



# 'Gator CAPers



Volume 24, Number 1

08001

March, 1983

## British Cadets Visit Orlando

by Capt. Jay Underwood, CAP Wing PAO IACE Project

Cadets from Britain's Air Training Corps visited Florida as part of the International Air Cadet Exchange program from 24 July to 3 August.

Their visit began with an orientation flight in the central Florida area provided by pilots from West Orange Composite and Orlando Cadet Squadrons. On that same afternoon cadets of West Orange Composite Squadron hosted IACE cadets at a picnic at Jetty Park near Cocoa Beach to get to know their British counterparts and even showed them how to play American football.

The nine cadets and their escort stayed in the homes of CAP host families in the Orlando area which made for easy access to central Florida attractions toured by the cadets such as Walt Disney World and Sea World. During their stay the IACE cadets also went on excursions to Daytona Beach, St. Augustine, Patrick Air Force Base and Kennedy Space Center. Some cadets took advantage of a chance to try water skiing on the area lakes in their free time in spite of references to "trolling for alligators."

At the farewell banquet held on the last evening of their stay, cadets and their host families expressed their sadness that the tour had to end and planned to stay in

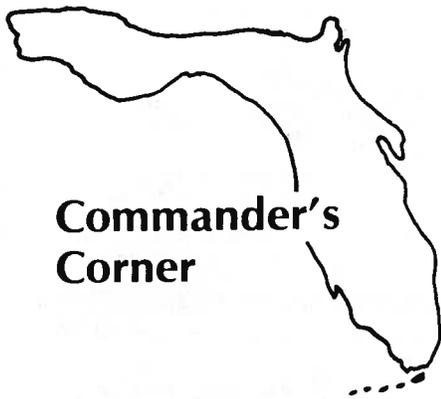
touch with each other.

Their visit here was sponsored by Civil Air Patrol as part of the International Air Cadet Exchange, a program promoting goodwill and friendship among young people having a common interest in aviation. Each year an exchange of cadets is conducted by Civil Air Patrol and organizations such as aero clubs and national Air Force academies. Participating organizations in each country sponsor and provide visiting cadets with sightseeing trips, tours of aerospace industries and museums, airports and Air Force installations, orientation and training flights in gliders and powered aircraft, and visits in host families' homes. □



(First Row, left to right) British Cadet Martin Coady is greeted by Florida Wing Commander Col. Howard Cumler on arrival . . . L/Col. Richard Read, USAF Liaison Officer and Col. Cumler in assembly area . . . Capt. Jay Underwood briefs Cadets.  
(Second Row) Cadets at briefing at airport, Mayor Bill Frederick of Orlando greets Cadets at City Hall, British IACE Cadets Paul Cawthron, Richard Bligh and David Cullen along with RAF Flight Lt. Jim Dixon are shown the route of an orientation flight in central Florida.  
(Third Row) British IACE Cadets Matthew Arnold and Richard Bligh view the NASA tracking vessel Hoyt S. Vandenberg at Port Canaveral, Florida Cadets show IACE Cadets what football is all about; British Cadets Martin Coady, Paul Cawthorn, Julian Ings, Richard Bligh, Simon Braithwaite and David Cullen try out an Orlando, Florida police car.

(Photos by Capt. Fred Karl and Capt. Jay Underwood)



## Commander's Corner

Howard R. Cumler, COL, CAP  
Commander, Florida Wing

### Manage Change—Or It Will Manage Us

An armchair philosopher once defined progress as "the activity of today and the assurance of tomorrow." What is missing from this definition is the fact that without change there could be no progress.

Over the past months, the Florida Wing has undergone significant change. In fact, 1982 was one of the most active periods in recent years. Taking a slightly broader point of view, we remain in a watershed era in which the key changes already initiated — and those yet to come — will greatly alter our look over the long term.

Let's stop for a moment and take stock of the results of all these changes thus far:

We see a Florida Wing that is stronger with more active members even though our membership is lower than in June 1981.

We see a Florida Wing that is better prepared to assume its proper position as a leader in the nation because of its training programs, its recruiting programs, and its dedicated members.

We see a Florida Wing that continues to invest its assets in vehicles and aircraft, a modernization program to update the fleet, and a maintenance program that will have that fleet ready to support our Search and Rescue mission.

We see a Florida Wing that is eager and able to accept the challenges of improving programs, increasing membership, and strengthening units.

Perhaps change can best be appreciated by taking the long-term view. There are many ways in which the Florida Wing is different now than it was four years ago. Four years from now the difference will be equally striking.

We must, however, have the capability to respond to the Civil Air Patrol mission and the needs of our members. We must utilize our resources — both members and equipment — or expect to lose them to units with the desire to use them to meet and intent and guidelines of the Civil Air Patrol program and its objectives.

I believe that instead of shrinking from change and allowing it to manage us, we must seek it out and learn to manage it. By doing so we control our destiny rather than just being aboard for the ride.

### Alice Holmes Award

This award will not be presented at the Special Acts Banquet this year. Due to the confusion between the Outstanding Cadet Award and the Alice Holmes Award, the Alice Holmes Award will be presented at the Florida Wing Conference in May. There is no Criteria for this award, all that is needed is a letter from the unit commander recommending a female in your unit for the award.

Basically, the award is presented to some female Cadet in the Wing who has done something outstanding in her unit, her community, her school, or has shown exceptional progress in the Cadet Program. It does not have to be an officer — it can be a "DOOLIE." Look over the accomplishments of your females and send me a letter telling me what she has done.

**DEADLINE FOR THE LETTERS:**

1 APRIL 1983

### Outstanding Parent Award

CADETS, if you would like to have your parents receive a nice BIG plaque for helping you through your Cadet Career, send me a letter telling me about how they have helped you and what they have done to make your career in CAP in little better — furnishing transportation when needed, helping out with your uniforms, supplying a few extra bucks for some activity, whatever, let me know about it and we will have the pleasure of meeting them at the Wing Conference in May and present them with a nice plaque for their efforts.

**DEADLINE FOR THE LETTERS:**

1 APRIL 1983

### Modified Cadet Program Optional

By Lt. Col. Thomas C. Welch,  
Director Cadet Programs

Col. Howard R. Cumler, Commander, Florida Wing, has announced that effective 1 July 1982 the MODIFIED CADET PROGRAM will be OPTIONAL.

New applicants who meet the grooming standard may wear the 1550 uniform and fatigues upon becoming members. Those who do not wish to comply may wear the jumpsuit until they elect to meet the grooming standard.

It was further announced that Cadets on completion of the THIRD (3rd) achievement may also go into the 1550 uniform as long as they elect to meet the grooming standard. Cadets who do not elect to meet the grooming standard may stay in the jumpsuit, however, they cannot progress further in the Cadet Program until they

meet the grooming standard and go into the 1550 uniform.

