



# 'Gator CAPers



Volume 25, Number 2

08001

June 1983

## Deringer Earns Spaatz Award



DETAILS  
FOLD SECTION

Photo by Capt. Fred Karl

# Incoming Mail .....



DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE  
HEADQUARTERS EASTERN SPACE AND MISSILE CENTER (AFSC)  
PATRICK AIR FORCE BASE, FLORIDA 32925

25 APR 1983

Colonel Howard Cumler  
Civil Air Patrol  
Patrick Cadet Squadron 08293  
Florida Wing Headquarters  
8850 Binnacle Way  
Orlando FL 32812

Dear Colonel Cumler

The Patrick Air Force Base General Aviation "Fly-In" held on 5 March 1983 was considered to be a tremendous success thanks to the participation of organizations such as yours. It gives the Eastern Space and Missile Center and the Air Force a great deal of satisfaction to know there are individuals and organizations that so willingly support worthwhile efforts to promote aviation safety.

The Eastern Space and Missile Center has received a great deal of praise and many positive comments from throughout the aviation community on your display/show and hope you can participate in future endeavors here at Patrick.

Again, thank you for making the "Fly-In" possible and productive.

Sincerely

MARVIN L. JONES  
Colonel, USAF  
Commander

## Spatz Colonel to Captain



Former Cadet Colonel Brian C. Reed was presented his captain's bars as a senior CAP member by the Wing Commander, Colonel Howard Cumler at Wing Headquarters on 25 May.

Reed is a senior at the University of Tampa as a political science major and a Army ROTC cadet. He will be attending ROTC Advance Training at Fort Bragg, NC this summer and will be commissioned as a Second Lieutenant in the Army in 1984.

Reed has been accepted in the Omicron Delta Kappa Society, the Pi Sigma Alpha, (National Political Science Honor Society) and received the Silver Medal ROTC Award of Merit Military Order of World Wars.



DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE  
USAF REGIONAL HOSPITAL MACOILL (TAC)  
MACDILL AIR FORCE BASE FL 33608

21 January 1983

Major Kenneth Portlock (GROUP 3)  
2823 Oakdale Dr.  
Tampa, FL 33610

Dear Major Portlock:

The West Area Special Olympics Basketball Tournament has been a tremendous success. MacDill AFB has had the pleasure of hosting this event for the past 5 years. This year we have entertained the largest number of participants and chaperones, 412 to be exact.

Overall, the games of 14 and 15 January 1983 were outstanding. All participants seemed to enjoy themselves. Most importantly, we have contributed to the welfare of these mentally handicapped people, a most rewarding endeavor.

Without the help of numerous benefactors such as you, we could not have achieved the success we did. Thank you ever so much for the important part you and CAP played not only as sign bearers during the opening parade but also for helping with the retrieval of sleeping bags. Your communication setup greatly facilitated contact between gymnasis.

Again thank you for your help.

Sincerely,

Jean B. Archambault, Col, USAF, DC  
Tournament Director



## Gator CAPers

Gator CAPers is an official magazine published quarterly in the interest of the members of the Florida Wing of Civil Air Patrol.

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Orlando, Florida 32812

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# OWN A PIECE OF THE ACTION!

Great goals call for great action! We feel we have no right to exclude any member, Senior or Cadet, from participating in Phase I of this fund raising campaign. This is our invitation to you to share in this most important endeavor.

A Five Dollar donation will buy one square foot of the Ocala site of the Florida Wing Operations and Training Center. A signed and numbered certificate, suitable for framing, will be mailed to you upon receipt of your contribution. Please accept this invitation as your opportunity to share in Florida Wing's progress and development.



CIVIL AIR PATROL  
FLORIDA WING  
OPERATIONS & TRAINING CENTER

**Yes, sign me up!** I wish to purchase \_\_\_\_\_ square feet at Five Dollars per square foot. I wish my name to appear on the deed as follows: (please print clearly)

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

(Please make check payable to Fla. Wing Building Fund)

Mail to: Fla. Wing, Building Fund, 8850 Binnacle Way, Orlando, Florida 32812

# Explorers Bring Home the Gold

By Major Joseph F. Connolly, II

Members of the Explorer Post sponsored by the 143rd Composite Squadron, Civil Air Patrol, "Central Florida's Own," competed in the 1983 Explorer Olympics recently held at the Annex to the Navy's Orlando Training Center.

Exploring is the upper division co-ed program of the Boy Scouts of America.

The Explorer Olympics is an annual event at which young men and women from across Central Florida compete in the amateur spirit of the Olympic games.

For the CAP Explorers, this was their first Explorer Olympics and they took home the gold. To be more exact — two gold medals, three silver, and one bronze medal.

