

Florida Wing Civil Air Patrol Newsletter



Our Mission: To serve Florida by performing homeland security and humanitarian missions for our state, develop our state's youth, and educate our citizens on the importance of air and space power.

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Commander's Message

By: Col Patrick O'Key, Commander, FL Wing



I am writing this message while cruising at 35,000 feet on my way back from Dayton Ohio where I attended the National Cadet Competition held at the Air Force Museum at Wright Patterson AFB. The Florida Wing Color Guard came in second overall in the Color Guard Competition. I am so proud of this team from the South Brevard Cadet Squadron under the leadership of Capt McSparron. These cadets showed me, and the nation, that they are focused and dedicated to this program. These are four young cadets who will go far in this program.

The Drill team from Puerto Rico scored first overall in the Drill competition. The Southeast Region scored first and second overall in the event. It's events like this that renew the reasons I belong and participate in this program. I would be remiss to not mention Maj Margarita Mesones, Director of Cadet Programs, who attended as the second escort and coach for this team. Thank you both for all you do.

The Florida Wing Conference was a success and any of you that were not able to attend, you missed a great event. Many awards were handed out and are covered in this newsletter. As I stated before, we have so much talent in this wing, and it was an honor for me to recognize those deserving individuals who go the extra mile to make this organization successful.

We are now into July and into the 2007 Hurricane season and so far have been blessed with a mild year. I continue to pray that 2007 will mirror 2006 as a below average year. I hope each and every one of you have your emergency plans in place and have a plan in place to make sure each of your fellow squadron members are safe. Sometimes forget to take care of ourselves first. Make sure your family and your home are ready for any situations that may arise.

As we progress in the Florida Wing, we are faced with many different challenges and opportunities that come to us every day. The world is changing everyday and so are our missions that we can provide. I ask each and every one of you to continue to train not only for the current ELT and AFRCC type missions, but also to learn how to operate the SDIS equipment. I would like all of you to bring a digital camera with you on all your flights and have a third member in the back seat practicing aerial photography. Learn what it takes to get a good picture from the air. During times of disaster, we often get tasked for damage assessment. With more and more Memorandums of Understanding being signed with our local counties, this capability will become more in demand.

Other activities going on are the Summer Encampment at the beautiful Camp Blanding Country Club and Resort from 2 -8 July. We are hosting four cadets for the International Air cadet Exchange (IACE) Program at the end of the month. The National Conference will be held in Atlanta 9-12 August. A note for the calendar is the National Conference will be held in Orlando August 2008. I would like to see Florida with a large attendance. The last reminder is that the Florida Wing Conference has been moved up to the end Of January 2008. It will be held at the same location due to the great rates that we have been given. A \$69 rate for January in Orlando is unheard of. All of the remodeling and construction that we were faced with this year will be done.

As always, be safe, train often, and thank you for all you do for the Florida Wing.

Patrick O'Key



USAF Rates FL Wing Outstanding!

Contributed By: 1st Lt Mark Sweitzer, Deputy Mission Information Officer

The Florida Wing Search and Rescue Evaluation (SAREVAL) mission delivered an "Outstanding" rating to the Florida Wing from the U.S. Air Force evaluation team. Eighty-one CAP personnel from around the Wing signed up for the operations commanded from Craig Field in Jacksonville on the weekend of 28 April. Eight aircraft were tasked to support the missions including three aircraft standing by in Fernandina Beach, Ormond Beach and Ocala. Also, three corporate vans and eight private vehicles were tasked for mission support. The Salvation Army provided breakfast and lunch on Saturday, and Silver State helicopters donated use of their hangar and command post from which part of the staging area operations could be run. The contributions of both were greatly appreciated.

The first mission was to send aerial photographs of the I-75 bridge over the Santa Fe River. The photos were taken during the specified time frame, and the photos were e-mailed to Tallahassee by the deadline. The ground team for the mission interviewed several witnesses and searched northern St. Johns County. Another aircraft circled overhead to provide support for the ground team. Meanwhile, a second mission concerned an ELT reported in the Mayport area, and a second ground team departed for that location. In addition, a counter drug mission was also completed.

Lt Col Gary Nelson, SAREVAL Incident Commander, spoke of the success of the IMU system managed by Lt Col Mike Brown. This was the first large scale use of the new computer system to help track

different assets and changes in the mission. Smaller tests had some problems that were resolved since it worked so well for the SAREVAL.

Lt Col Christian Moersch, FL Wing Chief of Staff for Operations and previous Commander of Group 2, was able to participate himself by flying a Counter Drug Mission that was tasked as part of the Evaluation. Maj John Edsall, recently appointed Commander of Group 2, participated as a member of the Operations Staff. Both, and Col Patrick O'Key, who was also at the event, were all very pleased with the performance of the FL Wing and Group 2 host staff.



Col Patrick O'Key



Lt Col Gary Nelson



Lt Col Christian Moersch



*Maj John Edsall,
1st Lt Daniel Woods*



EDITOR'S CORRECTION to Previous Issue

The Article "CAP Hosts Historical Society's Appraisal Faire" in the February-March issue was actually written by Lt Col Richard Niess, Public Affairs Officer of the Marco Island Composite Squadron, and pictured are Col David Gardner with Lt Col Lee Henderson on the right.

