



Florida WingSpan

Newsletter for Florida Wing Civil Air Patrol

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Florida Wing Commander's Message

By: Christian Moersch, Col, CAP

Welcome to the new Florida WingSpan! For those of you that were in attendance at the Wing Conference in Orlando in February, you already know that this will be our new forum to communicate with our membership as to what is going on around our wing.

It has been a very exciting time for your new command staff. I personally want to thank you for your support as we go forward together. Also, I would like to thank not only the members who attended the conference, but extend my deepest gratitude for the members who made the conference happen. Without the help of our previous wing commanders and their staff, we could not have achieved the success that we did. My personal best wishes go to Col Bedgood and Lt Col Varsames in their new positions at Southeast Region Headquarters.

I spoke at the conference about my vision to sustain and build on the successes of Florida Wing. The core precepts of "Plan with People, Train with Purpose, Execute with Excellence, and Make the Future Happen" remain the bedrock on which we can accomplish our goals. Through meetings and discussions at all levels within the Wing, we have begun to lay the groundwork to go forward. Our initial focus is creating a cooperative environment to set expectations, accomplishing the required training, measuring the level of success, and then making the necessary corrections. That is our task.

As your command staff is involved in our planning, I ask each of you to begin your personal planning process. Only your participation will allow us to achieve our collective goals. Your individual plan is every bit as important as the Wing's because we cannot succeed without you.

In talking about our future, I introduced the "One Step Up" campaign. It involves each of us, regardless of position, to identify what our next personal level of achievement needs to be, create a plan to achieve that goal, and insure that we meet that goal. The "step-up" can be in any of our missions and at any level within the Wing. I ask each of you to meet with your responsible staff at your unit to identify where you currently are in your training and qualifications. This will give both you and your unit a starting point on which to create your plan. With you taking that next step, we will grow as an organization, and



Col Christian Moersch

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Florida Wing Commander's Message (cont.)

we can accomplish more. For example:

- When you earn a technical rating in Safety, you gain the skills to support your unit's Safety Plan and execute activities that benefit other members.
- In the Cadet Program, for another example, attend the next Training Leaders of Cadets Course - a requirement to complete the Master Rating in Cadet Programs. You will then be able to better inspire our cadets and, in turn, bring more cadets into the program.
- In Emergency Services, select the next higher position of responsibility, identify the requirements, and then get the training to meet those requirements. More trained mission staff equates to better mission response.
- In the Aerospace Education arena, finish the requirements for the Yeager Award, or begin a dialog with the other members of your unit and make plans for an AE workshop, or dust off that model rocketry idea that you have been thinking about.

In whichever areas you choose, take the next step; personally and professionally. It can be challenging, it can contagious, and it can be fun. Together, we can create our own momentum.

I will be asking all unit commanders to work with you to assist with your planning process. They will monitor your training to insure that you receive only quality instruction and support, and then report when your training is complete. I want all of us to be well on our way within the next 60 days to achieve our initial successes in our personal plans.

It is going to be an exciting time in Florida Wing if each takes the time and effort to insure our plans become reality. We can be stronger, more knowledgeable, more proficient and safer. No one can do it for us. Our future is in our hands, and that future is now - one step at a time, one mission at time, each of us together.

Proudly serving alongside each of you,



CHRISTIAN F. MOERSCH, Col., CCP - Commander, Florida Wing

Florida Wing Newsletter - A New Name, A New Look

The Florida Wing Newsletter, formerly **Gator CAPers**, has a new name - **Florida WingSpan**. The change was to be compatible with the style of the new Florida Wing patch recently introduced by Col Alvin Bedgood and to make it more appropriate for distribution to civic leaders, customers, educators, associations and agencies as well as other non-members of CAP. "WingSpan" is not unique for a CAP newsletter in the nation, but it suits our requirements and needs. Thank you to those who submitted suggestions!