Among the medal winners were:

Gold Medal (220 yard run)  
Gold Medal (440 yard run)  
Silver Medal (Discus)  
Silver Medal (Shot put)  
Silver Medal (880 yard run)  
Bronze Medal (1 mile run)

C/2nd Lt. Raul E. Valdes  
C/2nd Lt. Raul E. Valdes  
C/1st C. Ryan M. Campbell  
C/1st C. Ryan M. Campbell  
C/TSgt. Brian P. McTarsney  
C/TSgt. Brian P. McTarsney

Other participants were C/WO Vincent P. Runci, C/SSgt. Michael S. Hollis, C/1C Michael A. Therault, Cadet Bryan C. Summey, and C/B Russell G. Thies.

Satisfied with their initial effort, the eight amateur athletes intend to return next year. Only next year they intend to bring the rest of the outfit with them to participate.

# Tamiami Cadets Overcome Well-Planned Hoax

By 2nd Lt. Theresa Willingham, PAO

Tamiami Cadet Squadron's 08355 Sundown Patrols continue to be an overwhelming success, with more cadets than ever becoming skilled using CAP radios, and normal mission operations. Classes in navigation and distance-rate-time calculations have been incorporated into the weekly missions. Cadets work at estimating the aircraft's time over various checkpoints before the pilot calls in and they are frequently very accurate in using both the standard E6-B calculator and in long hand arithmetic.

Each Sundown Patrol, cadets are assigned different duties — admin., comm., briefing, debriefing, operations and flight line, while 2nd Lt. Steven Willingham presides as mission coordinator and tutor, along with several other senior members. Occasionally, the cadet's skills are put to the test, as in a recent "perfect" Sundown Patrol.

It was perfect because it was run under ideal conditions, namely from the ground and more precisely, from a next door office! What the cadets thought was an actual Sundown Patrol was in truth a well-planned, perfectly executed hoax — with no malice intended. The purpose of the phoney Sundown was to test the cadets reactions under flawless conditions, when the mission coordinator could concentrate more fully on the cadets without worrying about an aircrew's location or safety.

The "pilot" called in possible targets over the search route area on low power simplex with a shielded antennae. The cadets were even given the Coast Guard's "new" number, a number which was answered by another senior member in a phone booth. Several times the aircrew

called in boats in distress, and however suspicious, the cadets relayed the information in proper format. Upon discovering, during a general debriefing, that they'd been had, the cadets initially moaned. But after Lt. Willingham heaped on the praises for their excellent, level headed, organized work, the groans became appreciative applause for themselves and their accomplishments.

Since the cadet-oriented Sundown Patrols were initiated three months ago, more than twenty cadets who otherwise would never have had the opportunity, have become proficient in radio communications and mission operations. The Sundown Patrols will continue in their effort to train and educate cadets, and provide this much needed service for the community.

# CAP on Display At Outdoors Show

By Major Joseph Connolly, II

Central Florida's 143rd Composite Squadron, 08143 carried the CAP story to the sportsmen of this area during The Great Outdoors Show '83 at the Orlando Centroplex during 15-17 April 1983.

In addition to providing information on Civil Air Patrol, the squadron provided demonstrations on cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) to hundreds of interested visitors.

While final figures on participation in the show are not yet available, over 40,000 tickets were sold for the three day event which benefited the Central Florida Council of the Boy Scouts of America. The 143rd Composite Squadron sponsors and Explorer post and will soon be sponsoring two additional posts.

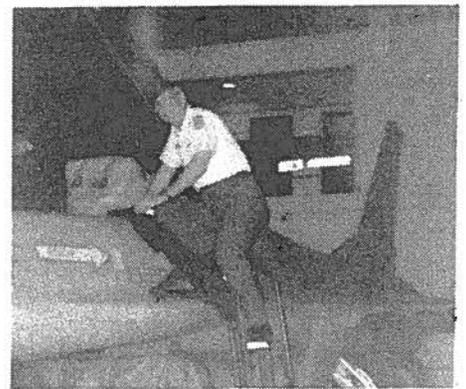
While the show is now history for 1983, the squadron has been invited to participate again next year.

# Hillsboro Squadron Tours MacDill

By Capt. George Schumacher, PAO

Hillsboro I Senior Squadron 08310 was afforded a special tour of the 72nd Tactical Wing Training Squadron at MacDill Air Force Base, Tampa, Florida. Members were accompanied by Captain Andy Dichter, USAF who explained the functions of the Training Wing, escorted the members through the flight line, and allowed members to board an F-16 Falcon used for training purposes.