CAP Members On Their Toes For Sun 'n Fun!

By: Capt Gene Floyd, Information Officer, Sun 'n Fun Precautionary Mission

Over a hundred Cadets and Officers from around Florida Wing did their best to ensure that Sun 'n Fun stayed safe and that all aircraft were accounted for. Some arrived as early as Monday to set the whole operation in motion and the last didn't leave until a full week later. The event also provided the first test of one of the wing's new Incident Management Trailers.

Monday started off the week with a little more excitement than most cared for as an aircraft crashed nearby. While Civil Air Patrol was not involved in the initial response, they were later called out to search for a reported overdue aircraft; it wasn't until one of our members put two and two together and started making inquiries that it was realized that the crashed aircraft was the same as the one that was reported overdue.

Tuesday was pretty straightforward with nothing significant to report, but Wednesday was fairly memorable for several reasons. To start with, a Cirrus airplane that was being taxied to a parking spot lost its brakes and rather than plowing through a crowd, the pilot literally chose to ditch the airplane – in a large drainage ditch. A CAP Ground Team was on-scene and was later thanked by the Airport's Director of Operations for their assistance in controlling the crowd of curious onlookers. The cadets were very impressed by the pilot's display of heroism and quick thinking.

Wednesday afternoon, a glass-cockpit Cessna 182 and an Archer-equipped Gippsland Airvan arrived but had to be landed at nearby Plant City due to the ongoing air show at Lakeland. After the air show when the pilot ferried the aircraft to Lakeland, three cadets were allowed to travel with him in the Cessna, and on his next trip, five cadets had the unique opportunity to be among the few cadets to ever ride in an Airvan.

The remainder of the fly-in had a very tough time competing with the events of the first few days; thankfully this also meant that no further significant safety mishaps occurred. Much of the group's time was spent logging in aircraft, searching for overdue aircraft, or tracking and disabling multiple accidental Emergency Location Transmitters that had been turned on accidentally.

One notable exception to the above was on Friday night when two of the teams were dispatched to Tampa for a distress signal that had been received by the Air Force Rescue Coordination Center. The first team was unable to locate the offending signal due to the abundance of surrounding metal structures confusing the Elper and causing it to give inconsistent readings. The second team arrived in the area, and armed with a handheld scanner that was not as prone to interference, a cadet tracked the signal to its source. The owner of the beacon had thought it was dead and thanked the team profusely for letting him know that it still worked.

Saturday night was wrapped up with an event that has become somewhat of a tradition; the annual Ice Cream Social (and Swap Meet). Every year, cadets of the Air Training Corps make the long journey from their native England to Lakeland, FL to work on the flight line and for the last 4 years, the American CAP cadets have met them with gallons of ice cream and patches to trade. Gorging themselves on various flavors of ice cream and soda floats, the American and British cadets told stories, compared programs, and traded obsolete uniform items and patches. Friendships are made (and renewed for those who come back year after year) and the majority of the cadets usually report this as being their highest point of the trip.

The American and British cadets joined forces again the next morning to march in the Volunteer Parade leading out through the main area and through the campground. In spite of the early hour, hundreds of spectators and visitors turned out to cheer, wave, and in general say "Thank You" to everyone involved in helping make Sun 'n Fun a successful activity. Other accolades were received from the local Sheriff's Department, onsite Emergency Management team, and FAA Flight Services for a job well done.

To better understand the size and scope of this operation, perhaps it is best to look at some of the numbers involved:

- 113 CAP members participated with over 4,000 man/hours served
- 3,000-plus inbound aircraft were logged in by hand
- Eight Overdue aircraft were found. One had reached ALNOT stage, meaning that all airports had been notified and that a formal Search and Rescue mission was imminent
- Eight ELTs were located and silenced
- No significant safety / health issues of CAP members were reported

Sun 'n Fun depends on the participation of CAP members like you. While it is not quite on the scale of National Blue Beret at Oshkosh, WI, the value of the training received and friendships made cannot be underestimated. The Sun 'n Fun team looks forward to seeing you as a member of the team for Sun 'n Fun 2008!

For more information on Sun 'n Fun, see <http://www.sun-n-fun.org>.

Squadrons Bolster Firefighters as Wildfires Rage

By: 1st Lt Mark Sweitzer, Public Affairs Officer of Group 2

After weeks of raging in southeast Georgia, massive wildfires jumped the state line and burned into northeast Florida. Evacuations were ordered, and hundreds of firefighters rushed to the front lines to try to stop the oncoming threat. Over the radio, pleas went out to the community for donations of water, Gatorade, other drinks and snack items to help the firefighting efforts.

As part of the overwhelming community response, the Suwannee Valley Composite Squadron, the Lake City Cadet Squadron, the Gainesville Composite Squadron and Florida Wing's Group 2 combined to donate more than 100 cases of water to the firefighters. Cadets from the Suwannee Valley squadron volunteered to help load and unload the donated supplies.