Wreaths Across America 2007



Cadets Joshua Estevez, Jerome Johnson, Sandra Crowling and Michael Cruz from Lantana Cadet and Boca Raton Composite Squadrons at Royal Palm Memorial Gardens. FLWG CAP Photo: 1Lt Jackie Zarilli

Again this past December, Civil Air Patrol coordinated events nationwide, involving thousands, to deliver and lay wreaths donated by the Worcester Wreath Company who believe we all should honor, remember, and teach the youth of America about the sacrifices made by our military. Wreaths were laid and ceremonies held all across Florida and the nation at veterans' cemeteries and monuments on 15 December 2007 at the same time as the ceremony at Arlington National Cemetery. Veterans of the armed forces joined members of Civil Air Patrol to participate in the ceremonies, and cadets carried and posted the colors in several locations across the state.



Ch MSgt Richard Ortega and Lt Col David Moseley remembering and honoring veterans in Tavares. FLWG CAP Photo: Capt Margaret Merkich

Officers Go Through Paces with TLC

By: Billy Westcott, Lt Col, CAP - Operations Officer, Aerospace Education Officer Group 3



FLWG CAP Photo: Capt Timothy Medeiros

Twenty-nine CAP Officers from sixteen squadrons, six groups and Wing HQ convened in Tampa during the Training Leaders of Cadets (TLC) course held 23-24 February 2008. The course is an optional weekend residence course that creates an atmosphere of learning while offering an opportunity to share best practices in administering the CAP Cadet Program. "The course's primary objective is to help CAP Officers become better leaders and to increase the effectiveness of their cadet program at their home unit" said Lt Col Billy Westcott, who served as the activity's director. Undoubtedly, that was just exactly what happened. In an anonymous course critique a student reports "I wish I that I had taken this course earlier. I think that anyone who deals with cadets...should take this course."

The course curriculum ranged from the regulatory administration of the Cadet Program, to leading and mentoring and to partnering with parents. An in-depth review of how to plan a great squadron activity and the wide spectrum of psychological and physiological differences between our youngest and oldest cadets were also discussed. A most entertaining discussion on Core Values was also brought to the table by Group 3 Chaplain Lt Col Linda Pugsley, who was also providing chaplain services to her Army Reserve unit that same weekend. And, yes, the students also learned the beginnings of basic drill.

"This course would not have been successful without the dedication, professionalism, and sincerity of the TLC staff and instructors," Lt Col Westcott continues. "My deepest appreciation goes out to Captains Jennie Parry and Tim Medeiros, Majors David Leach and Sergio Seoane, and to Lieutenant Colonels Linda Pugsley and Valerie Brown. Most of all, I would like to thank Maj Margarita Mesones-Mori, the Florida Wing Director of Cadet Programs, for her guidance, her enthusiasm, and her dedication to the cadets of our great organization."

More information regarding the Training Leaders of Cadets (TLC) course can be found at the National TLC website <http://www.cap.gov/tlc> and also at <http://www.flcadet.com>.



FLWG CAP Photo: Capt Jennie Parry

'Wings of Dreams' Becoming a Reality

By: Eileen Tonkinson, Capt, CAP - Florida Wing Newsletter Editor



Florida Wing Color Guard. FLWG CAP Photo: Capt Leslie Ballard

Capt Robert Oehl and 1Lt Susan King are spearheading the effort to build the Wings of Dreams Museum to be built at Keystone Heights Airport. Their mission is to first establish and operate a warbird restoration center and then to create a flying warbird and vintage aircraft museum with an aerospace education center. They also envision public recreation areas at the Wings of Dreams where special events and World War II reenactments will be held.

On a long weekend in February, they hosted a program, a part of the Wings of Freedom event at Keystone Heights Airport, that paid tribute to WWII Fighter Aces and Women Airforce Service Pilots (WASP). The CAP Group 2 Cadet Color Guard & Drill Team participated in the ceremonies, and the Gainesville Composite Squadron and members of Group II provided logistical support.