Captain Dichter showed training films and gave a short talk on the selection of potential pilots and their training and how they progress through various phases during their careers in the Air Force.



Capt. Schumacher, Hillsboro I Sr. Sqdrn., gets a better view of the F-16 at MacDill AFB during special tour of the 72nd Tact Wing for the squadron.



Capt. Waldo and 2nd Lt. Farkus listen to Capt. Andy Dichter, USAF MacDill, point out features of the F-16 during Hillsboro Sr. Sqdrn. tour.



Hillsboro Sr. Sqdrn. members Waldo, Nogueira, Farkus pose with Capt. Andy Dichter, USAF in front of F-16 at MacDill AFB tour of 72nd Tact Wing.

# Koszty Selected for I.A.C.E.

By 1st Lt. Patrice Campeau, PAO Group 20

A long awaited dream after three years of diligent work and study has come true for Cadet Commander, **C/Lt. Col. Wayne Koszty**, 17, of the Naples, Florida Cadet Squadron.

Koszty was just recently presented the "Amelia Earhart Award" by **Colonel Howard Cumler, Florida Wing Commander**, at the Florida Wing Spring Conference at Tampa, and has just learned he is one of the fortunate few who has been selected to go to Europe as a winner of the I.A.C.E. He will leave for Great Britain in July.

He is really looking forward to this event for many reasons, but two of them are that he will be able to see two former Naples cadets, who are now in the service and are stationed in Great Britain.

Koszty has other goals, he was awarded a full flight scholarship from the Naples Senior Squadron for the most improved cadet and he also will receive the newest award given from this area, the **CAMPEAU AWARD**, for the cadet who exemplifies the true spirit of the Civil Air Patrol Cadet Program. This award will be given to him at the October Command Call.

When asked what he planned to do next, Koszty replied, "Why, get to work on my Spaatz test."

Koszty is enrolled at Edison College in Fort Myers for the next two years, after which he plans to transfer to a four-year institution to complete a degree in Electrical Engineering. His objective is to design computers for the military and to be an aerospace aircraft instructor.



C/Lt. Col. Wayne Koszty

Standing by the Naples Senior Squadron's Cessna 172 in which he flies weekly as an Observer on the "Sundown Patrol," is C/Lt. Col. Wayne Koszty, Cadet Commander of the Naples Cadet Squadron.

## Indian River Squadron Assists Civil Defense

By 2nd Lt. John Mintern, PAO

The newly formed Indian River Composite Squadron 08382 had an opportunity recently to turn theory into practice when they were invited by Mr. Lee Nuzie, Director of Indian River County Civil Defense, to participate in a drill mandated yearly by the U.S. Regulatory Commission simulating a nuclear disaster in which all emergency services were alerted.

The mock bomb blast at Florida Power & Light Co's nuclear power plant in St. Lucie County occurred at 6:30 p.m. on 19 January releasing a simulated cloud of radioactive materials that forced the evacuation of "victims" into Indian River County serving as "host county".

The assignment for the squadron was security of the Civil Defense H.Q., the Reception Center and Shelters. Five Senior Members and eleven cadets took part in the operation, along with the Harbor City Volunteer Ambulance Squad, Melbourne Police and Fire Departments and the American Red Cross. The operation lasted until 2:35 a.m. the following morning.

At a critique held two days after the exercise Mr. Nuzie stated that security was so tight that having left headquarters for a short period of time he was unable to get back in!

Every member of the squadron was presented with a Citation from Civil Defense by their Commanding Officer Lt. Charles Diaz.

Federal Inspectors evaluating the exercise gave excellent marks to all the local agencies involved.



Cadets assemble outside Civil Defense H.Q. prior to the start of the exercise.



C/Lt. James Booth and 2nd Lt. Joel Bille at the decontamination security check point.



Squadron Commander Lt. Charles Diaz and Indian River Civil Defense Director Lee Nuzie in the radio room during the exercise.

# ★ CADET CORNER ★

## Awards Banquet in Miramar

By Lt. Col. Tom Welch/DCP

An awards banquet was held recently in Miramar, Florida to honor 22 cadets for having completed their Phase I training. **Capt. Larry Anderson**, Officer in Charge of the Phase I Training Command School said it was the largest class he had supervised and was well pleased with the performance of the new cadets. **C/Lt. Tom Niemeyer** presented plaques to cadets **Ted Fox** and **Lance Merideth** for their outstanding work in the Phase I training. Upon graduation, each cadet was presented the Curry Ribbon and two chevrons, one for the cadet and one to be presented to each of the parents that attended.

