

# FLORIDA FACTS

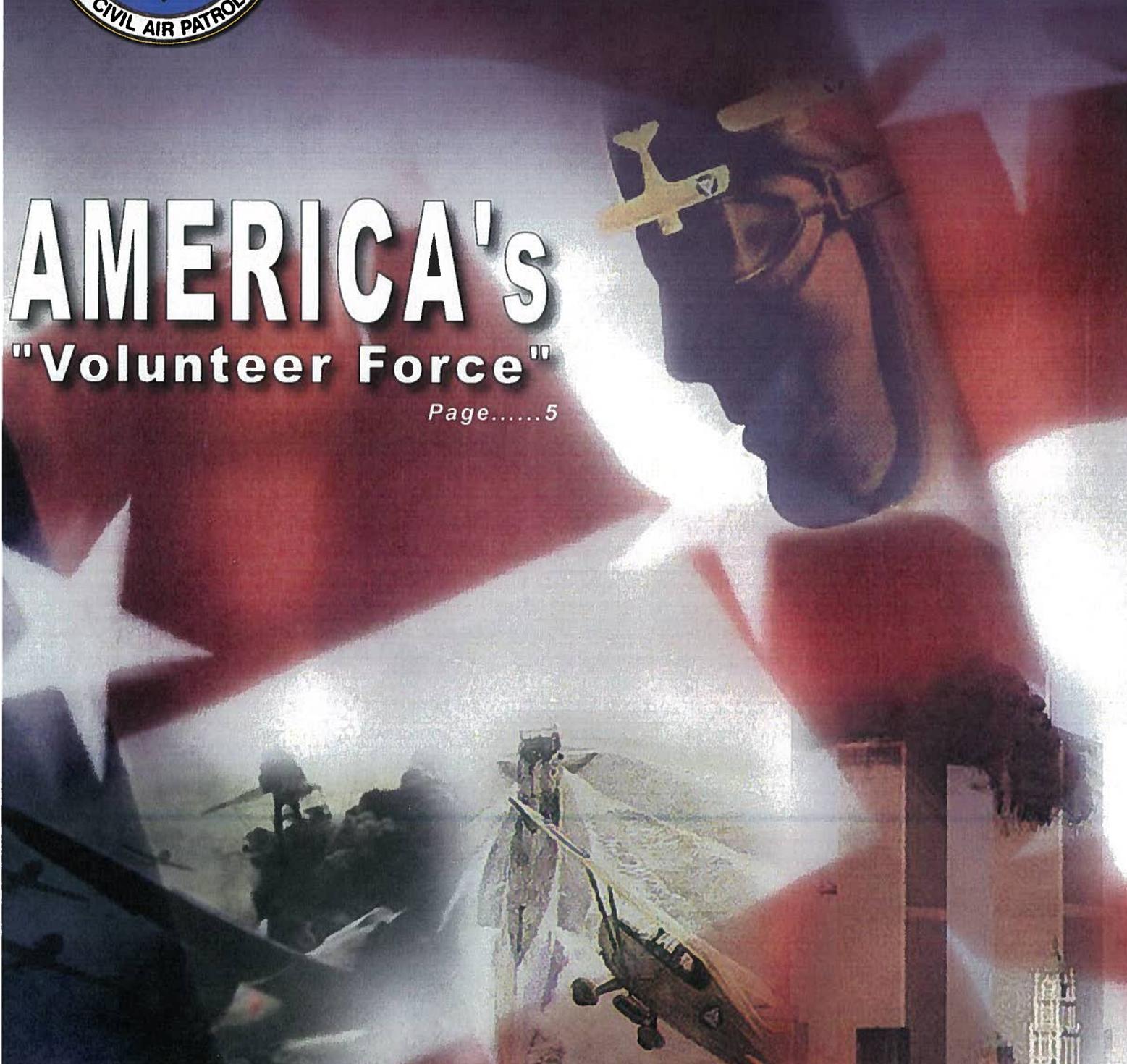


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## AMERICA'S "Volunteer Force"

Page.....5



# COMMANDER'S COMMENTS

I am sure many of you have recognized the growth and development that has taken place in the State of Florida over the past twenty years. Two comments heard frequently are, "I remember all of this when it was nothing but orange groves!" and "When did they build all of this?"