On May 13, after making their third delivery, the squadron members were asked if they would mind helping sort the donated items. The goods were being stacked in a firehouse, but the sheer volume of items was starting to crowd the station. A local trucking company donated a storage trailer, but the problem was moving the water and other drinks from the station to the trailer. The distance was not far - only a couple of hundred feet - but there was a lot to move.

Five cadets and two senior members pitched in. In about three hours, they moved more than 600 cases or about seven tons of donated water. The firefighters at the station were very appreciative as they were coming and going on regular runs while their partners were up at the fire lines.

Squadron Cruiser Shows in Regatta

By: Lt Col Richard Niess, Public Affairs Officer, Marco Island Composite Squadron

Every April on Marco Island, Florida the Sailing Association of Marco Island (SAMI) conducts the Bud Light Regatta for charity. The regatta is sponsored by the local Budweiser Distributor with support from West Marine and Publix Super Market in the area. Lt Col Lee Henderson, Commander of the Marco Island CAP Composite Squadron and Vice Commodore of SAMI, acknowledged that the Regatta traditionally benefits both the Marco Island CAP Composite Squadron and the local Coast Guard Auxiliary Flotilla.

This year the Squadron entered a boat and crew. Capt Ken Bardon's *Moonbeam*, an Island Packet 485, was entered in the true cruising class with an all CAP crew. "It seemed a fun thing to do", Capt Bardon explained "I don't normally participate in these races, but because the Marco Squadron wanted a flagship, they talked me into it. And you know what? I had so much fun I'm going to do it again next year."

Capt Bob Dohm, one of the Marco Island CAP Squadron Crew, said "We entered as a team, the CAP team, and we had never sailed together before. We had six aircraft pilots in the cockpit, which is never a good thing. You have six very strong opinions. But we had a wonderful time." The CAP Crew consisted of Capt Ken Bardon, 1st Lt Cindy Dohm, Capt Bob Dohm, Lt Col Lee Henderson, Capt Dave Walsh, Lt Col Dick Wakefield and 2^d Lt Bronwen McKiever.

Cadets Present Colors at Lincoln Day Dinner

By: Capt Corey S. Halaychik, Commander Orlando Composite Squadron

On 20 June, the color guard from the Orlando Composite Squadron presented the United States and Florida flags during the Orange County Florida Republican Party's 2007 Lincoln Day Dinner. The Dinner is the primary fundraiser for the Orange County Republican Party and provides an opportunity for local, state and national political leaders to mingle and speak to supporters.

The theme for this year's dinner was "A Salute to Veterans" and the color guard received a warm welcome from the large crowd of veterans and patriotic citizens in attendance. The cadets also had an opportunity to listen to the stories of several veterans and discuss possible future careers in the military over dinner.

The highlight of the evening was when key note speaker Senator John McCain took the stage to personally thank the veterans in attendance, discuss his own military experiences and share his vision for the future of the nation. As the evening came to a close Senator McCain took some time to greet the attendees, including spending a few moments talking to the members of the color guard and thanking them for their service.



From L to R - C/A1C Michael Garavuso, Senator John McCain, C/2d Lt Rhett Semko, C/SrA Brett LaMarca and C/MSgt Joseph Del Rosario.

Group 4 Praised After Air Show Tragedy

By: 1st Lt Matthew Congrove, Group 4 Public Affairs Officer

At the March 16th air show sponsored by the Valiant Warbird Museum in Titusville, which supports restoration of historic combat airplanes, senior members and cadets were tasked with providing crowd and traffic control for the air show. Maj John Kachenmeister, Group 4 headquarters, was CAP officer-in-charge at the event.

During the second air show act, tragedy struck when an L-39 Albatross went into a high 'paper clip' loop. The Albatross, piloted by Eilon Krugman-Kadi, a former Israeli fighter pilot, did not have enough altitude to come out of the dive and disappeared behind trees on the opposite side of the runway. "For a moment, I hoped he would pull out and reappear," Kachenmeister said. "Then I saw the fireball, and I realized that the pilot had gone west."

Fire trucks were initially unable to reach the crash site, in a thickly wooded area. The air show coordinator asked for a helicopter to fly over the crash site and direct emergency personnel. The only helicopters ready to take off were part of a static display from the Canadian Forces. The Canadian crew immediately said they would assist, and began their starting checklist.

Maj Kachenmeister directed the cadets and an officer to establish a 100-foot clear zone around the Canadian helicopter, keeping spectators out of the area and policing for debris that would be blown around by the rotor wash. The team reacted well, keeping calm and giving clear, direct orders to the crowd for both the departure and the return.



Perhaps the highest praise came from the Canadian Forces pilot, who thanked Kachenmeister for CAP's assistance. "We could not have taken off safely without the quick action of your people," he said. Bubba Stitt, air show security coordinator, also praised CAP's response. "You guys are real lifesavers," Stitt said. "I don't know what we would have done without you guys on Friday."

Assisting in the launch were C/2d Lt Jessica Femia, C/SSgt Savannah Austin, C/SrA K. Graham Austin and Sr Mbr Johnny Curtis, all of the Patrick Composite Squadron. Maj Tony Wood of the Patrick squadron and Capt Scott Martin, Group 4 commander, also assisted in directing the crowd after the crash.