The banquet was also held to honor the forming of a new squadron. Combining the resources of both the Hollywood Cadet and the Everglades Cadet Squadrons, the West Broward Cadet Squadron was formed. An award of a handy talkie was given to the cadet that named the new squadron. **Capt. Carla Porter** was named the Commander of the new squadron and **C/Lt. Pierre LaPorte** will serve as the new Cadet Commander. A total of 156 people attended the banquet.

**Central Brevard Composite Squadron 08122** cadets along with other Group 12 cadets recently put in two days selling programs at the recent Valiant Air Command airshow at Tico.

★ ★ ★

**St. Augustine Cadet Squadron 08173** recently went on a campout at Favar Dykes State Park. While there they attended some courses given by the Red Cross.

★ ★ ★

**The East Pasco Cadet Squadron 08317** held their first campout at the Squadron training area, located on the airport property, northeast corner.

The campout was a work/relaxation project planned and executed by the cadets under the leadership of Mr. **Leonard Lovina**, Lt. **Bernard Hejl** and **Capt. Jack McLaughlin**. Ten cadets took part.

★ ★ ★

Cadets from the **Miami Springs Optimist Cadet Squadron 08319** recently attended the 1983 Florida Wing Special Acts Board at the NTC in Orlando.

**Cadets Espino, Perez, Coxe, Ellis** and **C/Maj. Martinez** at a recent presentation received their badges for the Model Rocketry Award.

★ ★ ★

Three cadets from the **Fort Lauderdale Composite Squadron 08026** were honored

at the squadron's annual banquet held recently.

**C/2nd Lt. Darrin Wargacki** was presented the General Billy Mitchell award by **Lt. Col. Thomas Welch**, director of the Florida Wing Cadet Program.

**C/Lt. Col. Lester Dupuis** and **C/Capt. William K. McCormick** received commendations for their service to the unit from squadron commander **1st Lt. Walter Winkelmann**.

**MacDill Cadet Squadron 08089** recently promoted **Keith Brown** to **C/Airman**.

★ ★ ★

**Florida Air National Guard Composite Squadron 08383** after their recent testing and promotion period awarded the following cadets their **C/Airman** stripe. They were: **Tony Baer, Hans Baer, Doug Baker, Robert Buscher, Nick Freeman, Kelly Hicks, Bryan James, Tim Liptrap, Robert Neal, Tony Pelham, Jesse Richard, Lee Ruark, Robert Smith, Gabriel Wanamaker, David Williams, Mike Wingard** and **Steve Wood**.

Also receiving promotions were: **Cadet Carol Alexander** to **C/Sgt.** and **Cadets Robert Dilts** and **Kevin Higginbotham** to **C/WO**.

★ ★ ★

**Naples Cadet Squadron 08373** recently participated in a practice SAR mission with the Naples Senior Squadron. Most of the cadets were assigned field positions to observe the plane, but a few were given the task of guarding the flight line, and three, **C/Lt. Col. Wayne Koszty, C/TSgt. Kathy Elsaesser** and **C/SSgt. Jeanine Renne** were assigned to communications. The senior squadron praised the cadets for their efficient military services and their cooperative attitudes.

Five cadets recently participated in the Wing Special Acts Selection Board. They were **C/Lt. Col. Wayne Koszty, C/MSgt. Kathy Elsaesser, C/SSgt. Jeanine Renne, C/Sgt. Shawn Thorn** and **C/Airman Bruce Higgins**.

★ ★ ★

In an airport ceremony this past April **Cadet Sgts. Kevin Conboy**, cadet commander, and **Randell Straub**, Deputy cadet commander of **Fort Pierce Composite Squadron 08078** were honored for their solo flight. They were recipients of the James A. Callahan Memorial Flight Scholarship, an award given out every six months to one or more cadets meeting the necessary qualifications.

★ ★ ★

**Marion Oaks Cadet Squadron 08360** recently announced the promotion of **Cadet Anthony Sharp** to **C/Capt.**

★ ★ ★

Cadets from the **Lantana-Lake Worth Cadet Squadron 08054** have been volun-

teering time and effort to help the National Guard distribute surplus food and other goods to the area needy.

In return for their services, the National Guard is helping the squadron in their efforts to obtain a new and larger building.

★ ★ ★

In recent ceremonies the **Blue Max Composite Squadron** presented The Billy Mitchell Award to **William Carlson** and **C/Capt. Keith Krekel** received the Amelia Earhart Award. **Capt. Beth Leighton** made the presentations.

★ ★ ★

**Cadet Jim Davis** from the **East Duval Composite Squadron 08103** recently received an appointment to the Air Force Academy.