Census statistics show that Florida has gained 3 million people over the last ten years and currently experiences an influx of 6000 new residents per week. By comparison, the membership in Florida Wing has remained nearly constant in the range of 3500 to 4000.

At the wing conference, many of you heard my stated goal of "5000 members by 2005." By examining the state's growth, this appears to be a relatively easy task. It is an imperative, however, to recognize the two elements of growth—Recruiting and Retention.

Recruiting is one element we do relatively well. Data provided over the years has shown that the Civil Air Patrol outperforms all other youth organizations in recruiting and does particularly well with adults over the age of 40, who principally become involved because their children become involved.

Retention is where we perform poorly. The continuous turnover of members has us re-teaching the ABC's as opposed to XYZ's of CAP. This turnover also means the same people are doing most, if not all, of the work at the unit level. This turns us into "generalists" instead of "specialists".

So why do newly recruited people not renew their membership? Based upon two exit surveys, one completed in 1996 and one that is currently in process, the following are the three primary reasons: expectations are not met, lack of meaningful activities, and poor leadership. For cadets, the lack of flying is added as one of the top reasons for their leaving. Knowing this we can make changes for the better.

How do WE change this and how do WE reach 5000 by 2005 or sooner? First, we are going to mirror

the very successful National 2002 Membership Recruiting and Retention Campaign in using the numbers and results that pertain to the members of the Florida Wing. This allows us to recognize the efforts and achievements of our recruiters, as well

as spotlight their techniques. The rules are as found for the 2002 Membership Recruiting and Retention Campaign, but the awards shall be different.

- The member who recruits the most members, will receive a 30 minute flight in a T-6 Texan courtesy of the Warbirds Adventure in Kissimmee, Florida.

- The cadet who recruits the most members will receive a powered solo flight scholarship, to be used either locally or at a National Special Activity.

- The senior who recruits the most members award is still being worked on at the time of publication.

Additional recognition will involve random drawings, as well as recognition for the top 10 recruiters. The top four units in retention achievement will receive equipment they feel is necessary for the operation of their unit. The decision will be jointly made by the local Group and unit commanders.

Why this push? In the Concept of Operations [CONOPS] presented by CAP to the Air Force leadership, CAP's involvement with the proposed Department of Homeland Security shows that we are 40% behind the manpower resource needed to support the intended missions tasking.

In Florida, our wing's growth is a goal we must reach...333 new members each year for the next 3 years and a dramatic increase in member retention. It will take the concerted effort of each of us, and together, I know we will succeed.



**COL. MATTHEW R. SHARKEY**  
Florida Wing Commander

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Col. Matthew R. Sharkey

Vice Commander-North  
Lt. Col. Wes Hannah  
Vice Commander-South  
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**FLORIDA FACTS** is published quarterly for members and friends of Florida Wing-Civil Air Patrol.

*The opinions expressed herein are those of the editor/publisher and are not necessarily those of either the Civil Air Patrol or the Florida Wing.*

*All letters and/or articles submitted are the opinions expressed by the author and are not necessarily those of the editor/publisher.*

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## 9/11 MEMORIAL SERVICE PRESENTED AT CAP WING CONFERENCE

*Editor's Note: The following was read by C/Major Kevin Merrick during the 9/11 Memorial Service at the Florida Wing Conference. The memorium hats were presented by - United Flight 93, C/2Lt. Scott Fox; Pentagon, C/A1C Robby Groover; Emergency Medical Service, C/Maj. Robert Slusser; Police, C/SSgt. Zach Julian; Fire, C/Maj. Sean O'Key; and Flag bearer was C/SMSgt. Christopher Selman.*



**Ceremonial articles l. to r. United Airlines hat, military helmet, candle, Emergency Medical Service helmet, rose, police cap, and fire helmet.**

“September 11th was a beautiful, sunny morning when the United States was wantonly and callously attacked by a group of contemptible terrorists. As a result of this national tragedy an unappreciated group of individuals has stepped from the rubble of that horrific day. The Fire, Police, and Emergency Medical Services Personnel—men and women who went into harm’s way in a valiant effort to rescue innocent victims. They were only doing what they saw as their duty, their obligation to their fellow citizens. Every day thousands of these individuals go to work not knowing if today will be their last call.