Another officer who was on crowd control duty during the accident, 2^d Lt Terry Andrews of the Central Brevard Senior Squadron, was notified by the Federal Aviation Administration that the video he took of the accident is playing a key role in the National Transportation Safety Board's investigation. "It's great to know that I'm helping with the investigation," Andrews said, "but the circumstances which brought this about are incredibly tragic."

See the full article at

http://www.cap.gov/visitors/news/cap_news_online/index.cfm?fuseaction=display&nodeID=6192&newsID=2899&year=2007&month=3

Squadron Successful Using Child Find Training

By: Capt Rick Peters, Commander of Lake City Cadet Squadron

Lake City Cadet Squadron members staffing the squadron's fund-raising and public relations tent at Lake City's annual festival surrounding the historical re-enactment of the Battle of Olustee, the second largest Civil War re-enactment in the U.S., found themselves called to duty when a young girl became separated from her mother. Festival organizers approached Sr Mbr Sherry Peters for assistance from CAP when the girl was reported lost. Assisted by 2^d Lt Kenny Williams, Peters quickly briefed the cadets on the child's name and description, divided them into two-person teams with radios, and directed them to designated search areas. Aided by their experience and training in the Civil Air Patrol Child Find test program, the cadets quickly conducted their searches and reunited the young child with her mother within 30 minutes of being contacted.

The Child Find program is being "test-piloted" by the Florida Wing's Lake City Cadet Squadron and the Homestead Cadet Squadron. The program is being developed to give CAP the ability to supply fully trained teams to assist local law enforcement in locating young, missing children. It is also adaptable to search for the missing elderly.

See the full article at

http://www.cap.gov/visitors/news/cap_news_online/index.cfm?fuseaction=display&nodeID=6192&newsID=2899&year=2007&month=3

Squadron Receives National Citation

By: *Lindsay Downey, Lake City Reporter Journalist*

The Lake City Cadet Squadron of the Civil Air Patrol was formed in 2005 but it already has been lauded nationally by receiving the Civil Air Patrol's Unit Citation Award. "For an individual squadron to have earned the Unit Citation Award so early in the unit's history is almost unprecedented," Florida Wing historian Roger Thomas wrote in a congratulatory e-mail to the squadron. "I don't know of any unit ever to have earned such high recognition in as short a time frame. It is the highest unit award in CAP and given very sparingly." The Lake City squadron is the first Florida squadron to win the Unit Citation Award since 2004, Squadron Commander Capt. Rick Peters said.

During its first year of service, the Lake City Cadet Squadron has participated in a variety of community service projects. It collected more than six pallets of school supplies for members of the military who worked to rebuild schools in Afghanistan. The squadron collected more than 1,500 pounds of canned goods for local food banks. The cadets are appreciative of the award but they feel that serving the community is their duty. "They've just been...almost humbled by it because, to them, this is what they should be doing," Peters said.

See the full article at <http://www.lakecityreporter.com/articles/2007/05/15/news/local/news04.txt>



Front row: Cadets Altmix, Paul, Hasert, Palmer, Hillard, Russell. Back Row: Cadets Peters, Paul, Perry, Johnston, Falleck, Perla. Officers (far right): Group 2 Commander Maj John Edsall, Squadron Commander Capt Rick Peters.

Group 5 Holds First Ground School

By: *Maj Lee Wedlake, Deputy Commander of Group 5*

Group Five held its first-ever cadet aviation ground school the week of 11-15 June in Sarasota. LTC Fran Gloeckler, Group Five commander, coordinated the event with the help of several Group Five members and the Sarasota Military Academy. Fourteen Group Five cadets from Marco Island, Naples, Ft. Myers, Port Charlotte, and Sarasota attended the school.

Cadets were exposed to the entire Jeppesen ground school program over five days. The classroom activity included lectures, video presentations, group problem-solving, ATC simulations, team competition in solving aircraft performance problems from the FAA test book, study hall time, and movies. They watched *Kitty Hawk*, about the Wright Brothers, and a NOVA program entitled "*Battle of the X Planes*", which was extra exciting for the cadets as the Boeing X-35 in the show had been test flown by the previous day's instructor "Rowdy" Yates, who had taught them aerodynamics.

Three stage exams and a final exam were administered over the five days. Those scoring over 70% on the final had their logbooks endorsed to take the FAA private pilot knowledge exam, and one took his FAA test on graduation day and passed. The wing commander, Col. Pat O'Key, granted a flight scholarship for use in CAP aircraft to the cadet with the highest score on the FAA exam submitted within 60 days of class end (15 July). The winner of the scholarship will be announced. Two of the cadets in the class had already soloed and grabbed this opportunity to get the knowledge exam out of the way.

The flight instructors who volunteered their time to teach the course were Capt Alan Davis, commander of the Naples Senior Squadron, Capt Phil "Rowdy" Yates, a former Navy test pilot and CAP member, Lt Col Dick Petrucci of the Sarasota Composite Squadron who acted as Chief Instructor, and Group Five deputy commander, Major Lee Wedlake, who was the school director. Capt Peter Baker and Capt Roger Borg were also scheduled to teach. Maj Lea Ann Curry was the nurse officer, and Lt Col Gloeckler spent the entire event at the school to facilitate activities. Other CAP members and volunteer parents contributed time and effort to make the school run smoothly, as did the staff at Sarasota Military Academy, where the headmaster, Dan Kennedy is a CAP member. The ground school was funded by donations raised by Lt Col Virginia Cullity, who donated the proceeds of her efforts to Group Five, the dollar amount being around \$1600.