The following cadets successfully completed the ROP communications examination and were awarded their ROP cards: **John M. Broxson, James E. Davis, Darren L. Dickinson, David E. Dickinson, Michael S. Hiday, Steve W. Wells** and **Paul D. Wells**.

★ ★ ★

**C/WO Juan Quiros** of **Tamiami Cadet Squadron 08355** recently went to Costa Rica seeking and finally obtaining audience with the President of that country. The purpose of the trip and the meeting was to request a letter of recommendation towards **WO Quiros'** nomination to the Air Force Academy.

He has received notification from Costa Rica and is now a candidate to attend the Academy.

**C/WO Quiros** is the only such person so nominated from his country to do so.

★ ★ ★

**C/Lt. Col. John McCoy**, former member of the **West Palm Beach Cadet Squadron**, was recently initiated into the Phi Theta Kappa National Honor Society, Delta Omicron Chapter, Palm Beach Jr. College. He also received a scholarship from the Gold Coast Golf Association to assist him in his education and was selected by the Palm Beach Jr. College to the National Deans' list for 1982-83.

He is now serving as an assistant to the Florida Wing Director Cadet Programs and has been nominated to attend West Point.

★ ★ ★

**C/Lt. Stephen Parks**, of **Pompano Beach Cadet Squadron 08227** was recently chosen to command the newly-formed Junior Air Force ROTC program at the Pompano Beach High School with 142 cadets under his command.

★ ★ ★

**Anthony Sharp** of **Marion Oaks Cadet Squadron 08360** has been promoted to **C/Capt.**

# Joint Exercise — CAP Coast Guard Auxiliary

By 1st Lt. Pat Campeau, Group 20 PAO

On 23 April 1983, the Naples Coast Guard Auxiliary, Flotilla 93, and the Civil Air Patrol, Naples Senior Squadron, had a joint search and rescue (SAR) exercise from 9 a.m. to 11 a.m.

The mock search and rescue training exercise was held in the inland waterways and the Gulf of Mexico. Out of four deliberately placed "wrecks" placed by the Coast Guard Auxiliary, the Naples Corporate Aircraft, 9665H, Cessna 172, found three of the wrecks.

Participating boats from Flotilla 93 were: "Yellow Cake," Skipper John King, "Hope VII," Skipper Dick Cooper, "Blue Lagoon," Skipper Jim McFadden, and "Salty Too," Skipper Ken Monk.

It was decided to continue these training exercises in the future as it pointed up how well the two rescue organizations work together and how much each need the other.

Captain Stan Sowa is the commander of the Naples Squadron.

# Blue Max Receives Corporate Aircraft

By Lt. Shirley Krekel, PAO 08314

The Blue Max Composite Squadron of the Civil Air Patrol has received a 172 Cessna aircraft. Major William Doane, along with senior members Ross Pettit and Ned Halverson, went to the St. Petersburg-Clearwater Airport to receive the aircraft from Col. Lill, Wing Maintenance Officer.

The squadron has looked forward for several years to the day that they could obtain an aircraft. Through some hard work and donations from the Lion's Breakfast Club, Floyd Blair Aircraft and members of the squadron, they were able to get the aircraft. There is still a lot of work ahead for the squadron as they must be able to maintain the plane. The plane must be painted and the work has started on this.

Ten of the senior members are pilots. Capt. Clifford Wells is the Check Pilot for the Southeast Region of Civil Air Patrol. Capt. Wells is from Lake Placid. He will be giving all the pilots their flight checks.

Bruce Savage of the Highlands County Disaster Preparedness visited our squadron meeting and presented his program on how Civil Air Patrol may be called on to assist his organization in emergencies or disasters. A film was shown of a commercial airplane crash that happened in Miami on 29 December 1980 called "The Everglades and After." Mr. Savage has also instructed some of the squadron members in first aid classes. Now that our squadron has a plane, we will be able to take part in search and rescue missions, if called upon.

# Deringer —



C/Col. Theodore J. Deringer



Major Gen. Robert C. Taylor

Major Gen. Robert C. Taylor, deputy commander Rapid Deployment Task Force based at MacDill Air Force Base, presented Civil Air Patrol C/Col. Theodore J. Deringer the organization's Gen. Carl A. Spaatz Award in a colorful ceremony in Tampa 7 May.

Deringer is a member of Boca Raton Cadet Squadron and has been affiliated with CAP since 1978 in Kentucky.

As Gen. Taylor presented the award he said: "I think the distinctive accomplishments of this young man are obvious and it is with great pleasure that we present him this very, very high award and recognize this very senior accomplishment."

The prestigious Spaatz Award, highest obtainable in the CAP cadet program, is always presented by an Air Force or CAP general officer; by an elected state or federal official; or by a cabinet-level official.