General David L. Patton, Executive Director of Civil Air Patrol, announced at a Wing Commander's Call, Civil Air Patrol will wear the uniform properly and those who don't have other options. Civil Air Patrol is the only organization privileged to wear the Air Force Uniform and it is our responsibility to wear it properly.

Strict adherence to the proper wearing of the uniform will be mandatory and all Cadets will be required to meet the requirements. Cadets who are in violation will be told to remove their uniform until they comply with the requirements. It is the duty of the Senior Members working with Cadets to also meet the uniform requirements and monitor the Cadet uniforms.

I am fortunate in having on my staff interested Senior and Cadet members who will be visiting units throughout the wing. They will be there to help you and answer questions you might have concerning the Cadet Program. They will also be looking at uniforms and make recommendations to the unit commanders and also to me for further actions as needed.

All of us should be proud of the fact that we are an auxiliary of the Air Force, and to be a part of the greatest peace-keeping force the world has known. Although we are a volunteer organization, as long as we are members it is our responsibility to abide by the rules and regulations that have governed our organization for the past forty years.



### Gator CAPers

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

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## Higher Authority



By Major Dave Denslow, CAP

Reports for the first half of 1982 are in. One of the most valuable jobs a Chaplain does is conduct moral-leadership discussions. Group Six, with Maj. Harry U. Criss as Group Commander and Lt. Col. Leslie Cooper and Maj. William C. Seitz as Group Chaplains, reported 43 such discussions. Group Three, under Cpt. Portlock, Commander, and Lt. Col. Luther Baker, Chaplain, was second with 32. The individual Chaplain who led the most moral-leadership discussions was Cpt. S. Edward Johnson of the Orlando Cadet Squadron, with 12.

One measure of the amount of effort a Chaplain puts into his work is the number of hours he spends at the task. Group Six led with 444 hours reported, and Group Twenty, under Lt. Col. Robert B. Kuhn, Commander, and Cpt. Joe Weaver, Chaplain, was next, with 414 hours. The individual Squadron Chaplain who worked the most hours was Dennis Burton of Sq. 08373, Naples, with 282 hours. Chaplain Emeritus George Rennard of Tampa, who was Wing Chaplain through May 1, put in 447 hours.

These figures come from reports submitted by 72 of the squadrons in Florida Wing. 45 Chaplains reported, and 27 Unit Commanders or Educational Officers reported. Several of these reports arrived after the wing report had already been mailed to National Headquarters. Our report to National showed that Florida Chaplains attended 583 meetings, conducted 341 interviews or consultations, led 160 moral-leadership discussions, made 147 visits to homes or units, conducted 68 religious services, took part in 365 promotional activities, showed 12 films, made 86 staff visits, and took part in 13 other activities (flying, hospital visits, providing music, etc.), spending 3,399 hours in volunteer service to Civil Air Patrol. To appreciate the vastness of Civil Air Patrol's service, realize that for every Chaplain, there are fifteen or more other dedicated volunteers giving their time and money. Multiply 3,399 hours by 15 and you see that at least 50,985 hours were given in Florida alone during the first half of 1982. And this is a conservative estimate.

Cpt. Billy R. Glidewell of Bradenton deserves special commendation for serving as Chaplain at the ECCSS Encampment, and writing an excellent evaluation with recommendations which will help Chaplains at future encampments.

Our prayers are with you as you work through the second half of 1982.

## Warner Honored at National Board

For the second time in less than a calendar year, Capt. William G. Warner, former Florida Wing PAO has been honored by special mention at the National Board meeting and presented with a Cross Ball Pen in recognition of outstanding performance. Warner has held the staff position as Wing PAO on two separate occasions, but is now Assistant Plans & Programs Officer with emphasis on publicizing special events hosted by Florida Wing.

During his recent tenure the Florida Wing Public Affairs Office earned an "Outstanding" rating by the Southeast Region/Air Force Inspection Team.

Warner's new assignment will permit him to select outstanding and dependable PAO's in various areas to assist him in publicizing Wing Functions, such as Conferences, Commander's Calls, etc. He also stated (quote) "I wish to personally thank every Unit PAO for their support and dedication. They really earned the award for me, I was merely the instrument by which the Inspection Team was made aware of the cooperation on their part. My thanks to each and every Unit PAO in Florida Wing for their support."

## "Strong Outstanding"

By Maj. Cheryl S. Miller, CAP  
Mission Public Affairs Officer

"A Strong OUTSTANDING." That's how Florida rated, according to Lt. Col. Roger Shaw, USAF Southeast Region Liaison Officer, in the 1982 SARTEST conducted at Jim Taylor Field, Ocala, on 23 and 24 October 1982.

When the Florida Wing Commander, Col. Howard Cumler, heard these words, his expression was: "How sweet it is!!" There was immediate applause and well-deserved pats on the backs of the 168 dedicated Civil Air Patrol members who attended.

The unexpected cold, wet weather on Saturday did not dampen any spirits. In fact, the SARTEST Mission Coordinator, Lt. Col. Donald Cunningham, was praised by the Air Force Evaluation Team for the strong start shown by his mission staff that day. Col. Shaw went on to say that this SARTEST evidenced the most professional mission coordination overall that he had seen in a long time.

Sunday's portion of the mission proved outstanding as well. A record-breaking number of members, including 70 trainees, participated while eight corporate and three private aircraft flew eight sorties, and coordinated with six ground teams. Comparing the 129 in attendance on Sunday with the 168 present on Saturday gave a 75% return ratio to be proud of.

"Dedicated to you" was the song for this mission, as Lt. Col. Charles Cox, Florida Wing Director of Operations told M/Sgt. Larry McGlashan, the Liaison Officer NCO

for the Wing, who is said to be retiring early next year. The OUTSTANDING rating was special in many ways to the Wing and also to Sgt. McGlashan, who helped experience that rating, but also worked hard with Lt. Col. Dick Read, the Wing LO, in prior coordination of the SARTEST with the Air Force.

The success of the SARTEST is measured in many ways beyond the rating as well. The teamwork, positive attitude and commitment to duties well performed by all made the experience and memory a lasting one.



Aircrew members departing flight line: L/Col. Clayton Miller, Capt. William Heinrich and Capt. Ed DeMiller, both observers.



C/ILL Darin Hopkins inside communications van working radio.



L/R — Conference at SAR test: L/Col. Richard Read, USAF LO for Fla. Wing; M/Sgt. Larry McGlashan, LO Noncom (to whom the mission was dedicated); L/Col. Bill Archer, Mission Base officer; L/Col. Donald Cunningham SAR test MC; Capt. Jim Levinson, Mission Data officer.



