadron, and at least, temporarily, ended nearly five decades of Civil Air Patrol presence at North Perry Airport. Choking back his emotion, Squadron Commander Major Charles Soriano accepted the Colors from C/Capt Scott Schaefer, on behalf of the Cadet Corps.

The Colors were then officially presented to the Group

Commander, Major Gary Owen who in turn presented the Colors to the Wing Commander, represented by Major Eileen Parker, FLWG Vice Chief of Staff. Major Parker accepted the flag with the promise that it would soon fly again over a new permanent headquarters building.

The two double wide trailers donated 12 years ago for a CAP headquarters are to be demolished by



Squadron Commander Major Charles Soriano and the Cadet Corps salute the lowering of the Colors for the last time at their Headquarters Building.

the City of Pembroke Pines. The Miramar Police Benevolent Association graciously opened their own headquarters to the CAP Squadron on a temporary basis.

The decommissioning ceremony was also attended by Pembroke Pines City Commissioners William Armstrong and Ben Fiorendino and Fire Chief M.J. Conlan, and cadet parents. Each pledged their continued support to Major Soriano.

On behalf of Wing Commander, Col Antonio Pineda, the assemblage was addressed by Capt George Navarini, FLWG Director of Marketing/Public Affairs. "Though the Pembroke Pines Aviation Department is willing to lease land for a new headquarters building, five hundred thousand dollars is needed to make the dream a reality."

**Capt George Navarini, FLWG Marketing/PA
1Lt Edward Villalba, Group 6 DCP**

FLORIDA FACTS

FLORIDA WING - CIVIL AIR PATROL
U.S. AIR FORCE AUXILIARY
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MACDILL AFB, FL 33621-5208



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