Cadet Arraya Earns Spaatz Award

Cadet Juan Arraya from FL243 has earned Spaatz Award #1629. The Gen Carl A. Spaatz Award is the highest award a cadet can earn. Please take the time to congratulate C/Col Arraya.

Pictured from left to right are Lt Col Stephen Governale, C/Col Juan Arraya, Maj Eugene Olson at the pinning on of Cadet Arraya's diamonds!!!



Congratulations to Cadets

New 2007-2008 Florida Wing Cadet Advisory Council

Chairperson: C/Capt Samonas
Vice-Chair: C/Capt George Sterner
Recorder: C/Capt Jack Miller

FL Wing Academic Competition

"The 8th Annual Florida Wing Academic Competition was held June 9th at the Florida Wing Cadet Conference. 13 teams competed for the LtCol Tom Welch Academic Trophy. The academic competition format was a single-elimination panel quiz tournament. Teams were quizzed on aerospace, leadership, chain-of-command, drill & ceremonies, and general knowledge questions.

The winners were C/Maj Troy Odierno, C/Capt Alex Sage, and C/SRA Julio Villalta from the Coral Springs Cadet Squadron. Teams from Miramar High School Cadet Squadron placed 2nd and Lantana Cadet Squadron placed 3rd. Congratulations to all the participants!"

Florida Wing and Southeast Region Color Guard

The Southeast Region Color Guard from South Brevard Cadet Squadron has placed second at the 2007 National Cadet Competition at Wright Patterson AFB in Dayton, Ohio on 28 June - 2 July 2007. CONGRATULATIONS !!!

Florida Wing Drill Team

Congratulations to the Florida Wing Drill Team for placing 3rd at the Southeast Region Competition. We look forward to taking home the Southeast Region Drill Team trophy next year!! A special thanks to the members of Group 9 for their outstanding support.

FL Wing Conference a Success

By: Capt Terrance P Power, Director of Marketing and Public Relations, Florida Wing

Over 350 members of the Florida Wing are scheduled to attend the 2007 Florida Wing Conference at the Disney Grovesenior Resort in Orlando on 8-10 June. The event, historically one of the largest Wing Conferences in the country, draws Civil Air Patrol members from across the entire state for education, recognition, and social interaction with their fellow 'volunteers for America'.

Florida Wing Commander Colonel Patrick O'Key was 'very pleased at the turnout' for the event, and expressed his sincere thanks to all the conference planning committee members in setting up a terrific agenda and handling the meeting logistics for the weekend.

On Friday morning, Moral Leadership Officer and Chaplain training events kicked off the weekend's busy schedule followed by a desert reception. Saturday's events included workshops on topics ranging from Public Affairs to Unit Finance Management. The banquet was enjoyed by everyone on Saturday evening. The conference wrapped up on Sunday morning with a 'town hall' event with Wing Command Staff. The feedback from the members for the conference was "outstanding".



Watching Shuttle Departure



Col Skiba, Lt Col Moersch, Gen Pineda, Lt Col Bedgood, Col Rushing



Col O'Key and Col Levitch, presiding



Col Levitch relinquishing SER Colors, Col Rushing accepting SER colors from Gen Pineda



Col Hodgkins, CAP-USAF National Commander, and Col O'Key at Town Meeting



Lt Col Varsames, Col Levitch, Col O'Key, Gen Pineda, Col Rushing, Col Hodgkins, Mr Rowland

Cadet Academic competition



Lt Col Nelson, Gen Pineda, Capt Stritch



Florida Wing Conference 8-10 June 2007

Presentations at Florida Wing Conference

Group of Distinction
Group of Merit
Cadet Squadron of Distinction
Cadet Squadron of Merit
Composite Squadron of Distinction
Composite Squadron of Merit
Senior Squadron of Distinction
Senior Squadron of Merit
Group Commander of Distinction
Group Commander of Distinction

Group 5
Group 2
Coral Springs Cadet Squadron
Naples Cadet Squadron
Jacksonville Composite Squadron
Charlotte County Composite Squadron
Naples Senior Squadron
Fernandina Senior Squadron
Lt Col John Varsames
Lt Col Chris Moersch

Senior Member of the Year
Safety Officer of the Year
Counter Drug Officer of the Year
Public Affairs Officer of the Year
Cadet Programs Officer of the Year
Moral Leadership Officer of the Year
Chaplain of the Year
Col Casenove Communicator of the Year
Aerospace Education Officer Of the Year
Aerospace Education Squadron of the Year
Col Bob Owens Award
Lt Col Ross & Elizabeth Sedita Award
Parent Support Award
Parent Support Award
Dedicated Service
Dedicated Service