L/R — L/Col. Weyman Greene, Asst. MC; L/Col. Donald Cunningham, Mission Coordinator; Capt. James Levinson and Col. Howard Cumler, Flight Line officer and Fla. Wing Commander.

(Photos by Major Cheryl Miller, Mission PAO)

# ★ CADET CORNER ★



(Photo by Major Chet Brogan)

## Cadet Receives Highest Award

In recent ceremonies held at Patrick AFB Officers Club, **C/Col. John R. O'Neill** received the highest award in Civil Air Patrol's Cadet Program. He is shown being presented the award by the guest speaker, retired Air Force **Major General Titus Hall** of Palm Bay, Florida. O'Neill, 18, graduated from Satellite High School in Satellite Beach, Florida, and is currently attending the USAF Academy Preparatory School at Colorado Springs.

He was selected to receive the General Carl A. Spaatz Award for his outstanding achievements as a Civil Air Patrol Cadet at the Patrick AFB Squadron. He first joined the CAP Cadet Program in March 1977 in Middletown, Rhode Island. He was Squadron Commander of the Newport Composite Squadron, Patrick AFB Squadron, and the AFJROTC at Satellite High School.

**C/1st Lt. William J. Kern** of the MacDill Cadet Squadron recently was awarded the Radio Operators Certificate of Proficiency. The award of this certificate represents a high degree of personal endeavour and proficiency in the CAP communications program.

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**C/1st Lt. R. Montefu** of Tampa Cadet Squadron recently was promoted to C/Captain.

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**Cadet David Tennant** of the North Tampa Cadet Squadron recently received promotion to C/1C and **Cadet Francisco Rugete** was promoted to C/MSgt. Also **Cadet Andrea Fossa** to C/1C, **Carlos Rusaly** to C/2C, **Melvin Dalrymple** to C/WO and **Francisco Rusete** also to C/WO.

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In the McCoy Cadet Squadron, **C/1st Lt. Don McTarsney** recently completed the Squadron Leadership School held in Orlando. **C/1st Lt. Craig Rader** has been promoted to Operations Officer.

**C/SSgt. Mike Weiss** of the Seminole Cadet Squadron soloed this past year. He has been a member of the Squadron for one year. Mike's father, Mitch, is a mission pilot in the Squadron.

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**C/Col. John O'Neill** of the Patrick Cadet Squadron recently passed the requirements for the Spaatz Award. He is now attending the U.S. Air Force Academy Prep School. Congratulations John.

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In the East Duval Cadet Squadron the following members received promotions: **Wayne Higginbotham, C/2nd Lt.**; **Gary Nelson, C/WO**; **Darren Dickinson, C/Sgt.**; **John Maloy, C/1C**; **Mike Stickler, C/Sgt.** and **Paul Wells, C/Sgt.** Also the welcome mat was put out for new members to the Squadron. They are **C/IA Jeff Goldberg** who transferred from the Washington DC area, **C/Sgt. James Dishman** who transferred from St. Augustine Comp. Squadron.

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The MacDill Cadet Squadron had two Cadets earn the Earhart Award recently. They are **C/Capt. Les Preston** and **C/Capt. Kathy Chambers**. Also the following Cadets received promotions. **C/1C Matt Kelley, C/2C Michael Woehlert, C/2C David Hines, C/Sgt. Michelle Warner, C/Sgt. Tom Dusold, C/SSgt. Natalie Buda, C/SSgt. John Young, C/TSgt. Ruth Brisbin, C/MSgt. Ruth Ann Stone, C/MSgt. Kim Gray, C/MSgt. Chris Robinson, C/MSgt. John Koffron, C/WO John McDermott, C/1st Lt. Mike Preston, C/Capt. Kathy**

**Chambers, C/Capt. Les Preston.**

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**Cadet Matt Sharkey** of the Seminole Cadet Squadron recently was promoted to C/1st Lt., and **Cadet Dennis Smith** was promoted to C/WO.

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MacDill Cadet Squadron had five Cadets that participated in Special Activities offered through Florida Wing in 1982. **C/Capt. Les Preston** attended Air Force Academy Survival School in Colorado Springs, Colorado and the Para Rescue Jump Orientation Course at Fort Knox, Kentucky, where he served as Cadet Commander. **C/WO John McDermott** also attended the Para Rescue Jump Orientation Course at Fort Knox. While in Kentucky he served as Supply Officer. McDermott also attended the Solo Encampment at Homestead AFB, Florida, along with **C/2nd Lt. Eric Savelle**. **C/1st Lt. Michael Preston** attended Water Survival Training at Homestead AFB along with **C/SSgt. John Young**. **C/2nd Lt. Eric Savelle** and **C/WO John McDermott** earned their solo wings while at the encampment.

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Patrick Cadet Squadron recently hosted an Orientation Seminar on U.S. Air Force Pararescue techniques. **S/Sgt. John Smith** of Patrick's Det. 15, 39th Aerospace Rescue and Recovery Wing, gave an impressive orientation on the mission and history of the Aerospace Rescue and Recovery Service. He pointed out that the missions of ARRS and CAP are similar and that some incidents involve close cooperation and coordination between the two search and rescue organizations. He has further volunteered his professional services in helping train a CAP ground rescue team at the Patrick Cadet Squadron.

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At a recent awards night three Cadets of the Marion Oaks Cadet Squadron received several awards. **Lt. Col. Fred Hess**, Deputy Chief of Staff for the Congressional Squadron presented the Earhart Award to **C/Capt. John Holloway**. Hess also presented Billy Mitchell awards to **C/2nd Lts. Jose Perez, Jr.** and **Anthony Sharp**. Group 13 Commander **Major Leff Holloway** presented **C/2nd Lt. Anthony Sharp** his solo wings which he earned recently at Homestead AFB.

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**C/Major Michael Durovick** of Tamiami Cadet Squadron recently received notification of candidacy for the Air Force Academy in Colorado. **Cadet Durovick** has completed a number of achievements, among them his recent solo at the Florida Wing Solo Encampment at Homestead AFB and his achievement of the Earhart Award.

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## ★ CADET CORNER ★

Tamiami Cadet Squadron recently sponsored a safety seminar with the generous support of the FAA's GADO 5 at Miami-Dade Community College's Aviation Department along with members of the National Transportation Safety Board who offered their services. In April the Department of Transportation will be aiding Tamiami Cadet Squadron in a "Super Safety" Seminar with speeches and presentations planned for an estimated 2,000 participants.

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C/MSgt. **Jeanine Jones** has become the seventh Cadet in the Tamiami Squadron to earn a solo scholarship.

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C/Capt. **Susan Prine** of the Manatee Composite Squadron recently was awarded the coveted Amelia Earhart Award at the graduation exercises of the ECCSS encampment at the U.S. Naval Training Center at Orlando. She is a senior at Bradenton Christian School and both of her parents have served as Commanders of the local Squadron.