Maj. Gen. Taylor was a guest of the Florida Wing at a banquet held at the Ramada Inn North preceding the award ceremony. Other guests included Major Gen. Daniel Callahan, USAF (Ret.); Col. Henry Spencer, National Chaplain and Ms. Mabel Nabors who recently retired from the cadet program at National Headquarters.

C/Col. Deringer after receiving his award stepped to the podium with a few words to the audience.

"When I think back to what my life was like before I joined Civil Air Patrol, and the wonderful effect that being a member has had on my life, I am really compelled to say thank you to the Civil Air Patrol.

"I would like to challenge each of you cadets to give everything you've got to the future. I could never, ever do enough to encourage those cadet members present to go all out for this award.

"Finally, I would like to thank each of you, the members of the Florida Wing, for it is through your efforts that this, the Civil Air Patrol, without exception, is the finest organization in the world."



Wildwood — pictured in the center is Lt. Col. Buck Audry - USAF, congratulating Lt. Col. Weyman Greene, CAP, for a job well done on statewide Civil Air Patrol and Civil Defense simulated mission.

The Florida Wing Mission staff personnel were headquartered at Emergency Operation Center at Wildwood for the day-long exercise. Col. Greene was Admission Coordinator. Col. Audry and his staff were the evaluators for the practice mission and gave Florida Wing excellent grading. Some two hundred Wing personnel operated out of the Brookfield Airport for the day-long exercise. The Public Affairs for the occasion was graded "outstanding" by Col. Audry on this practice. The scenario was that Florida had experienced torrential rainfall, numerous tornadoes, flooding, injuries as well as power outage.

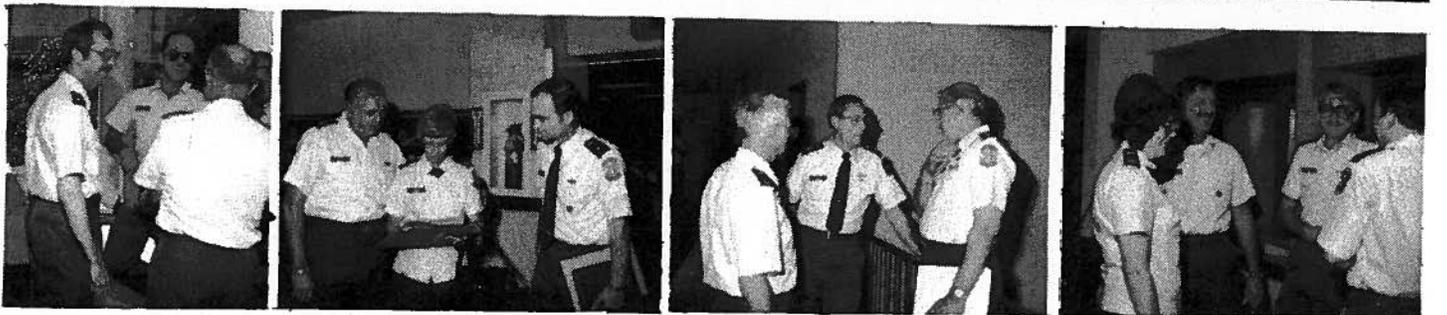
Also pictured left to right are: Ted Keith - Civil Defense Director, Sgt. Don Peters - USAF, and Charles Walters - Coordinator for Civil Defense and also Major in Civil Air Patrol. (Photo by Maj. Chet Brogan)

# PHOTO HIGHLIGHTS WING CONFERENCE 6-7 MAY, 1983



**MABEL NABORS (To whom the Wing Conference 6-7 May was dedicated.)**

Photo by Maj. Wm. Warner



(Photos by Capt. Fred Karl)

# ACROSS THE WING

## Group 2

**East Duval Composite Squadron 08103** recently presented certificates of achievement for "Introduction to Radiological Monitoring" to **2nd Lt. Alan M. Kimler** and **C/Col. David Brannon**.

★ ★ ★

## Group 3

At the recently held Group 3 Awards Banquet **1st Lt. Carlos Nogueira** was awarded Senior of the Year for Group 3. **Capt. Karl Kane** was awarded Pilot of the Year for **Hillsboro Senior Squadron 08310** and **2nd Lt. Chris Molds** was awarded Rookie of the Year.

**Helen Keene** of **Hillsboro I Senior Squadron** recently gave a First Aid course and six members received their First Aid Certificate. Also five members took part in a CPR Life Saving course held recently.

★ ★ ★

## Group 4

**Eglin Composite Squadron 08423** as a result of recruiting efforts increased their cadet membership by five cadets.

The squadron has just recently completed a communications class taught by **Major Heinrich** with all members passing.