A few minutes after the hijacked planes hit the World Trade Center, another struck at the heart of our military, the Pentagon. As word of these acts spread, another group of fellow Americans were being held hostage and it was clear they too would become another flying, human bomb. With the rallying cry, “**LET’S ROLL**” they took over the situation, giving their lives that others would not die.

Those who called themselves ‘liberators’ struck at our buildings to destroy America, but they forget that America does not live in building and material things, but she lives in the hearts of those who call America home. Those who believe in freedom and the sanctity of human life, who will go to the ends of the earth to rid this world of those who would deprive us of our rights to ..... “life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness.

And to all those who gave their last full measure, we humbly say.....

**“WE THANK YOU and GOD BLESS AMERICA.”**

# PROP WASH

**T**he television show "This Week In History" once again featured the Civil Air Patrol in action. Previously they showed the Hawaii Wing providing aerial assessment of a tsunami disaster. This second coverage was of the Civil Air Patrol and its battle with the Nazi submarines on the eastern seaboard during World War II. Watch your local TV listings as these "This Week In History" shows are repeated.

**G**roup Two welcomes a new staff officer to their team. Ishmael Bonilla joins as Safety Officer. He is extremely well qualified for the position since he serves as Airport Manager at Herlong Airfield in Jacksonville. Bonilla holds a degree in Safety and is most anxious to achieve an accident-free record for all units in the Group.

**Capt. Peter Leet**  
Deputy Commander-Group 2

**O**verheard in the cockpit of a Civil Air Patrol Cessna aircraft during the Short Final Approach:

**Tampa Tower: "CAPFlight ###, you have traffic at your six o'clock position, one mile, same altitude."**

**CAPFlight ###: "Roger, Tampa, we don't have rear-view mirrors**

*installed, so please keep us informed."*

**C**ongratulations to two members of the Florida Wing Communications Directorate. At the wing annual conference in Sarasota 1Lt. Robert Colbert, Wing Licensing Officer, received the "Communicator Of The Year" Award and C/TSgt Christopher Covell, Group 3 Communications Officer, received "Cadet Communicator of the Year" Award. Major Paul Blystone, wing Director of Communications thanked both awardees for all they do to support communication efforts in Florida Wing.

**O**f the seven subchasers honored at the CAP 60th Gala in Washington, D.C. six are no longer living near the Atlantic Ocean. Maury Betchen has moved to Cherry Hill, New Jersey; Lt. Col. Martin Miller is living in Anthem, Arizona; Cliff Bowes, Jr. is in Lilliburn, Georgia; Glen P. Cook resides in East Greenbush, New York; far away is Deadwood, South Dakota where Luverne Kraemer lives; and Jack Robinson's home is in Florence, South Carolina. Only Lt. Col. S. Buddy Harris still lives near the Atlantic Ocean in Boca Raton, Florida and is still a very active member of the Civil Air Patrol.

**F**iscal 2001 Search and Rescue Statistics are now compiled and Florida Wing was the most active in the nation. Florida CAP flew 399 Search and Rescue Missions with 3,423 personnel using 353 aircraft. They flew 626 sorties and logged 1,119 flying hours. A very close second place went to California Wing flying 305 Search and Rescue Missions with 1,492 personnel using 116 aircraft flying 254 sorties and compiling 402 flying hours.

Florida Wing Commander Col. Matthew Sharkey commended the members of the Florida Wing for their "superior performance which resulted in optimum utilization of our airborne assets and the successful closing of every assigned mission. The level of dedication in mission response at all hours of the day and night, on weekdays, weekends and holidays must be recognized by all."