2nd Lt Richard Lhota chats with WASP. FLWG CAP Photo: Capt Eileen Tonkinson

Wings of Dreams information can be found at <http://www.wingsofdreams.org>.

Florida Wing Conference Scenes



FLWG CAP Conference Photos:
Capt Eileen Tonkinson

AWARDS AND HONORS Presented at the Florida Wing Conference

Senior Member of Year - Lt Col Rogers Porter

Phase 4 Cadet of the Year - Cadet Daniel Daley

Senior Squadron and Commander of Merit - Ormond Beach Senior Squadron, Lt Col Joseph Wisniewski

Cadet Squadron and Commander of Merit - Lantana Cadet Squadron, Lt Col Robert Masiker

Composite Squadron and Commander of Merit - Group and Commander of Merit - Group 2, Maj John Edsall

Senior Squadron and Commander of Distinction - Emerald Coast Senior Squadron, Capt Benjamin Poffenberger

Cadet Squadron and Commander of Distinction - Crystal Lakes Middle School, Maj Kathleen Foy

Composite Squadron and Commander of Distinction - Charlotte County Composite Squadron- Maj Milton Kaletta

Groups and Commanders of Distinction - Group 4 and Group 5, Maj Scott Martin and Lt Col Frances Gleockler

Safety Officer of the Year – Maj Alan Sneider

Logistics Officer of the Year – Maj Robert Wood

Norm Edwards Counter Drug office of the Year – Capt John Lawler

Cadet Programs Officer of the Year - Capt Kevin McSparron

Congressional Gold Medal - Capt Tim Medeiros

Frank G. Brewer Award, Individual – Capt Mitch Drucker

Frank G. Brewer Award, Organization - Coral Springs Cadet Squadron

Frank G. Brewer Aerospace Education Officer of the Year - Capt Gregory Stritch, Capt Gary Dahlke

Lt Col Ross and Elizabeth Sedita Award - Maj Nicholas Sacco and Maj David Leach

The Col Bob Owens Leadership Award - Cadets John Samonas, Dan Daley and Stephanie Ruiz

F Ward Reilly Leadership Award – Lt Col Joseph Wisniewski

Henri Casenove Communicator of the Year - Lt Col Thomas Rubino

Parent Support Award - Mical Freelan, David Perez and 1Lt Joan Fedun

Exceptional Service Awards: Lt Col Jesus Tirado, Maj Margarita Mesones-Mori, Col Christian Moersch, Lt Col Lee Taylor, Col Joseph Martin, Jr, Lt Col John Varsames,

Color Guard: Capt Kevin McSparron, Maj Margarita Mesones-Mori, 1Lt Heather McSparron, Cadets Elliott Perez, Andrew Cannon, Ben Freelin, John Gramke,

International Cadet Exchange Program: Capt Terry Power

Meritorious Service Awards: Cadet Dan Daley, Lt Col Margaret Hannah, Lt Col Arnold Glauser, 1Lt Leonard Goellner, Maj Lee Wedlake, Capt Craig Winkelmann, Maj Romolo Mongillo

Commander's Commendation: Maj Scott Patterson, Maj Rod Miles, Maj George Barker, 1Lt Kenneth Leidy, 1Lt Nicholas Simoncini, Capt Gene Smith, Capt Thomas Beukelman, Capt Daniel Hollander

National Commander's Commendation-Southeast Watch Two; Lt Col Luis Garcia, Col Eileen Parker, Lt Col Michael Harding, Lt Col Christian Moersch, Capt David DeGiacomo

Wing Commander's Circle of Excellence: Maj Romolo Mongillo, Maj Margarita Mesones, Lt Col Dewey Painter, Lt Col Bruce McConnell, Maj Joel Kurasch, Capt John Posey, Capt Eileen Tonkinson, Lt Col Lee Taylor, Maj Michael Godwin, Maj Judi Levitch, Chaplain Maj Lewis McMullen and Lt Col Thomas Ianuzzi.