★ ★ ★

## Group 5

**2nd Lt. Charles Bichanan** of **Palm Beach Senior Squadron 08047** has now earned his private pilot's license.

**Capt. Benjamin Meyers**, Group 5 commander, **Lt. Col. Robert Croft**, Wing Headquarters, **1st Lt. Carlos Roque**, Lantana Cadet Squadron, **C/Col. Tom Deringer** and **1st Lt. Norma Deringer** of the **Boca Raton Cadet Squadron** have passed the Aerospace Education examination.

★ ★ ★

## Group 6

**Group Headquarters Squadron 08019** will host nine British cadets and one escort 23 July through 2 August in this year's IACE program. Please contact **Captain Pfeiffer** if you can accommodate one or more of this group.

**Major Janet Deem** has joined Group 6 staff as Director of Cadet Programs. **Nancy Collop** has been assigned as assistant DCP.

**L/Col. Mike Bozzi** has been appointed Commander of **DeLand Composite Squadron 08060**.

★ ★ ★

## Group 10

**Capt. Robert Howard**, CGII and Aerospace officer for **Tamiami Cadet Squadron 08355** as well as an Accident Prevention

Specialist for the GADO 5/FAA area, recently organized the second annual TCS and FAA co-sponsored Flight Safety Seminar with both CAP and FAA representatives in attendance. The seminar was conducted with approximately 200 general aviation pilots in attendance.

★ ★ ★

## Group 11

**Major William McCoy** recently took command of **Sarasota Composite Squadron 08033**.

This past February nine senior and ten cadet members of **Charlotte County Composite Squadron 08051** went to McDill Air Force Base for a Base Orientation Mission. They were shown the Altitude Chamber and F16 Flight Simulator. Base operations and weather were the subjects in instructional lessons.

★ ★ ★

## Group 12

On 23 March, Group 12 received a request for assistance from the Red Cross via Civil Defense to provide aid after tornadoes touched down near Cocoa. Response included 15 personnel, two ground teams, nine fixed base radios and 10 mobile radios to man shelters in Cocoa.

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## Group 13

**Lt. Rodgers Aiton** turned over command of the **Gainesville Composite Squadron 08142** to **Lt. David Reiser**. Aiton will continue his involvement with the squadron as Safety Officer and Plans and Programs.

The squadron recently was invited to help in the Special Olympics held on the campus of the University of Florida. Squadron participants included **Lt.'s R. and M. Aiton, D. McManus, D. Reiser** and **A. Lin** along with cadets **B. and C. Pilkington, L. Floyd, D. Bowers, R. McGinnes, B. Thompson, P. McManus** and **L. Busby**. Responsibilities included traffic control and giving directions to out-of-town participants.

**Dr. Kirby Stewart**, Regional Coordinator indicated that the program flowed smoothly thanks to their efforts.

★ ★ ★

## Group 18

**Brooksville Senior Squadron 08301** held a promotion of officers recently. The ceremony took place at the new CAP headquarters in the Adult Education Center. The occasion also marked the first parent's night and open house for the squadron.

Promoted to Major was **Chaplain Charles Grigby**. **Lt. Brad Burris** was promoted to commander of the squadron.



**Cadet Gil Patten** of the **Central Brevard Squadron, Merritt Island**, is all smiles just minutes before taking a ride in the B-25 aircraft (pictured in the background). He was chosen for this orientation flight with the pilot **Col. Bob Martin** of **Fort Lauderdale** and his crew at the recent **Tico Air Show**. This was one of several B-25 planes that participated in the two day air show at the **Tico Airport** with many other types of aircraft which was very successful according to various officials.

There were some 30 group #12 personnel participating in the two day show selling programs. (Photo by **Maj. Chet Brogan**)

## Suggestions for Recruiting Chaplains

In an interview with Gator CAPers, **Wing Chaplain Dave Denslow** said a squadron that does not have a chaplain might try these strategies for finding one:

First, pray that a minister or rabbi who likes to fly and owns an airplane will ask if he can be allowed to join your squadron.

Second, if the first plan is slow producing results, ask your cadets to nominate their favorite preacher. Then go in uniform with two or three of your sharpest-uniformed cadets and invite the preacher to lead a moral-leadership discussion. Afterward talk with him about the CAP program and invite him to become a member.

Many ministers like to fly and would be glad to receive flight instruction if it were priced within their reach, **Denslow** said. Others would be happy if merely offered a free ride once in a while.

"A few are ground-lovers and have no use for airplanes, but would still make good chaplains for ground-support teams," the chaplain added.