## Pavone Receives Medic Alert Foundation Award

Captain **Elaine Marie Pavone**, who is an Emergency Medical Technician and a member of the Seminole Cadet Squadron, 08116, Civil Air Patrol, has been awarded the "Medic Alert Foundation Outstanding Volunteer for 1982." This award was given in recognition for assistance rendered during the Medic Alert Week activities for April 1982. The purpose of Medic Alert Week is to promote citizen awareness and participation in the program to alert others of life-threatening conditions.

**Pavone** has been a member of the Civil Air Patrol since June 1975 and has participated in numerous missions both actual and simulated. She has also conducted training in Aircraft Injury Management and Evacuation Techniques. **Pavone** is currently enrolled in the Nursing Program at Seminole Community College, and plans on a career in Aviation Emergency Medicine.

## Gators' Seniors Assist Fire Dept.

By 2nd Lt. **Tim Williams**

Seven members of the Gators' Senior Squadron Florida Wing, Group 17, 08334, were instrumental in preventing a major disaster in the Pinellas Park, Florida area on the Labor Day holiday. Captain **Richard Collins** assisted by 1st Lt. **Tim Gannuccelli**, 2nd Lt. **Rick Dorritie**, 2nd Lt. **Tim Williams**, 2nd Lt. **Jerry Davis**, 2nd Lt. **John Babson**, and SM **J. R. Oliver** were called to help the Fire Department when a 10,000 gallon Pro-

pane Tanker developed a leak at about eight in the evening. The Gators stood by to aid in evacuation and as the situation progressed to carry fuel to the fire engines that sprayed over a million gallons of water on the leaky tanker. Pinellas Park Fire Chief **Ken Cramer** was quoted as saying "Well done Gators, we were in a bind and you really helped us out." The site was secured about 2 a.m. with no injuries.

## 10,000 Islands Search & Rescue

By 1st Lt. **Patricia Campeau**

Recently, the Coast Guard, Coast Guard Auxiliary, the Sheriff's Dept. and the Civil Air Patrol cooperated splendidly in a joint effort to rescue a man and his two sons from the treacherous waters of the Ten Thousand Islands off the Gulf of Mexico in the remote area of Collier County, Florida.

**John Austin** and his two sons, who were reported overdue, left the boat ramp at Isle of Capri for an all-day fishing trip. It was stated they were in a small outboard without a canopy, a limited supply of water and food as they only expected to be out for a few hours. Their anchor was only 10 lbs. as they did not intend to go out into the Gulf, but hug the shoreline and fish near Cape Romano. It was understood that they had 30 gallons of gasoline.

Mrs. **Chris Austin**, wife and mother, anxiously called the Civil Air Patrol early the next day to ask for our help. She had already notified the Coast Guard at Fort Myers Beach, but because she had been told by her husband that they were not going in the Gulf, she asked us for a "shoreline and inland waterway" search that the Coast Guard are not allowed to do. Immediately, Lt. Col. **Ed Campeau**, Communications Officer, called the Collier County Sheriff's office to ask their Marine Patrol Officer to request from Scott Air Force Base a mission number. The mission number was assigned to us (4-720-A) and the word passed to the Naples Senior Squadron 08023 and to the Marco Senior Squadron 08376, to ready their two planes, a Cessna 172 and a Cherokee, and to bring in their air crews.

This was done and the Naples plane flew down to Marco Island for a "strategy" planning session. The flights went into action, with Naples Senior Squadron covering the coast and inland waterways down to Marco and Marco Senior Squadron covering south to the Monroe County Line. Search and Rescue patterns were made all day, with the two planes returning to their bases at dark.

The planes were serviced and new crews were alerted to take off at dawn to continue the search. The family had been lost now going into the third day. The Naples Senior Squadron PAO called the wife, **Chris Austin**, to give her support and encouragement.

At 2200 hours the Mission Coordinator

called Lt. Col. **Campeau** to inform him that the Coast Guard had requested Scott to take the Civil Air Patrol off the search as they were convinced that the lost family were out in the Gulf!

Early the next morning, an Everglades National Park seaplane on its regular routine check around the park, spotted the family on the shores of one of the small mangrove islands near a deserted park ranger tower. They were directly in the search pattern that Lt. Col. **Ed Day** and **Alex Fields** had planned to search! Everyone was very happy that they were rescued and in pretty good shape.

As a result of this SAR, the Group Commander contacted the Coast Guard and the Coast Guard Auxiliaries in this area to have some joint practice exercises.

These organizations, whose purpose is to rescue and save lives, the same as the Civil Air Patrol, should meet and realize how much we need them and how much they need us! As a result, we will have a joint exercise in the fall.

## Lee County Find

By 1st Lt. **Chuck Collins**

Shortly after 12 a.m. Sunday, 28 November 1982, an instructor pilot and his student pilot enroute from MacDill Air Force Base to Opa Locka, FL, via LaBelle contacted Fort Myers Flight Service. The pilot reported that he was flying at 500 ft. and had developed engine trouble and would have to put the plane down. The pilot requested a Radar Finding, however, his altitude was too low. Last radio contact was made shortly after midnight.

Fort Myers Flight Service Center contacted the Air Force Rescue and Recovery Mission Center at Scott Air Force Base in Illinois who contacted Mission Coordinator Lt. Col. **Mel Weiser**. Fort Myers Composite Squadron 08040 was alerted.

The first mission sortie departed from Page Field at approx. 7 a.m. at the first daybreak. A second mission sortie departed shortly thereafter.

At approx. 8 a.m. a CAP aircraft from the Fort Myers Squadron with pilot Lt. **Carl Peltzer** and observer Lt. **Doug Minnick** of Cape Coral spotted the wreckage of the small aircraft 15 miles northeast of Fort Myers.

The plane then directed a ground rescue team to the house where the pilot and his student were located.

The ground rescue team then transported the men to Fort Myers. Both pilot and his student were uninjured.

Squadrons from Collier and Charlotte Counties also participated in the mission.

*Too Many Newspapers  
At Your House?  
Leave This One  
In A Public Place  
As A Recruiting Aid.*

# ACROSS THE WING



## Group 3

**Hillsboro I Senior Squadron, 08310** participated in a Mission Training Exercise conducted by Group 17, St. Petersburg, on 24 July.

Hillsboro I flew three private aircraft and the Corporate aircraft, plus Observers and ground support personnel to Albert Whitted Airport, Mission Headquarters. The Training Mission included an ELT search in one area and down aircraft in other areas.

Personnel from Hillsboro also took training for Mission Support and Control Staff jobs.

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**Headquarters Group 3, 08032** provided Orientation Flights for sixteen Cadets on 14 August 1982, at Vandenberg Airport.