Cadet Programs Circle of Excellence: Maj David Leali, Capt Jeffrey Middleton, 1Lt Harry Malone, 1Lt Heather McSparron, Capt Linus Gomez, Capt Christian Campbell, Capt Kevin McSparron, Capt Edithgail Miller, Maj David Leach, Maj Nicholas Sacco, Capt Kevin Simon, Lt Col Thomas Trammell

Operations Circle of Excellence: Maj Lee Wedlake, Maj George Barker, 1Lt Leonard Goellner, Capt Alan Davis, 1Lt Kenneth Leidy, 1Lt Nicholas Simoncini, Capt Dan Brooks, 1Lt Todd Wean, Lt Col Arnold Glauser

Lt Col Thomas C. Welch Award - Members of the Florida Wing Color Guard: Timothy Lhota, Tiffany Jakowczuk, Joshua Davidson

Fifty Year Plaque: Lt Col Mike Weiser



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2



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1 - Phase 4 Cadet of Year: Col Moersch, Cadet Daly, Maj Masones
 2 - Sr Member of Year: Col Moersch, Lt Col Porter
 3 - Lantana Cadet Squadron: Col Moersch, Lt Col Masiker
 4 - Ormond Beach Sr Squadron: Capt Lichlighter, Lt Col Wisniewski



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5 - Tamiami Composite Squadron: Col Moersch, 1Lt Schumacher
 6 - Group 2: Col Moersch, Maj Edsall
 7 - Gen Carl A Spaatz Award: Lt Col Varsames, Cadet McCord, Gen Courter
 8 - Gil Rob Wilson Awards: Col Rushing, Gen Courter, Capt Sage, Lt Col W Hannah, Lt Col M Hannah, Col Martin, Maj Crowling, Lt Col Varsames



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Cadet Awards

Gen. Carl A. Spaatz Award

- Ryan C. McCord, #1673

Gen. Ira C. Eaker Award

- Troy A. Odierno
- Jonathan C. Samonas

Amelia Earhart Award

- Andrew K. Harris
- Amanda J. Lenardson
- Tom J. McMahon
- David L. Sneider
- Sasha Wheless

Gen. Billy Mitchell Award

- Brian B. Bell
- James F. Cody
- Michael A. Davidson
- Benjamin T. Frazier
- Christopher A. Graham
- Aaron R. Halydier
- Mark B. Johnson
- Hunter J. Limb

- Miguel A. Lockward
- Tommy Lockward
- Stefan N. Malone
- Casey Martin
- Enoch N. Needham
- Natasha E. Palmer
- Nicholas R. Piechowski
- Brent T. Rist
- Kyle D. Sanders
- Keith A. Wyman

Senior Member Awards

Gill Robb Wilson Award

- Lt Col Alvaro Bernal
- Maj Robert K. Crowling
- Lt Col Margaret Hannah
- Lt Col W A. Hannah
- Capt Bruce S. Sage
- Lt Col John R. Varsames

Paul E. Garber Award

- Maj Peter A. Acevedo
- Capt Leslie N. Ballard
- Maj Antonio J. Barroso
- Capt Christian A. Campbell
- Maj Robert S. Curry
- Lt Col William J. Lee
- Maj Emily J. Mathews
- Lt Col Rodney S. Patterson
- Maj Christopher J. Triana

Grover C. Loening Award

- Capt Roger M. Borg
- Capt Dan Brooks
- 1st Lt Lazaro D. Garcia
- Capt Mary Herminia Giles
- Capt Ronald F. Gordon
- Lt Col William J. Lee
- Maj Rod C. Miles
- Lt Col Rodney S. Patterson
- Capt Jason E. Pennington
- Maj Sandor Riholm
- Capt Daniel W. Runge
- Capt Greg S. Stritch
- Capt Ralph G. Ward FL,
- Maj Arthur E. Yarbrough