## COUNTERDRUG MISSIONS

Since the mid 1980's CAP has been an integral player in America's War on Drugs. During 2001, CAP assisted in the confiscation or eradication of over a billion dollars in illegal drugs. CAP has assisted in the discovery of Methamphetamine labs, cocaine seizures, and various other operations throughout the country that have led to the seizure of illicit drugs, weapons and property.

# AMERICA'S FORCE

**F**rom the days of our Founding Fathers—Washington, Hamilton, Jefferson and Franklin, to name only a few, and the thousands of Minutemen— all unpaid volunteers who came to the fore to establish a free democracy upon which our great nation has evolved—to the creation of the all unpaid volunteer Civil Air Patrol on December 1, 1941, six days before Pearl Harbor—the Day of Infamy—to the aftermath of September 11, 2001—terrorism's Attack on America— - - each of us celebrated on July 4, 2002 our nation's 226th anniversary of Independence.

**R**egrettably, America's fight against terrorism is not over, and it may never be in the near-term or the immediate future. Though we all yearn for a return to feeling secure, we must recognize that such feeling will not come easily nor will it ever be as it was. We must accept that our life, as we knew it, with the ease of peace and tranquility will never be the same. We must relearn to be more vigilant, more determined, and more dedicated to protecting and preserving our democratic freedoms and peace.

**T**his is what the U.S. Air Force Auxiliary, the Civil Air Patrol is all about. Since its inception, members of this superb air/ground volunteer organization have served side by side with members of the Air Force Regular, Reserve, Air National Guard, and Coast Guard as well as civilian personnel of State, County, and Community Emergency Management and Law Enforcement Agencies to accomplish CAP's missions and goals. Undergoing stringent training and using their own personal resources, the more than 60,000 men, women and youth of the Auxiliary have successfully fulfilled the Air Force missions on land and in the air. While doing so, these most trusted volunteers, often at risk to their own personal safety, have saved thousands of lives, assisted tens of thousands of boaters in distress, and prevented billions of dollars worth of drugs from entering into the mainstream of our society. Furthermore, CAP has provided humanitarian assistance when hurricanes, floods, wildfires and other disasters victimize our nation's citizens. The Civil Air Patrol has always willingly provided these and many other services with a 'can do' attitude and a spirit of professionalism and dedication in keeping with the highest traditions of the United States Air Force.

**COVER DESIGN**—AMERICA'S VOLUNTEER FORCE, an original graphic montage painting on the cover of this issue was brilliantly conceived and produced by none other than our very own Capt. Dan Thompson. Dan has designed every cover for Florida Facts since the Florida Wing Newsletter converted to a full color, 36 page, gloss stock magazine in January 2001. Capt. Thompson was recently awarded a Wing Commander's Commendation for his efforts...an award more than well deserved.

## MY DREAM IS COMING TRUE... AND I'M ONLY A 10 YEAR OLD KID!

**EDITOR'S NOTE:** This speech was written by Cadet Christina Zarrilli and delivered at the Boca Raton Composite Squadron Award Presentation meeting.

My dream started when I visited the Kennedy Space Center in 1999. After that visit I knew

I wanted to be a pilot and an astronaut. When I learned there was a Space Camp that trained future astronauts I set a goal. For two years I had been busy researching and submitting essays to the Jesse Woods Space Camp Scholarship Contest sponsored by the 99ths, an international group of women pilots. After hearing I had been selected as a finalist for the past two years, Mr. and Mrs. Jim Tracy offered to sponsor me personally. I bubbled with excitement for weeks anticipating the first day of camp. Any material I could get my

hands on about space and NASA I consumed until finally the camp started.

At check-in I was assigned to the Eagle Team. Each of the 14 teams consisted of boys and girls and they slept in separate dorms of 20 people each. The lockers were so small you could barely fit everything inside. They were training us like astronauts because in space you can hardly take anything because it costs \$10,000 per pound. A 3-

minute shower and a 3-minute call to our parents was a nightly requirement. We timed each other to see who could take the fastest shower. At 10 p.m., lights were out and **NO TALKING**. Some of the kids had trouble getting up at 6:30,

but not me because I couldn't wait to get started.