## Group 5

**Group 5, 08020** Civil Air Patrol which commands squadrons from West Palm Beach to South Miami, concluded a two day practice mission this PM. The operation was under the control of **Lt. Col. Robert Croft**, Florida Wing Special Assignments Officer. A scenario in which two small airplanes supposedly crashed in mid-air southwest of Palm Beach sent airplanes and ground personnel into action.

At the Palm Beach County Airpark in Lantana, Air Force observers were present and at the search's conclusion, rated the unit's performance as excellent.

The American Red Cross local headquarters provided food for the mission's personnel, thereby avoiding delays in the function of the 52 persons involved. Seven airplanes flew 14 sorties of approximately two hours duration throughout the event.

## Group 6

Members of **West Orange Composite Squadron, 08353**, participated in a Florida Wing Squadron Staff School held at MacDill AFB on 28 and 29 August. Some members were there as students and some served as school staff. Squadron commander **Capt. Richard Brinkman** served as the commandant of students for the school. **Second Lieutenant Windy Brinkman** served as school administrative officer and **Capt. Jay Underwood** served as the instructor for the communications officer course.

Attending the school as students were **2nd Lt. Chris Gilbert** who received a certificate in operations and **C/Ssgt. Allen Smith** who received a certificate in Cadet programs.

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**Capt. Jay Underwood** will be serving as Wing Communications Training Officer. He will be assisting the Training section at Sq. Leadership Schools and Sq. Staff Schools in furthering Communications

training. This will be in addition to his duties in West Orange Composite Sq., 08353.

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Cadets and senior members of **West Orange Composite Squadron** spent a busy Labor Day weekend. On Sunday, 5 September, eleven squadron members assisted the local Muscular Dystrophy Association in the operation of the annual Jerry Lewis Telethon to raise money for research to prevent muscular diseases. The members provided crowd control, served as message couriers, and answered telephones at the telethon which appeared locally on station WESH TV (Channel 2) serving the Orlando-Daytona Beach area of central Florida.

The next day, Labor Day, found two squadron members, **2nd Lt. Mark Brunton**, squadron deputy commander for Cadets and **C/Airman Kathi Madden** on WFTV (Channel 9) during a break in the morning Dialing for Dollars movie where they briefly described the CAP Cadet program.

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**M/Sgt. Marvin Lane**, AFJROTC Instructor at Deland Sr. High School was promoted to the rank of Captain in the Civil Air Patrol at ceremonies held on 12 May. **Sgt. Lane** is the Aerospace Education officer for the **Deland Composite Sqdn. 08060**.

## Group 10

Congratulations: to **Major Kitty Markham** who has been elected as an associate member of the Daedalians, Jabara Flite #31. **Major Markham** is the first female member to be given this honor in the United States.

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SAR — Search and Rescue: Group SAR was recently held at North Perry Airport. It brought together over 100 participants the first day and 60 the second. There were over 20 vehicles, 11 aircraft and over 20 hours were flown on searches. The exercise went very well, with **Lt. Col. Read** and **Capt. Blair**, USAF, observing and training throughout the weekend.

## Group 11

**S/Sgt. Glenn Dieball** the **United States Air Force** recruiter from Manatee County was a guest speaker at the regular meeting of the **Sarasota Composite Squadron, 08033** recently. He talked to the Cadets of incentives, the delayed enlistment program and the importance of a high school education. Also the benefits of completing the Civil Air Patrol Cadet program before enlisting into the United States Air Force.

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**Sarasota Composite Squadron**, volunteered to give a helping hand to Manatee County REACT over the 4th of July holi-

day weekend. The 81 hour Coffee Safety Break ran from Friday until Monday midnight. The volunteers served hot dogs, doughnuts, soft drinks, and numerous cups of coffee. They also manned CB radios giving out local information, plus highway and driving conditions to motorists.

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There have been several changes in command at the **Sarasota Composite Squadron**. **Captain Shirley Tulacz** replaced **Major William McCoy** as the new Deputy Commander for seniors. The new Cadet Commander is **C/Lt. Col. Sharon Beane**, replacing **C/Lt. Col. Rick Cowgill**, who will be leaving for the service this summer.

★ ★ ★

The **Sarasota Composite Squadron, 08033**, had two seniors and four cadets graduate from the Cadet Command Staff School which was held recently at the Orlando Naval Training Center. **Captain Shirley Tulacz** and **Captain Thomas Trammell** held the positions of instructors during the encampment. A breakfast banquet was held at the NCO Club to honor the graduates: **Lt. Col. Sharon Beane**, **W/O Will Roberts**, **W/O Johnnie Johnson**, and **M/Sgt. Melinda Cowgill**.

★ ★ ★

There were 10 cadets from the **Sarasota Composite Squadron** who attended the Orlando Naval Training Center Summer Encampment held from 10-18 July, 1982. Orientation flights were one of the scheduled activities. In attendance were: **Lt. Col. Sharon Beane**, **W/O Will Roberts**, **W/O Johnnie Johnson**, **M/Sgt. Melinda Cowgill**, **M/Sgt. Robert Sutton**, **C/Amn. Richard Saunders**, **C/A1C Eric Zimmerman**, **T/Sgt. Brian Haddix**, **C/B Robert Todd**, also **Captain Shirley Tulacz**.

★ ★ ★

A one day bivouac was held this past year for the members of the **Sarasota Composite Squadron** at the Hi Hat Ranch. **2nd Lt. Bob Zimmerman** senior in charge, along with 15 Cadets enjoyed the day with model rocketry, rappelling, and an obstacle course, just some of the activities on their schedule.

## Group 17

**Group 17, 08346**, Florida Wing hosted the recent SAR training weekend at Albert Whitted Airport in St. Petersburg, Florida.

★ ★ ★

Group 17 Florida Wing hosted the Aerial Radiological Monitoring Training in St. Petersburg, FL. Fifteen more persons are now qualified as Aerial Radiological Monitors.