Lt Col Virginia Cullity
Maj Mike Banner
Capt John Lawler
1st Lt Matthew Congrove
Capt Christian Campbell
Capt Lee Powell
Chaplain Lt Col Terry Jordan
Lt Col Guy Rasmussen
1st Lt Mitch Drucker
Coral Springs Cadet
C/Capt John Samonas
Lt Col Fran Gleockler
2d Lt Robin Sheaks
Marina Anderson
Lt Col John Lynn
Amy Andrickson

Circle of Excellence
Circle of Excellence

Lt Col Mac McConnell
1st Lt Gail Swanson
2d Lt Angela Marino
Lt Col Robert Miller
Maj Michael Godwin
Maj Debra Grimes
Maj Crist Fellman
Capt Chris Campbell
Capt Kevin McSparron
1st Lt Mark Suggs
Capt Edithgail Miller
1st Lt David Leach
Maj Nicholas Sacco
1st Lt Tom Miller
Lt Col Thomas Trammell
Lt Col George Erkes
Maj Bob Dunlop
Maj Kathleen Foy
Capt Lea Ann Curry

Presentations at Florida Wing Conference, cont.

Commander's Commendation	1st Lt Joanne Carbana	Wing Cadet Competition
Commander's Commendation	Capt Edithgail Miller	Wing Cadet Competition
Commander's Commendation	1st Lt Caesar Carbana	Wing Cadet Competition
Commander's Commendation	Maj Nick Sacco	Wing Cadet Competition
Commander's Commendation	Cadet Jenna McCord	Wing Cadet Competition
Commander's Commendation	1st Lt Tommy Miller	Wing Cadet Competition
Commander's Commendation	1st Lt Len Goellner	Sun 'n Fun
Commander's Commendation	Maj George Barker	Sun 'n Fun
Commander's Commendation	1st Lt David Uzzle	Sun 'n Fun
Commander's Commendation	Maj Russ Loomis	Sun 'n Fun
Commander's Commendation	Lt Col Russ Jacobsma	Sun 'n Fun
Commander's Commendation	Maj Lewis McMullen	Sun 'n Fun
Commander's Commendation	Capt Brainard Harris	Sun 'n Fun
Commander's Commendation	2d Lt Jim Bendickson	Sun 'n Fun
Commander's Commendation	Gene Floyd	Sun 'n Fun
Commander's Commendation	Cadet Jared Shari	Sun 'n Fun
Commander's Commendation	1st Lt Eileen Tonkinson	Gator CAPers
Commander's Commendation	Maj Bill Woody	Safety
Commander's Commendation	Maj Sergio Seoane	Assistance with encampment

Exceptional Service Award	Capt Milton Kaletta	Outstanding squadron commander
Exceptional Service Award	Mike Marino	C4 - Miami and Montgomery
Exceptional Service Award	Lt Col Bruce McConnell	Compliance Inspection
Exceptional Service Award	1st Lt Gail Swanson	Compliance Inspection

Meritorious Service Award	Maj Mike Cook	Search and Rescue Evaluation
Meritorious Service Award	Lt Col Gary Nelson	Search and Rescue Evaluation
Meritorious Service Award	Lt Col Chris Moersch	Performance as Group Commander
Meritorious Service Award	Col Eileen Parker	Service to FL Wing
Meritorious Service Award	Maj Tom Carson	Service to FL Wing

Certificates of Appreciation	Maj Mike Goblet	Sun 'n Fun
Certificates of Appreciation	SM Dan Helderman	Sun 'n Fun
Certificates of Appreciation	Cadet Andrew Harris	Sun 'n Fun
Certificates of Appreciation	Cadet Lauren Harris	Sun 'n Fun
Certificates of Appreciation	1st Lt Gene Dernbach	Sun 'n Fun
Certificates of Appreciation	SM Dorette Cermeno	Sun 'n Fun
Certificates of Appreciation	Lt Col Linda Pugsley	Sun 'n Fun
Certificates of Appreciation	Lt Col Chris Moersch	Sun 'n Fun

CONGRATULATIONS TO ALL !!!

Cadet Awards

Gen. Carl A. Spaatz Award

- Juan C. Arraya

Gen. Ira C. Eaker Award

- Katelyn M. Baird
- Dirk Deville
- Thomas B. Lynch
- Manuel Pelati
- Michael J. Staples

Amelia Earhart Award

- Joshua B. Anderson
- Joshua A. Baber
- Andrea V. Batista
- Ryan J. Cason
- J. Matt Clark
- Christine M. Colbert
- George J. Johnson
- Matthew A. Keyes
- Liam J. Lloyd
- Donald C. Lodge-Maragh
- Jenna E. McCord
- Jack M. Miller
- Mario L. Pozo
- Meagan A. Puchala
- Jonathan C. Samonas
- George A. Sterner

Gen Billy Mitchell Award

- Kenneth C. Bradford
- Katherine Z. Ching
- Andrew C. Dunn
- Jessica C. Femia
- Nathan A. Hanbury
- Joshua T. Hinson
- Antonio Jurado
- Michael A. Lima
- James R. Rodman
- Juan M. Romero Jr.
- Rhett S. Semko
- John T. Skaggs
- Kayla A. Weber
- Brandon L. Wicklander