We experienced extensive training just like the astronauts. Exciting simulators, such as the "0" gravity wall, taught us what space is like. I experienced weightlessness by hanging from a strong rope and floating around in thin air. The Man Maneuvering Unit [MMU] is where I experienced all 5 degrees of freedom: up, down, side to side, for-



**CADET CHRISTINA ZARRILLI**

ward and backward. This MMU was used to train astronauts in Gemini and Apollo programs for Extra Vehicular Activity {EVA} Space Walks. One of my favorite simulators was the moon walking. I was tied to a bungee cord and jumped around. It felt awesome jumping twice my height as if I really walked on the moon. The Hamster Wheel [SSMT], another simulator, is where they strapped me in a seat, and I ran upside down in

See DREAM—Page 7

## DREAM

### Cont'd from Page 6

a circle. It is used for exercise in space so you stay healthy because in weightlessness you rapidly lose muscle mass

At Space Camp I got to see two spectacular rocket launches. At 3 a.m. they woke us up and took us to the fifth floor roof balcony. The Titan rocket looked like a ball of fire shooting into the air. When the rocket broke the sound barrier it made a deafening noise. From Kennedy Space Center we watched a remarkable Delta rocket launch. The camp had special launch site passes to see the shuttle Discovery STS 105 lift off.

One of the many activities at camp was building and launching rockets. At graduation, the Eagle Team earned pins for having the most successful rocket launches. The Camp Director also gave honorable awards, "The Right Stuff" and "Most Outstanding Camper" to two individuals. The "Most Outstanding Camper" had to be enthusiastic, helpful, friendly, and have a great attitude plus a knowledge of planets, space, astronauts, and NASA missions. Much to my surprise, I was unanimously awarded "Most Outstanding Camper". My reading and studying before camp really paid off as they said I was the most knowledgeable camper they ever had. My proud mom and dad were crying when I was called on stage and the medal was hung around my neck.

After camp my parents and I made a point

of going to the beach to see the next shuttle launch. I have been watching the NASA station on TV where I saw live interviews with the Discovery 105 and the International Space Station astronauts and cosmonauts. I watched them do the cool Space Walks and the dignified Change of Command Ceremony. I have also gone on the NASA web to learn more and to communicate with the astronauts.

I continue to work on my dream of becoming a pilot and astronaut and eventually a NASA Flight Director. I have been studying a pilot flight manual. My first flying lesson, an awesome experience, was a wonderful gift from a 99th. I am currently working to earn money for additional lessons.

Another step I have taken is to become a Civil Air Patrol Cadet and a member of Charlie Flight. This is a great group of kids working hard to serve their community while

learning about aerospace and the Air Force. Like me, my fellow cadets have a burning desire to fly.

I have a lot to learn and my unit officers are enthusiastic about sharing their knowledge and skills with me. I thank the Civil Air Patrol Seniors of our unit who give of their time to all of us. I am also grateful to all the people who have extended themselves to help me toward achieving my goals. I really appreciate all their support and encouragement.

By the way, Space Camp was so much fun, I could do it all over again!



Cadet Zarrilli catches up with the latest in FLORIDA FACTS, the Florida Wing magazine.

## MY FIRST FLYING LESSON

By Christina Zarrilli

My first flight lesson was really exhilarating. Controlling a flying machine was amazing. My teacher was a young man eager to teach me the rudiments of safe flying. My airplane was a Katana DA-20. In order to reach the instruments I had to be propped up with pillows.

I spent months studying a thick flight manual in preparation for this first lesson but quickly realized I knew nothing

about flying until I actually did it. My instructor spent a good deal of time teaching me how to pre-flight check an aircraft and how to check the fuel to be sure the tanks are full and that there is no water in it.

Taxiing the plane for the first time was nerve wracking. To take off I had to reach a speed of 60 knots and then pull the nose up gently. Landing was harder because I had to put the nose down but not too much or it would scrape the runway. After shutting down I realized that pilots are very special people.