★ ★ ★

# From Bulletin

## Cadet Competition

The Florida Wing Cadet Competition will be held at the Naval Training Center, Orlando, FL on 20-21-22 May 1983. Any squadron or group with enough cadets to form a drill team may apply. To apply send a letter of intent and a registration fee of \$25.00 for the team and \$25.00 for each member, to arrive not later than 30 April 1983 at Cadet Programs, 3010 N.E. 13th Terrace, Pompano Beach, FL 33064. □

## Cadet Advisory Council

The Florida Wing Cadet Advisory Council will hold a meeting at the Wing Conference on 6-7-8 May 1983. All Squadron and Group CAB chairpersons be sure you are assigned on 2a's if you wish to participate in the voting of any question that may come before the council. CAPF 2a's must be in the Cadet Programs Office 30 days prior to the meeting. The following cadet officers have been appointed to the Wing Council: **C/LTC Gregory K. Williams**, Chairman; **C/LTC Michael P. McLaughlin**, Vice Chairman; **C/LTC Joel Henzera**, Recorder. □

## Florida Wing Conference

The twentieth Annual Wing Conference will be held 6-7-8 May 1983 at the Ramada Inn of Tampa, North. The hotel rates for CAP members will be \$32.00 single, \$39.00 twin double and \$5.00 for extra person plus sales tax. For reservations for this special rate phone A/C 813/933-1192. If you need additional information contact **Capt. Ann Archer**, Sparrow 85, phone A/C 305/987-8048, mail to 4409 S.W. 34th Terrace, Ft. Lauderdale, FL 33312. □

## Inspections

The Wing Inspectors and Staff will conduct the annual inspection of Groups on the following dates:

Group 1	11 June 83
Group 2	14 Oct 83
Group 3	22 Aug 83
Group 4	11 June 83
Group 5	22 June 83
Group 6	2 Apr 83
Group 10	21 Dec 83
Group 11	27 Feb 83
Group 12	23 Jan 83
Group 13	23 Jan 83
Group 15	18 Apr 83
Group 17	4 Dec 83
Group 18	20 Feb 83
Group 20	9 Jul 83

## Aerospace Education

Mr. **Ken Perkins**, Director of Aerospace Education and **LTC Roger Dodd**, Director of Training for CAP-USAF, SELR have offered to give a two day seminar for senior members interested in taking the test for the Aerospace Education Program for Se-

nior Members (AEPSM). The AEPSM test will be administered following the classroom sessions. There will be a seating limitation of 35, so apply early. The seminar will be held at Wing HQ, Orlando, FL starting at 0800 23 April 83 and continuing through 16:30 Sunday, 24 April 83, with a possible evening session on Saturday. There will be no charge for the seminar, but the following requirements must be met. The senior member's unit must have an AEO assigned and must have ordered the AEPSM test packet (see Florida Operating Instruction 280-1). Attendees must bring the **Aerospace — the Challenge** text and the related **Study Guide** for the AEPSM. To apply submit a CAPF-17 to **Ray S. Taylor**, MAJ CAP, 3114 Cocos Rd., Tampa, FL 33618. □

## Headquarters Senior Who?

By Lt. Joel Katz

Just a few short weeks ago, I was asked which Squadron I was assigned to, and when I told this fellow 2nd Lt. that I was the PA/IO for Headquarters Senior Squadron, he had a very puzzled look on his face. We started a discussion about CAP, and my unusual Squadron, and he stated that after being in the Florida Wing for over three years he never heard of us. I then went to another Lt., and asked her if she had any knowledge of our Squadron, and her reaction was even more impressive, "Headquarters Senior WHO?". So for those who have never heard of the Headquarters Senior Squadron, here are some of the facts . . .

Back in 1967, then **Col. Samuel Hallock duPont, Jr.**, decided that the Florida Wing needed a Squadron for all of the "Old Timers" who were in the program, but were unable to devote the time required to attend a meeting every week. So they formed the Headquarters Senior Squadron, and had it chartered as 08263, henceforth, the 6300 series of radio call signs. As the Squadron was forming, many Cols., Lt. Cols., Majs., Cpts., and a few of us lowly folk requested to be assigned to this unit.

Now, do not think that this is just for a few people to sit around and do nothing, because, we have what can be termed as probably the largest Senior Squadron in the Region, if not in the whole CAP program. Under the watchful eye of **Col. Robert C. Owen**, a past Florida Wing Commander, there are twenty active staff members with seven assistants taking care of the Squadron's needs. Our Communications program consists of three staff members who run herd on over 25 VHF stations, and they are always listening for our fifteen or so HF stations on the morning and evening mets. We have 30 members with 101 cards and you can usually find 75% of them on the mission rosters when there is one in their area. On request from

the Wing Inspectors, we supply trained staff members to assist in the local Group

inspections. At the present time we have over 20% of our members working with the local Groups and Squadrons in any

way they can. The PA/IO team now contains four full-time members who are putting out the Squadron paper and also assisting the local units. The historical section has compiled many artifacts from the early years of CAP, and we have the best source of information, with three of our members being in the program at its inception.

We have four Cols., all of which have held a Wing Commander's position with some holding Region and National positions, over thirty Lt. Cols. ranging from past float plane pilots in the Northeast Region to wartime observers, and submarine hunters in the Southeast Region. The Majs. and Cpts. range over thirty with many being past Squadron and Group Commanders and Staff Officers. Of course, we cannot forget our few Lts. and a dozen or two Senior Members.

So, here we are always gaining and losing members to the local units, never knowing how many newspapers to print, or where to hold our next meeting because we are spread all over the State. But when the call comes out from a local unit that they need help, somehow we always end up having at least one of our specially selected and highly trained members there to pitch in and lend a hand.

## West Orange Find

Members of West Orange Composite Squadron of Civil Air Patrol located an aircraft in the early hours of Monday, 14 September, which had been the object of a search that began on the previous day. Squadron members were alerted shortly after 10 p.m. to send a ground team to the Lake County area to find the source of a distress signal from an emergency locator transmitter. The signal can be triggered by the impact of a crash of an aircraft in which it is installed.

A CAP aircraft had already localized the source of the signal to an area near a river in Lake County when the ground team was summoned. The ground team picked up the signal and followed it to a field near a muck farm where CAP and Lake County Sheriff's personnel found an aircraft tied down. The plane had a collapsed nose wheel and bent propellor tips. A nearby resident said the pilot had not been injured when the plane had landed earlier. The pilot was contacted by telephone and confirmed that there was no injury.

West Orange members participating included **Capt. Richard Brinkman**, 1st Lt. **Stan Shaw**, 1st Lt. **Mark Brunton**, 2nd Lt. **Chris Gilbert**, and 2nd Lt. **Bob Mayhew**.

## HELP! HELP!

Need pictures, 8" x 10" if possible, of following former Wing Commanders:



Wright Vermilia  
Richard P. Robbins  
Laurence Hickam  
Harold W. Ashley  
Eric Ravndal  
Joseph F. Moody  
William R. Bass

I will be happy to receive any size, even a negative of any of the above.

Lt. Col. Lib Sedita (Lt. Col. Elizabeth Sedita)  
Wing Historian  
1660 Rochelle Pkwy.  
Merritt Island, FL 32952



Pictured here is C/Capt. Brian Dariseau assembling his rocket for launch at a recent Rocket Bivouac in Brevard County, FL. The weekend activities in and near central Brevard Composite Squadron 08122 Headquarters, Merritt Island Airport. Some 25 Cadets and Senior Members took part in this exercise, a new experience for some, which was quite successful. There are four Cadet and Senior Squadrons in Group 12, of Brevard County, which have been quite active with various types of encampments, Bivouacs and practice missions.  
(Photo by Maj. Chet Brogan)

**Attention  
All Members**  
Wing Editorial Deadline  
November 19

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



Dr. Jose Castillo, local radiologist is shown presenting a two-man, three-day survival kit to the Joe Ross Senior Sq. 08323 in Fernandina Beach. Lt. Col. Peter Wright Jr. Squadron Commander accepts the kit from Capt. Castillo Emergency Services officer for the squadron.