Gen Benjamin O Davis Award

- 1st Lt L. Earle Bretz
- Maj Daniel M. Brown
- Capt Leonard F. Goellner
- Lt Col William J. Lee
- 1st Lt Osvaldo Lopez
- Capt Jason J. McDonald
- Capt Jeffrey P. Middleton
- Maj Rod C. Miles
- Capt Jon R. Petersen
- Capt Andrew C. Talitsch
- Capt Eileen F. Tonkinson

Recent Promotions

- Lt Col Jonathan Bywater
- Lt Col James House
- Lt Col Montgomery Hughson
- Lt Col Wayne Ivan

- Lt Col Carole Jewett
- Lt Col Paul Loch
- Lt Col John Mayfield
- Lt Col David Mitchell

- Lt Col Doris Ortiz
- Lt Col Francisco Ortiz
- Lt Col Rodney Patterson
- Lt Col Peter Peters

- Lt Col Brant Robinson
- Lt Col Ramon Schapley
- Lt Col Dennis Turner
- Lt Col Albert Van Lengen
- Lt Col Sanford Wise

Cadet Honor Society Inductees

56 Pannier, Christopher P - Miramar High School Cadet Sq

57 Nattiel, Christopher E - Sam Rampello Downtown School Cadet Sq

58 Serman, Chase N. - Jacksonville Composite Sq

59 Lhota, Timothy J. - Gainesville Composite Sq

60 Harb, Joseph J. - Jacksonville Composite Sq

61 McGinnis, YaVonne - Jacksonville Composite Sq

62 Jakowczuk, Tiffany E. - Gainesville Composite Sq

63 DeNaro, Chris D. - Marion County Composite Sq

64 Stanley, Evan W. - Gainesville Composite Sq

65 Lyn-Cook, Stephen - Homestead ARB Cadet Sq

66 Revilla, Carlos D. - Homestead ARB Cadet Sq

67 Holmgren, Johathan G. - Central Florida Composite Sq

68 Branch, Julian L. - Tallahassee Composite Sq

69 Cook, Daniel - Gainesville Composite Sq

70 Davidson, Joshua - Gainesville Composite Sq

71 Odierno, Troy - Coral Springs Cadet Sq

72 Yablunosky, Eric - Coral Springs Cadet Sq

73 Austin, Kirsten - Patrick AFB Composite Sq

74 Castano, Christian - Homestead ARB Composite Sq

75 Jakowczuky, Tiffany - Gainesville Composite Sq

Final Salute

Capt Benjamin S. Hand
8049th Composite Squadron

Lt Col Jan Kendrick
Southeast Region Staff

Florida Wing Special Acts

The annual Florida Wing review process at Patrick AFB evaluated over 99 Florida Wing cadets in different aspects of the program to allow them to compete for a slot in one of the over 30 summer academies run by Civil Air Patrol across the country. Capt Kevin McSparron, 1Lt Heather McSparron, Florida Wing Special Activities project officers and Maj Margarita Mesones assembled a team of senior members to assist with the review process. Review boards were established for each of the Cadet Program phases in which senior officers interviewed each cadet individually. Cadets competing for Cadet of the Year, International Air Cadet Exchange and/or Career Shadowing had to appear before additional boards. They were graded on reporting procedures, military bearing, and responses to a series of questions. Cadets also took an leadership/aerospace test, ran a mile, and participated in a mass Inspection formation.

Congratulations to all the cadets for doing an outstanding job!!!



CADET OF THE YEAR:

- Phase IV - Dan Daley
- Phase III - Ethan Ernst
- Phase II - Timothy Lhota
- Phase I – Mical Humphrey

Overall Top Score:

- Overall, Eagle Award - Keith Wyman
- Phase IV - Andrea Batista
- Phase III - Miguel Alfonso
- Phase II - Keith Wyman
- Phase I - Rick Bravo

Mile Run-Fleet Foot Award:

- Female - Tiffany Jakowczuk
- Male - Alejandro Barturen

Highest Written Exam:

- Overall - Tiffany Jakowczuk
- Phase IV - Troy Odierno
- Phase III - Miguel Alfonso
- Phase II - Tiffany Jakowczuk
- Phase I - Christian Castano