# FLORIDA WING 2002 ANNUAL CONFERENCE HEAD TABLE



**l. to r. FLWG Chaplain Major Dewey Painter; Lt. Col. Mark O'Brien, USAF/SER/LO/Commander; Jerry Angley, State Director; Col. Dwight Wheless, National CAP Vice Commander; Col. Antonio Pineda, SER Commander; Lt. Col. Wes Hannah, FLWG Vice Commander; C/Lt. Col. Draupadi Beloved, Cadet Wing Commander; C/Major Marc Lawson, FLWG Cadet Advisory Council Chairman. Col. Matthew R. Sharkey, FLWG Commander and Lt. Col. William Brockman, Chief of Staff - not in photo.**



**Col. Sharkey turns over command of Group 8 to Lt. Col. Bob Ashman**

**High powered discussion between SER and State Directors and FLWG Operations Officers.**



**Chaplain Howard Johnson receives Distinguished Service Medal from l. to r. Chaplain Col. Alva Appel-the first recipient of this award; Col. Pineda and Col. Dwight Wheless, National Vice Commander**

**Conference Project Officer, Capt Sharon Taylor receives personal recognition for an outstanding conference.**



## THANKS TO OUR COMMANDER!

The flag that has flown over Florida Wing's Headquar-



ters at MacDill Air Force Base in Tampa during Colonel Antonio Pineda's term of service as wing commander was pre-

sented to him by the new wing commander, Colonel Matthew R. Sharkey at



the 2002 Annual Wing Conference. This symbolic gesture was precipi-



tated by Col. Sharkey and the wing members as a way of saying "Thank You" to Col. Pineda for his nearly four years of service as the 22nd and 24th wing commander. Col. Pineda was recently promoted to SER Commander.

### 50 YEARS OF SERVICE

The Civil Air Patrol National Board of Directors at their last meeting in March did approve Col. Sharkey's proposal for the waiving of membership fees for those members who have 50 years of continuous service. Accordingly, the following members are being so honored: Colonels Robert Schaetzi, and Ralph Gwinn; Lt. Colonels Benjamin Douglas, Chester Blucher, Nat Brittingham, David Fuller, Herman Slapo, Howard Gelbman, John Boyle, Earl Pilcher, Hilda Snelling, Leroy Bar-

nett, Herbert Miller, and Charles Svoboda; Majors Floyd Johnson and Walter Trauner. The member with the longest period of uninterrupted service is Lt. Col. Benjamin Douglas who has served since 28 September 1942...nearly 60 years.

### MEYER ON THE MEND

It is heartening to see Col. Rex Meyer so rapidly returning to peak condition after his solo crash landing without an aircraft!

Needless to say, falling from the roof of a two-story dwelling and landing on a concrete pad is physically

disturbing. Col. Meyer's tenacity and determination has overcome nearly all of the physical impairments. There is little doubt he will be stronger post-incident than before his 'flight'. If our pulling for Col. Meyer is any help, he will achieve his goal without a doubt.

Homeland Security missions anticipated for assignment to CAP as set forth in the submitted CONOPS Plan preliminarily is projected to require an annual funding of \$25 million to \$30 million, according to Director Tom Ridges.

# WING'S WORDS OF WISDOM

Colonel Matthew Sharkey recently joined with Senators Bob Graham and Bill Nelson at a reception in the MacDill Air Force Base Officer's Club. The luncheon was to honor the Academy Review Board Members and the students from Florida who have received an appointment to one of the service academies for this year.

This honored group included C/1Lt. Gerardo Delgado of the Tamiami Composite Squadron who will be attending the U.S. Naval Academy; C/Capt. Shawn Seddiqui of the Tamiami Composite Squadron selected for the Air Force Reserve Officers Training Corps at the University of Miami; Jacksonville Composite Squadron's C/SRA Nicholas L. Hohlman who will be entering the Merchant Marine Academy; Flight Officer Robert Smith from the Treasure Coast Composite Squadron will be a student at the U. S. Air Force Academy in 2003; Cadet William Murphy of the Stuart Composite Squadron will be attending the Citadel; and C/1Lt. Nicole Amaro of the Homestead Composite Squadron has received a full Navy ROTC Scholarship to the University of Florida and a 100% Bright Future Scholarship.