Officer Awards

Gill Robb Wilson Award

- Col Patrick S. O'Key
- Lt Col John V. V. Vredenburgh

Paul E Garber Award

- Maj John D. Fako
- Lt Col John V. V. Vredenburgh
- Lt Col Laurence E. Wilson
- Maj William A. Woody

Grover Loening Award

- Capt Christian A. Campbell
- Maj Randall J. Cason
- Maj Ronald W. Hady
- Capt Timothy R. Medeiros
- Maj Nicholas C. Sacco

Gen Benjamin O Davis Award

- 1st Lt Jeffrey P. Carlson
- Maj Randall J. Cason
- 1st Lt Cynthia C. Dohm
- 1st Lt Lawrence P. Flory
- Capt David P. Harper
- Capt Gary D. Hinkle
- Capt Michael A. Levine
- 1st Lt Carmen N. Marty
- Capt Timothy R. Medeiros
- 1st Lt Mark A Puchala
- 1st Lt Frank R. Rodman
- 1st Lt Andrew Jonathon Wilson

Recent Officer Promotions

Lt Col Leon Frank

Lt Col Linda Pugsley

Lt Col Thomas Rubino

Lt Col Josef Weiss

Maj Randall Cason

Maj Karl Cohen

Maj Robert Crowling

Maj Lea Curry

Maj Morrell Deen

Maj Elmer Dickson

Maj Michael Ernst

Maj Brett Gordon

Maj Ronald Hady

Maj David Lubor

Maj Scott Martin

Maj Ramon Palacio

Maj Lawrence Pius

Maj Glenn Powers

Maj J Ratliff

Maj Marcos Rodriguez

Maj Keith Shewbart

In Memoriam

Capt William Morris Groover, Florida Wing Headquarters

CAP Participates in Florida Parent-Educators Convention

By: Maj Linda E. Trimpey, Florida Schools Group (GP 800)

The U.S. Civil Air Patrol Florida Wing Florida Schools Group operated a booth at the Florida Parent-Educators Assn (FPEA) Convention in Orlando, Florida 24-26 May 2007 at the new Rosen Shingle Creek Resort. Almost 15,500 people attended this Convention, and an estimated 750 of them visited the CAP booth. CAP cadets and officers informed booth visitors about CAP and helped them to find the nearest unit from the FL WG Unit Directory. They informed families with children too young to join CAP about Aerospace Education Membership. Maj Alec McCleod, Air Force Academy Liaison Officer, advised Convention attendees about the AFA for nearly two hours on Saturday



Photo by C/Maj Mitchell Campbell, Naples Cadet Squadron

In the accompanying photo, a homeschool student at the Convention tries to touch Naples Cadet Squadron member C/CMSgt Michael Campbell's finger while wearing the Fatal Vision goggles that simulate DUI (Driving Under the Influence). Another student watching the action wonders if she'll be able to "pass the test". Other Convention attendees learn about Newton's laws of motion and the law of gravity while launching Alka-Fuji rockets and receive information about CAP and the location of the unit nearest to them from Lt Col Vivian Olson, Pinellas Senior Squadron, and other CAP members.

CAP assisted the FPEA by providing "guard duty" for exits from the Children's Program, unloaded vendor display materials and moved them to the booths, and performed color guard ceremonies for the Friday morning keynote meeting and the Saturday evening graduation ceremony.

Pam Venezia, the Convention Director, said that the CAP assistance was as "wonderful as always", and many of the attendees commented that they were "overwhelmed by the polished manners and professionalism of the cadets". Maj Linda Trimpey, GP 800 CC, and C/Capt Chelsea Weiss, Central Florida Composite Squadron C/Executive Officer, were the CAP Commander and C/Commander, respectively, for this activity.

See the full story at <http://flwa.us/database/database/news.asp?action=print&article=477&cateaorv>

Wanted: Artists and Geeks

Objective: We want to redesign this newsletter, *Gator CAPers*, 1) to better reflect the image, style and theme of the Florida Wing, U. S. Civil Air Patrol and 2) to enable a more efficient production and distribution of it.

Graphic Artists: We are looking for a new design for the newsletter that will include the first, inner and last page templates. The design should be compatible with the Florida Wing website <http://www.flwg.us> and be attractive to readers of all ages and interests within CAP, external organizations, governmental agencies and the general public. The design should be efficient for use in electronic as well as printed format. If you would like to submit a design, please contact the Editor (below) for additional information and requirements. You will be given credit for your design in the newsletter.

Software Advisors: There are a myriad of publishing programs available to produce the newsletter, convert it to an Adobe format and distribute it electronically. We are looking for advisors to help assess how to most efficiently and economically produce and distribute it. This will probably require an initial discussion and possibly some support during the implementation of the new procedures. If you can offer advice in this area, please contact the Editor (below). Acknowledgement for your participation will be given in the newsletter.

Contact the Editor: 1st Lt Eileen Tonkinson at <mailto:etonkinson@flwg.us> or 386-677-5740.