Gator CAPers March 83  
Vol 24 #1



At Patrick AFB Officer's Club, Col. Howard Cumler presents Commanders Commendation Award to: L/R, Lt. Col. Nancy Gwinn, CO Tico Sq.; 1/Lt. Charles Diaz, CO Indian River Sqdn, Vero Beach; Lt. Col. Robert Reynolds, CO Melbourne Sqdn. (Back row L/R) 1/Lt. Ben Altpeter, EO Patrick AFB Sqdn.; Capt. Bill Rice CO Patrick AFB Sqdn.; and Maj. Judy Anerson CO Central Brevard Sqdn. at Merritt Island airport.



C/1Lt. Darin Hopkins receives trophy from Major Gen. Titus Hall (USAF, Ret.) for his selection as outstanding Cadet Group 12 for 1982.  
(Photos by Major Chet Brogan)



At recent command call in Panama City, Fla. Wing Commander Col. Howard Cumler presents group 1B Commander Maj. B. Bailey a commendation for C/Lt. Col. Robert Matie as outstanding instructor at FEAT exercise.  
(Photo by Lt. John Weidensall, Jr.)



## Florida Everglades F.E.A.T. Exercise

By 1st Lt. Patricia Campeau

The Naples Senior Squadron, 08023, recently hosted 21 Seniors, 20 Cadets and nine visitors at a three day simulation of a "Downed Airplane" near the 20-mile marker at the Alligator Alley Grass Airstrip. Although only 35 miles from civilization, this area is still remote. Cadets and Seniors pitched tents and cooked over campfires.

Major Cheryl Miller, Florida Wing (Florida Emergency Assistance Team) Coordinator was in charge, and her instructors were Lt. Col. Mel Weiser of Fort Myers, Lt. Harold Cunningham of West Palm Beach, Major Robert Miller, Wing Communications Officer and Lt. Dennis Burton, of the Naples Cadets as the Chaplain.

The Cadets and Seniors were instructed in compass reading, use of an E.L.T. (Emergency Locator Transmitter), first aid, survival techniques in the Everglades, search and rescue procedures, ground-to-air communications, and even scaling tall pines to "get the lay of the land." There were also classes in navigation, and the CAPers were divided into three groups, Alpha, Bravo and Charlie. All three groups were successful in locating the "Downed Aircraft" and the simulated "victims." The temperatures were in the ninety's, the Everglades were flooded from two recent storms, hurricane "Alberto" and a week before, the devastating "No Name" storm. Fatigues and jump boots were the uniforms and neither did much to protect them from waist-high water.

It was a lesson well learned, and out of it the Naples Senior Squadron has begun to train a F.E.A.T. team. They have a 4-wheel van that has been painted CAP "blue", and four members who have been awarded the F.E.A.T. patch will serve on the van. They have a driver and alternate driver and a former Lt. Col. in the Air Force Nurses Corp. and a former P.A.O. who will act as the interrogator.

# Across The Wing

Group 17 Florida Wing C.F.I. **Larry Hamm** has been promoted to Captain.

★ ★ ★

Ground personnel from **Gators' Senior Squadron** and Cadets from **Group 17 Florida Wing** participated in the recent parade at the Tribute to Guadalcanal in Winter Haven, Florida.

★ ★ ★

Group 17's (Florida Wing) **Bay Area Senior Squadron, 08375**, (an emergency medical assistance unit) recently sponsored a weekend first aid training program. The activity held at the St. Petersburg, FL, Fire Dept. Training Center was offered by **Major James Gilmore** from the Squadron. **Major Gilmore** is also chairman of the Red Cross Committee here in St. Petersburg, FL.

★ ★ ★

**2nd Lt. James Powell** of Group 17's (Florida Wing) Pinellas Senior Squadron, 08182, recently flew Cadet orientation flights for 15 Cadets in the group Cessna 172.

★ ★ ★

The **Gators' Senior Squadron, 08334**, Group 17, are proud to announce that the

City of Pinellas Park, FL, has donated to the Squadron a Meeting Hall located in Shoecraft Park. The Gators have sole use of the building for as long as they need it.

The Gators are chartered by the city and are a vital part of their disaster plan.

★ ★ ★

After a drive to get all the members on CAP radios, the **Gators' Senior Squadron, Group 17**, is happy to announce that they have four new stations on F.M.

★ ★ ★

A Squadron project of the **Gators' Senior Squadron, Group 17**, has recently been completed. All of the Squadron's equipment has been rebuilt to like-new condition including paint jobs. This undertaking was completed thanks to the hard work of the members of the Squadron.

★ ★ ★

Ten members of the **Gators' Senior Squadron, Group 17**, have recently qualified for their CAP Form 75, Driver's License.

## Group 18

**Group 18** of the Civil Air Patrol, encompassing the Pasco County area, recently held an open house and Parents' night.

Some 60 parents, grandparents and friends of Civil Air Patrol attended to view the CAP awards ceremony.

**Cadet Carson Jones** of New Port Richey received the coveted Billy Mitchell award, promoting him to Cadet Warrant Officer. **Cadet James Zerepp** was commended for earning the outstanding Cadet of the Month, entitling him to an hour of free instruction courtesy of **Captain Arthur Hamilton**, a retired airport owner in Pennsylvania. He is an FAA Certified flight and ground instructor, as well as instrument instructor.

**Lt. William Mann** of the **Brooksville Florida CAP Squadron** received his promotion to Captain. **Mann**, owner of an aircraft, has donated his plane and time to Civil Air Patrol search and rescue missions.

A special surprise of the evening came when **Lt. Dorothy Vandiver**, wife of **Captain Vandiver** of New Port Richey, was presented her Captain's Bars.

## Wing Solo Encampment A Huge Success

by **Theresa Willingham, PAO**  
*Tamiami Cadet Squadron 08355*

At the 7 August closing ceremonies of the first Florida Wing Solo Encampment, all ten cadets attending the trial encampment graduated with solo wings and an extended invitation to serve on the encampment staff next year.

The cadets participating in the encampment all had solo scholarships, of which \$100 apiece went into the larger Florida Wing Solo Encampment Fund, which provided cadets with room and board at the Visiting Airman's Quarters at Homestead Air Force Base for seven days, two hours of flight instruction a day for a total of ten hours flying time and some ground school instruction. **Captain Robert Flanagan**, commander of Tamiami Cadet Squadron and a Project Officer for Group 10, initiated this first solo encampment, working with Group 10 and Wing officials to set up the encampment, choose cadets who would participate, find instructors and acquire aircraft.