Recognition was also paid to former cadets Richard Bush and Courtland Goodwin who recently graduated from the U.S. Air Force Academy. All proudly agreed the future of our nation is in very good hands.

A Professional Development Weekend is scheduled for the last weekend in September in the Naples area. This is the first training weekend to be scheduled in Southwest Florida in a very long time. Capt. Richard Brady, the new FLWG Director of Professional Development is a firm believer that "Professional Development Produces Professional Officers." A Squadron Leadership School {SLS}, Corporate Learning Course {CLC}, Cadet Protection Policy Training {CPPT}, Training Leaders of Cadets {TLC}, Disaster Relief Course {DRC}, Unit Commanders Course {UCC} are intended as part of the curriculum. All Southwestern members should mark this weekend date in their calendar.

Colonel Sharkey is pleased to advise that 328 uniforms have been issued to cadets in the Florida Wing at no charge during the year 2001. This free uniform voucher is provided to each new cadet as part of their membership package. Each new cadet is provided a mentor who helps them through the uniform procurement process. The total cost of the 328 uniforms issued to date cost \$29, 817.00.

Congratulations are extended by FLWG Chaplain Major Dewey Painter to Capt. Gerald A. White of Sebring, Florida as the newest

appointed Moral Leadership Officer {MLO} for the Florida Wing. Capt. White comes with an excellent recommendation from his Unit Commander. He will be a great asset to the Moral Leadership Seminar Program of his assigned unit and within his Group. Capt. White's assignment has been officially approved by National Headquarters—CAP.

Florida Wing Commander, Col. Matt Sharkey announced that Lt. Col. David Mikelson is now the Administrative Commander of the Middle School Program throughout the State of Florida. This program is structured to ensure the cadet membership will expand and the cadets are developed to take on added responsibility to better serve their community and the Civil Air Patrol. Additionally, Mikelson will assure the cadets are comprehensively trained to facilitate their eventual transition into the senior corps. Col. Sharkey emphasizes our cadet corps is the lifeline of the Civil Air Patrol and cadets more than adequately assume positions of officer leadership which is so essential to the future of the CAP. Lt. Col. Mikelson has set goals and objectives that include the establishment of newly chartered units at nearly every Middle School in the state. This will provide the opportunity for all teenagers to have a squadron in proximity to their home.



# CADET CAP'ERS



## FIRST MILITARY BALL IS HUGE SUCCESS

*by Maj. Mario Bartoletti, PAO*

The Pasco Cadet Squadron added a Military Ball to its Fifth Awards Banquet and it was a huge success.



Special guests included Gen. William Cass, former NATCAP Commander; Col. Matt Sharkey, FLWG Commander; Capt. Christine Ferry, Group 8 Commander; Lt. Col. Scott Clarkson, Guest Speaker; and Congressman Michael Fasano. In addition to the awards, Lt. Lee Cooper accepted Transfer of Squadron Command from Maj. Mario Bartoletti.

The squadron's Glider Orientation Flight program continues to be very active with four Soaring O-Flight Pilots operating out of the Zephyrhills Airport. Cadets from Palm Harbor, Clearwater, Hernando and Orlando Squadrons also participate.



Pasco's Aerospace Education Officer is also Commander of the Soaring O-Flight Program.

## MORDEN GETS HIS WINGS

*by Lt. Col. Herbert Miller*

Boca Raton Cadet Squadron's Cadet William Morden was presented the prestigious Billy Mitchell Award by Southeast Region Commander, Col. Antonio Pineda. Morden was also promoted to the grade of Second Lieutenant. Added to these honors was his recent earning of solo wings and being welcomed into the 'pilot's club'.