Aviation Medical Exams – What and Why

By: *Maj Sergio B. Seoane, M.D., FL Wing Medical Officer*

The term Aviation Medical Examiner (AME) and Flight Surgeon (FS) are used interchangeably with the AME referring to civilian aviation and FS referring to military aviation. Approximately 450,000 applications for airman medical certification are received and processed each year by the FAA. The vast majority of medical examinations conducted in connection with these applications are performed by physicians in private practice who have been designated to represent the FAA for this purpose. An Examiner is a designated representative of the FAA Administrator with important duties and responsibilities. The FAA offers civilian training programs for the position of Aviation Medical Examiner (AME) through seminars throughout the U.S. and through formal on-site training at the Civil Aviation Medicine Institute (CAMI) in Oklahoma City.

It would be foolish to fly in an aircraft that is not airworthy, and it would be foolish to fly as, or with, a pilot who is medically compromised. Any person acting as pilot-in-command or other required crew member of an aircraft (except for free balloons, gliders, and ultralights) must hold a current and appropriate FAA medical certificate. There are three classes of airman medical certificate:

- First Class - Airline Transport Pilot
- Second Class - Commercial Pilot; Flight Engineer; Flight Navigator; or Air Traffic Control
- Third Class - Private Pilot, Recreational Pilot, or Student Pilot

With the advent of powered flight at the beginning of the 20th century, there grew a need for the selection of those who wished to fly. The high losses of life due to physically unqualified pilots during World War II drove physiologic research, and this



resulted in the many technologic advances that enabled man's ability to function in an increasingly hostile environment such as pressure suits and requiring supplemental oxygen. After World War II the technologic advances were applied to the airline industry, then rapid increases in aircrew numbers led to expansion into civilian aviation medicine.

The Flight Surgeon is the "natural interface between the practice of medicine, the science of safety, and the profession of aviation". Man is an earth-bound creature who must have protection to enter the hostile environment of atmospheric or space flight. Flight surgeons practice Preventive Medicine first and foremost. The goal of the Flight Surgeon is the promotion of aviation safety to decrease the potential for aircraft accidents by searching for those problems which compromise safety in the air and in the workplace. The Flight Surgeon medically screens the Aviator and aircrew and performs maintenance of the aircrew to include vaccinations, annual health maintenance including visual and dental checkups; and employs preventive and occupational medicine skills to "keep 'em flying".

Members Laud Psychological First Aid Training

By: *Lt Col David Moseley, Commander of Lake Composite Squadron*

Capt Michael Warwicke and Lt Col David Moseley of the Lake Composite Squadron continued their professional training in Psychological First Aid recently at the local hospital. The highly qualified and experienced instructors explained with very impressive examples that even as prepared as the professionals who respond to disasters are supposed to be, some counselors break down as they listen to victims recounting the horrors they experienced. The lesson is to "Know yourself, your limitations and prepare before deployment."

Students receive an excellent Psychological First Aid Manual containing forms that can be used to help with basic steps to help disasters survivors. It gives hints of who needs to be referred to more professional help. Free classes and are taught nationwide and are available to CAP members wishing more professional training. Contact the Post Traumatic Stress Disorder National Center at <http://www.ncptsd.va.gov> or the Child Traumatic Stress Network at <http://www.nctsn.org> for information.

Calendar

See Complete FL Wing Calendar at <http://flwg.us/database/calendar.asp>

- 2-8 Jul 07 Summer Encampment, Camp Blanding, FL
- 7-8 Jul 07 Professional Development Weekend, Patrick AFB
- 27-29 Jul 07 Color Guard Academy, Avon Park, FL
- 27-29 Jul 07 Drill Team Academy, Avon Park, FL
- 28 Jul 07 So FL Response Zone Response Team Leader Course starts, Pompano Beach
- 8-11 Aug 07 CAP National Board Meeting and Conference, Atlanta, GA
- 1-2 Sept 07 So FL Response Zone Ground Team Challenge, Big Cypress National Park
- 9 Oct 07 So FL Response Zone DOT First Responder Course starts, Hollywood
- 25-27 Jan 08 FL Wing Conference, Grosvenor Resort, Orlando, FL

Reports Due from Squadrons:

Monthly:

- 5th Flight Release Logs
- 5th AEO Periodic Update
- 10th Senior Training
- 10th Vehicle Usage
- 20th Operations Monthly Activity
- 7/1 Wing CAC Representatives
- 7/1 List of Authorized FROs
- 8/5 AE Excellence Award
- 8/15 DDR End of Year
- 8/15 - DDR Initiatives Program Application

Florida Wing Web
<http://flwg.us>
Southeast Region Web
<http://ser.cap.gov>
National Web
<http://cap.gov>

Gator CAPers is published every two to three months, depending upon activity schedules, and distributed electronically to members of the Florida Wing Civil Air Patrol and to others upon request. The distribution uses the FL Wing member's primary e-mail contact address in the CAP National Headquarters in Member Search. Squadron Commanders should print at least one copy to have it available for members who do not receive it electronically. Find this and previous newsletters on the Florida Wing website at <http://flwg.us>.

Send comments about the newsletter and requests to be added to the distribution list to the Editor at <mailto:GatorCAPers@flwg.us>.

Submit articles and information for publication in the newsletter to <mailto:FLCAPArticles@flwg.us> or submit them to the squadron or group Public Affairs Officer.

Gator CAPers

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Postage

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