Five instructors attended the encampment, and although they did receive some remuneration, two of them returned the money to the Civil Air Patrol. Among the instructors participating in the program, three were CAP members, with Mr. **Richard Premis** of Homestead Cadet Squadron as chief flight instructor. Working with him were **W/O Gary Nelson** and **Captain Arthur Hamilton**, an FAA Gold Seal Examiner and a CFI since 1946. Also offering CFI services were **Captain Gary Donovan**, USAF — of the 309th TAC Squadron at Homestead AFB, and Mr. **Robert Pfeifferberger**,

who left the encampment entertaining thoughts of joining the Civil Air Patrol. Five Civil Air Patrol corporate aircraft were obtained for the event, and **1st Lt. Billy Radcliffe** (a commercial airline aviation mechanic), functioned as encampment mechanic, making sure all the aircraft were in good condition and maintaining them throughout the week.

Each instructor was assigned two students, and each morning after breakfast at the base, the cadets were driven to Homestead General Aviation Airport, a small uncontrolled field just a few miles west of HAFB, to encampment headquarters at Robert's Air South, a local FBO who volunteered the use of his facilities. There, cadets met with their instructors, refueled and conducted preflight maintenance. By 8 a.m. each morning, the first shift of students was usually airborne. Instruction progressed from basic familiarization with the aircraft and simple climbs, turns and descents, to more specialized maneuvers like stall recovery and slow flight. Evenings were spent studying navigation, doing flight computations, studying sectionals and reviewing the day's activities.

**Cadet George Selerno** was the first encampment cadet to solo, and upon exiting his aircraft, was met full force by a bucket of water hurled by two well-wishing cadets. Succeeding soloists were similarly baptized into the world of aviation. Twice during the week, the seasonal storms that sweep across the Everglades, bringing turbulent weather, rain and lightning, dis-

rupted lessons. But as soon as the skies cleared, cadets were in the air again and little time was lost, enabling every cadet to solo by graduation day and to log at least ten hours towards their private. **Captain Hamilton** even managed to take a couple of the more advanced students night flying, and, noting the over-all progress the cadets were making, remarked, "Here, 'excellent' is just average; they're all good."

With 100% success the first time around, and all within the budget, the future looks bright for a second Florida Wing Solo Encampment next year, with more students, more aircraft and more instructors — and with the same impressive results! □



**Cadet Anthony Sharp** gets baptized into the world of aviation by **Cadets George Salerno** and **Henry Gendron** after completing his first solo. (Photo by **Theresa Willingham, PAO**)



## CAP Women Pilots Log 3,000 Miles

Two women pilots, one from Fernandina Beach and another from Ft. Lauderdale, FL, took off from Fernandina Beach Municipal Airport on a flight which took them 3,000 miles.

1st Lt. **Mary Jane Law**, an instrument rated commercial pilot with over 2,000 hours flying experience, and SM **Marjorie Forood**, a private pilot who also has logged over 2,000 flying hours, flew to Oshkosh, WI for the "National Fly-In" for experimental aircraft. From there they flew to Quebec, Canada, for the International Society Symposium of Commanche Aircraft Owners. Later they flew back to Bar Harbor, ME, and on to Fernandina Beach.

Lt. **Law** is public relations officer for the Joe Ross Civil Air Patrol Senior Squadron, 08323 based in Fernandina Beach, and SM **Forood** is a member of the Boca Raton Civil Air Patrol Senior Squadron, 08372.

Along their route, the pair conducted a goodwill mission for the Civil Air Patrol, and promoted the Valiant Air Command Air Show at the Fernandina Beach Municipal Airport. The air show was sponsored by Amelia Island Plantation and the Amelia Island-Fernandina Beach Chamber of Commerce.

Both Lt. **Law** and SM **Forood** have participated in the all-woman's international air races and are members of the "99's," a national association of women pilots. □

## Pinellas Squadron at Launch

By Capt. **William Warner**

Awesome, volcanic, thunderous and a truly earthshaking experience are only a few of the descriptive terms applied to the fifth launch of Columbia on 11 November 1982 by 15 Cadets and 2 Seniors after they had witnessed that historic event.

Central Pinellas Composite Squadron (Group 17, Florida Wing) was fortunate enough to receive a VAN pass from NASA which enabled the Cadets and Escorts to enter the viewing area. The Cadets had requested a pass to the Cape for a Visitor tour, however, they were pleasantly surprised and happy to learn their request was not only honored but, replaced with the VAN pass. One of the fastest decisions ever made in Civil Air Patrol followed when they decided to rent a van for the trip. Lts. **Jerry and Marian Welch** (Sq. DCP) took a day off from their work, serving as Escorts so the Cadets would not be deprived of witnessing the launch of the first

commercial truck-load of space hardware ever carried by Columbia.

The Squadron shopped around and rented a 15 passenger van at a reasonable rate, thus assuring transportation to the launch. Lt. **Jerry Welch** drove the van and Lt. **Marian Welch** followed in the family car with two female Cadets. A highly enthusiastic group departed their headquarters at the Clearwater Executive Airpark at 10:15 p.m. local time, 10 November and arrived at the Cape about 1:45 a.m. With the youthful exuberance generated, even a cat-nap was virtually impossible, however, the entire group survived. Several Cadets have since expressed a desire to pursue careers in Commercial air or Space oriented ventures. One spinoff of the trip and ensuing publicity has been a flood of inquiry pertaining to Cadet Membership and the Aerospace Program within Civil Air Patrol.

A Clearwater Sun staff photographer accompanied the group on the trip and produced some excellent photos and articles which have led to the high degree of interest in our organization.

Captain **George Shideman**, Commander, stated, "The publicity attached to the trip was the reason for the number of requests for information concerning our activities. Our Squadron sends a special thanks to NASA for giving us an opportunity to be a part of a historic occasion."

## Florida Wing Training Schedule For 1983

16-17 April 83

28 May 83

11-12 June 83

25 June 83

16-17 July 83

August 83

August 83

September 83

October 83

October 83

November 83

November 83

Squadron Leadership School — Tyndall AFB, Panama City

Squadron Management School — Orlando

Squadron Staff School — Homestead AFB

MC Update — Orlando

Squadron Leadership School — Webber College, Babson Park

MC Update — Ocala

Squadron Management School — Tyndall AFB

Squadron Staff School — Sarasota

Squadron Leadership School — Miami

Squadron Staff School — Tyndall AFB

MC Update — W. Palm Beach

Squadron Management School — Sarasota/Bradenton

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GATOR CAPERS is the official publication of Florida Wing C.A.P. (08001)