The last issue of Gator CAPers carried an article appealing for pictures of some of our former Wing Commanders. I did not receive one reply. I am pleading with our membership to ask and research to help me obtain the HISTORY of our Wing. Without your help my hands are tied.



**Lt. Col. Lib Sedita**

**Lt. Col. Harold W. Ashley** lives near Gainesville and I am sure he would give us a picture if someone would contact him and explain our need for his picture.

**Col. Wright Vermilia** lived in Palm Beach area and had a son. If he could be contacted maybe he would share a picture of his father.

**Col. Bill Bass** now lives in Atlanta, GA area. If anyone could give me his correct address maybe I could write to him and obtain a picture.

On the following three I have no information. If anyone could furnish any type of information it would be appreciated: **Richard P. Robbins, Laurence Hickam, Eric Ravndal.**

Please, all members of Florida Wing, research squadron files, your 201 files and etc. for material.

Old Wing newsletters, Gator CAPers and Civil Air Patrol News have much information that could be shared for our history.

I will gladly reproduce any articles, pictures and etc. that you share for our history and return same to you on request.

Please, on pictures if at all possible, identify personnel in picture, activity and date of activity.

Thanks for all of the assistance that you have already given me. I look forward to receiving more material on our history.

Let's make it as complete as we possibly can. Send material to:

**Lt. Col. Lib Sedita**, 1660 Rochelle Pkwy., Merritt Island, FL 32952.

## Aerospace Education For The Fun Of It!

By **Lt. Col. William P. Farnham**, AE/Internal

From 6 to 10 April 1983, over 40 CAP and public school aerospace educators from Florida and Puerto Rico were privileged to fly to Las Vegas to attend the 1983 National Congress on Aerospace Education.

And what a trip that was, on a two-year-old C-130 made available and professionally crewed by members of the Mississippi Air National Guard. Some of our members began the trip with a little trepidation and wondering if a C-130 cargo aircraft could actually fly people non-stop from Orlando to Vegas. It could, and did in slightly more than seven hours. Others of us with prior military service had old memories revived of flights into forward operating zones in Vietnam with cargo as exotic as the country in which we were fighting.

In Las Vegas, most of us stayed at the Aladdin Hotel where fine facilities were available for the outstanding presentations of the National Congress on Aerospace Education. There were three days of tremendously exciting aerospace activities. The general assemblies read like a Who's Who of aviation history. **Scott Crossfield** of X-15 fame; **General Chuck Yeager**, first man to break the sound barrier in the Bell XS-1; **Colonel Francis Gabreski**, America's top living ace (31 in WWII, 6.5 in Korea); **Steve Ritchie**, the only American pilot ace of the Vietnam conflict; **Fay G. Wells**, journalist, aviatrix, and patriot; **Mary S. Feik**, author, engineer and pilot; **Dr. Paul E. Garber**, historian emeritus,

National Air and Space Museum; and **Commander John O. Creighton**, USN and NASA astronaut was scheduled to narrate live and add his special insight to the eminently successful return of Challenger on 9 April 1983.

There were many, many other outstanding individuals at the Congress from FAA, NASA, AFA, National Air and Space Museum, CAP, and the aerospace community at large. We saw sophisticated videodisc presentations, beautiful slide shows and movies. Best of all, we heard loud and clear and directly from those who were there on how it was in the days of the Wright brothers, of what's taking place now, and how it may be in the future.

When our guest lecturers had completed their presentations, we had additional opportunities for concurrent sessions with various experts on kites, model rocketry, ultralights, flying model airplanes, literature of flight, boomerangs, ballooning, lunar soil (moon rocks), laser disc, hands-on model building and more. Beyond all this, there were a number of fine organizations such as Beech, Cessna, Embry Riddle, Ninety-Nines, Republic and Rockwell who provided first-class exhibits, illustrative hand-outs and a plethora of aerospace information.

Now, if your appetite is whetted for a few, if not all, of these great aerospace education opportunities, be sure to make next year's Congress on 5-7 April in Houston, Texas. If you just can't wait that long, how about the Third Biennial World Congress on Aerospace Education (WAEO) from 10-15 July 1983 in Washington, DC? For more info on that, write: **Curtis M. Graves**, Secretary General, W.A.E.O., 8004 16th Street, N.W., Washington, DC 20012.

### Wing Editorial Deadline 12 September

Please send all editorial material to Civil Air Patrol member (designated by Wing Headquarters) by Wing editorial deadline date.

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Permit No. 533

**Gator CAPers**  
8850 Binnacle Way  
Orlando, FL 32812



Gator CAPers is the official publication of Florida Wing C.A.P. (08001)