Review Board Top Score:

- Overall - Andrea Batista
- Phase IV - Andrea Batista
- Phase III - Rhetto Semko
- Phase II - Keith Wyman
- Phase I - Rick Bravo

Inspection Top Score:

- Overall - Juan Romero & Dan Daley
- Phase IV - Dan Daley
- Phase III - Juan Romero
- Phase II - Tiffany Jakowczuk
- Phase I – Andre Exilien



FLWG CAP Photos: 1Lt Jackie Zarilli

CAP Lends Support to Challenge Air Fly-Day 2008

By: Ben Dickmann, SM, CAP - Fort Lauderdale Composite Squadron

Over 60 members of Groups 6 and 11 gathered at Banyan Air Services on the grounds of Fort Lauderdale Executive Airport to volunteer their time and efforts helping physically and mentally challenged children experience their first flight in a private plane. Challenge Air is the largest volunteer event for CAP members in South Florida each year.

Challenge Air was founded by Rick Amber, a former naval aviator who lost his legs when his jet crashed attempting to land on his carrier. Mr. Amber's vision was that "every disabled person should see the world from a different view...out of their wheelchairs and crutches and from the sky." To that end he organized Challenge Air which travels the country organizing private pilots, their aircraft and these extraordinary young people allowing them the experience that which most in CAP take for granted, the freedom of flight.

For over ten years, CAP members have been providing parking assistance, aerospace education, communication assets, flight line management and marshalling to the event. This year over 30 private aircraft and over 150 lucky new co-pilots took part in the event. While waiting for their turn the kids were treated to a carnival type of atmosphere with face painting, games, music, and plenty of refreshments. Initial trepidation was soon tempered through a Ground School briefing as to what to expect in the co-pilot's seat. Upon landing, beaming smiles lit up the ramp and the cheers of the crowd echoed throughout the hanger as each co-pilot earned their wings.

It is an honor for South Florida CAP members to be associated with Challenge Air and to make a difference in the lives of so many special young people every year.



Maj George McCord congratulates a new co-pilot upon his return.

Come Fly With Me...and They Did!

By: Richard C. Niess, LtCol CAP - Public Affairs Officer, Marco Island CAP Composite Squadron

At a Marco Island Civil Air Patrol Cadet Seminar in late November, the theme was "Come Fly With Me". A number of young people (13 to 18 years old) did respond by joining this growing Cadet Squadron. To carry through on the theme, several senior squadron members planned, organized, and implemented a cadet trip to Charleston SC to visit Fort Sumter, the US Navy's aircraft carrier "Yorktown", as well as the city. The planners, led by Capt Roger Borg, included Maj Charles Young, Sr., SM Brian Brennan, and Capt Pat Lammersfeld.

The eleven cadets and four escort members traveled by van to the Homestead AFB where they boarded a US Air Force C-17 transport for the less than 2-hour flight to the Charleston AFB where they stayed in base housing. The next morning, the contingent boarded a tour boat for the trip to Fort Sumter which was the start of a full day of experiences. The boat trip back took them directly to the Yorktown for a 24-hour encampment. This ship replaced her namesake, lost during World War II at the Battle of Midway in June 1942. Decommissioned in 1970, the Yorktown, the National Monument to Carrier Aviation, became the centerpiece of the fleet of exhibit ships at Patriots Point in Charleston harbor.



In the afternoon of the next day the group toured Old Charleston and its famous architecture. Next came a tour of The Citadel where cadets inspected the CAP group and gave some instruction on polishing up their drill and ceremonies experience.

During the flight home on the C-17, small groups of cadets were taken to the cockpit to observe the pilot and copilot duties. It was a happy but tired group that marched from the aircraft to the vans for the drive to Marco Island.

Members Learn at National SAR School

Seven Civil Air Patrol members from Florida and Alabama Wings along with controllers from the US Air Force Rescue Coordination Center (AFRCC) and other Search and Rescue (SAR) planners from the US Army attended a week of joint training on search planning theory at the National Search and Rescue School held at Tyndall AFB, Panama City, FL. In the five days of classes, students covered more mathematics than most had seen since college or high school along with much discussion on search planning technique, the Incident Command System, and Public Information Management.

Perhaps one of the greatest benefits for CAP was the opportunity to work alongside the AFRCC controllers, many of whose names are familiar to alerting officers and incident commanders across the nation from late-night pages and telephone conversations. Being able to put faces with names was one perk, but of even greater interest was the revelation that many of the controllers had never even heard of CAP before being assigned to AFRCC, and some had never met a live CAP member prior to the class. Up to this point, they just knew of CAP as the folks who turned emergency locator transmitters off in the middle of the night. Attending class together gave them an entirely new perspective on our actual search and rescue capabilities and our level of training.

The National SAR School is the world's premier source for search and rescue training. The joint Coast Guard/Air Force staff provides training in oceanic, coastal, and inland search planning procedures to SAR professionals from all U.S. military branches, various U.S. government agencies, volunteer SAR organizations, as well as members of the international SAR community.

Model Building Taught to Middle School Youth

By: Richard A. Ortega, VP, Aerospace Education, Air Force Association of Florida

During Spring of 2008, January-March, the Orlando Youth Aviation Center (OYAC) class is held for students ages 10-15. CAP Officers and Cadets of the FL-242 Orlando Composite Squadron, under the skillful command of Capt Corey Halaychik, graciously volunteered their services to assist during periods of instructions. This Cadet Squadron is one of the 7 CAP Squadrons assigned to the AFA Central Florida Chapter for support. This training program is supervised by Barbara Walters-Phillips who is a Certified Private Pilot, School Administrator, classroom teacher and the Proud Recipient of the 1995 National AFA Teacher of the Year Award – the highest award given to any Aerospace Education teacher. Personnel from the Experimental Aircraft Association (EAA) Chapter 74, AFA and AIAA volunteered their services as instructors. This training is mainly designed to inspire and motivate students to seek careers in aviation. The following CAP Cadets: Arturo Barreto, Joseph Del Rosario, Michael Garavuso, Issac Harding, Katherine Harding, Daniel Murray and Mitchell Zielke supervised by 2nd Lt John Stewart, 1Lt Christian Cruz and Capt Corey Halaychik demonstrated outstanding professional skills while assisting the students to assemble airplane models. Upon successful completion of the eight week course, the students are awarded a Certificate of Completion and a free flight over the City of Orlando.

Caution When Parking on Brush

Whenever parking, be certain that the heat from the vehicle's catalytic converter will not start a fire in the on grass, brush, or any kind of vegetation or material beneath it. Special caution should be given when the danger of fire is high for the area or when parking in large areas of vegetation.

Always carry a fresh fire extinguisher in the vehicle, store it in a location that is easily accessible, and leave it quickly retrievable when packing the trunk or cargo area.

Thanks go to Lt Col David Moseley, an expert and consultant in fire safety, for his excellent illustration of this safety precaution.



New Trauma Technologies

By: Sergio B. Seoane, M.D., Maj, CAP - Florida Wing Medical Officer



Dr Seoane displays blood clotting products at the Florida Wing Conference. FLWG CAP Photo: Capt Eileen Tonkinson

New technologies have emerged over the past several years which have dramatically improved battlefield medicine and first responder treatment of bleeding injuries. Topical blood clotting agents, QuikClot, Celox and HemCon are now used for scrapes, cuts, wounds and even severe arterial bleeding.

QuikClot is used by all branches of the US military, the United Nations forces, the U.S. State Department, CIA, FBI, NATO, and is now becoming more widely used by first responders (police and EMS units) across the United States. It is a derivative of volcanic rock that is recreated in the laboratory and acts as a selective sponge. It is chemically inert and works from physical, not chemical, action. QuikClot is not absorbed by the body and is safe to leave in the wound for as long as necessary. Fluid molecules are absorbed by the QuikClot hemostat granules that results in rapid localized coagulation and the formation of a stable blood clot in a variety of wounds. There is an exothermic action with the absorption of fluids, so care should be taken to not burn the patient or the person applying QuikClot.

Other blood clotting products are Celox and HemCon. Both products are made of the same material, Chitosan. Chitosan is the structural element in the exoskeleton of crustaceans (crabs, shrimp, etc.). Chitosan is hypoallergenic and has natural anti-bacterial properties, further supporting its use in the field. Chitosan's properties allow it to rapidly clot blood because the positively charged chitosan material bonds with red blood cells and forms a clot that stops hemorrhaging.

HemCon bandages have been used by the United States Army on the battlefields of Iraq. The granular Celox works in extreme cold conditions and is safe to use for the entire body. Celox can be used instantly and without hesitation as a fast, safe and simple emergency treatment for serious bleeding. Just pour it on, pack it, and apply pressure.

These are unique and useful products. Some of these products can be purchased for as little as \$15.00. Military units, homeland security agencies, local law enforcement, first responders and campers are using this technology with increasing frequency.

Light on Safety at Night

By: David Moseley, Lt Col, CAP - Commander, Lake Composite Squadron

Is wearing an orange vest a good practice for nighttime activities? Not if the vest has no reflective material on it. The orange is dark at night and does not help much to make you safe. The best vests are the most expensive ones that have wide reflective pieces as a part of the device. The reflective vest can be seen at night, and if it identifies CAP, it can also be a good item to publicize and promote CAP. Military surplus, bicycle and fabric stores carry belts, bands and tape. Carry a reflective vest or other reflective items in your car for emergency use.

How else can you improve your visibility? A flashlight with an extension wand, like those used for traffic direction, can be expensive. An inexpensive flashlight can be made using red plastic pill bottle tops and epoxy. Ask a pharmacist at Target for the tops and remove any seals that obstruct the light. Epoxy two or more caps together, and after they've dried, epoxy the tops onto the front lens of the flashlight. Two caps work well, and if they can fit directly down inside the outside ring of the light, it is protected from impact.



CALENDAR

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

- 8-13 Apr 08 Sun 'n Fun Fly-In, Lakeland
- 26 Apr 08 Southeast Region Cadet Competition, Patrick AFB
- 12-16 May 08 Governor's Hurricane Conference, Ft. Lauderdale
- 16-18 May 08 Color Guard Academy, MacDill AFB
- 22-24 May 08 Florida Parent-Education Association Convention
- 30 May-1 Jun 08 Drill Team Academy, Patrick AFB
- 29 Jun-5 Jul 08 Florida Wing Encampment, Camp Blanding, Starke
- 19 Jul 08 Cadet International Exchange Begins
- 25 Jul-4 Aug 08 International Cadets in Host Wings
- 28 Jul-3 Aug 08 EAA AirVenture, Oshkosh, WI
- 6-9 Aug 08 CAP Annual Conference and National Board Meeting, Kissimmee
- 6-8 Nov 08 AOPA EXPO 2008, San Jose, CA

Reports Due from Squadrons:

- 1 Apr Authorized Flight Release Officers
- 15 Apr AFA Award Outstanding Cadet
- 15 Apr AFSA Award Outstanding Cadet NCO
- 30 Jun Inventory of real estate and facilities
- 1 Jul Region Cadet Advisory Council Reps

Monthly:

- 5th Flight Release Logs
- 5th AEO Periodic Update
- 10th Safety
- 10th Senior Training
- 10th Vehicle Usage
- 100th Unit Safety
- 20th Operations Monthly Activity

- **Florida WingSpan** is published every two to three months, depending upon activity schedules, and distributed electronically to members of Florida Wing Civil Air Patrol and to others upon request. The distribution uses the Florida Wing member's primary e-mail contact address in CAP National Headquarters. 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.
- **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.
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Postage

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