## MACDILL HONOR GUARD PRAISES CAP

*By Capt. Christine Ferry & Lt. Lee Vogt*

At the request of the MacDill Air Force Base Honor Guard, the Clearwater Composite Squadron Color Guard provided the posting and retrieval of the colors at the MacDill Annual Awards Banquet. MacDill's Base Commander, Gen. Wayne Hodges, requested they perform the same ceremony the next day at a special dinner for Gov. Jeb Bush. The Color Guard also performed at an Air Force, Navy and Army Military Academies Competition.

Recently, the MacDill AFB was recognized as having the #1 Honor Guard in the U.S.A. Lt. Gregory Kuzma, OIC of the MacDill Honor Guard announced that the "Civil Air Patrol is in part what enabled us to be so recognized."

## 16 TEAMS IN ACADEMIC COMPETITION

*By 1Lt David Leall*

Sixteen teams competed in the 3rd annual FLWG Academic Competition held during the Florida Wing conference. The cadets were quizzed on their knowledge of leadership, aerospace, CAP history, and general CAP program. Lantana-Lake Worth placed first overall. Col. Matthew Sharkey commended all participants for their efforts, and gave special mention to the Coral Springs Cadet Squadron for sending five teams to the competition.

## SER ANNUAL CONFERENCE

The CAP Southeast Regional Conference will be held this year on October 4 to 6, 2002 at the Wyndham Garden Hotel, 1775 Parkway Place NW, Marietta, Georgia.

The theme of the conference will be "Racing Into The Future." This theme was selected to symbolize the growth and advancement of the Southeast Region under the guidance of its new commander, Col. Antonio Pineda. AND the CAP NASCAR will be on display at the hotel for all to see, to take it on a simulated test drive, and to enjoy.

Friday afternoon and evening will feature Stone Mountain and Dobbins Air Force Base outings. The Saturday program will provide seminars covering important topics as requested by senior staff and commanders. Each seminar will be presented by National Headquarters top staff as well as federal government agency experts. Saturday Evening will be the Awards Banquet with an outstanding guest speaker.

For reservations, call the Wyndham Hotels central number at 800-996-3426. The rooms are only \$59/night. To offset some of the travel cost, the Conference/Banquet fee is a low of only \$55 or \$30 for the conference only through August 10. Send e-mail to [SERConference@aol.com](mailto:SERConference@aol.com) to register or for additional information. Join your CAP associates from Tennessee, Alabama, Puerto Rico, Georgia, Florida and Mississippi this Fall at the Southeast Region Conference.

## CONFERENCE TEAM ENCORES

The team of dedicated CAP professionals who managed the promotion, logistics, catering, and registration at the Florida Wing Conference in Sarasota not only did an outstanding job but they actually enjoyed the experience so much that they have agreed to an encore for next year at the Daytona Adams Mark Hotel on June 6 to 8, 2003.

In spite of Capt. Sharon Taylor, Wing Director of Plans and Programs, being told that the Sarasota Hyatt Conference will be extremely tough to beat, she said, "My team of Sharon Freeburg, Wing Finance Officer; Lt Ginnie Brockman, Group 5; Major Virginia Montalvo, Ft. Lauderdale Composite Squadron Commander; Lt. Col. Sally Fitzgerald, Group 6; and Jayne Daly, Wing Administrative Assistant is already deep into planning, so I have no doubt we will pull off a 'topper'."

Capt. Taylor believes that a great project begins with team spirit. This team can work hard and have a good time because we get along so well. The cheerful attitude was obvious at registration and throughout the operation of the Conference Support Desk. Genuine smiles, enthusiasm, and camaraderie were always evident, in spite of the request.

Conference Team 2003 is already hard at work examining on how to improve and enhance planning, promotion, and operations next year in Daytona. In spite of all that is done, there are always a few unexpected glitches that occur. This helps avoid them at the next opportunity and sharpens abilities to anticipate the unexpected.

## RESERVE OFFICER TRAINING CORPS UNIFORMS AVAILABLE

Prior to annual summer vacation close downs, Senior and Junior ROTC units clear out their uniform supply storerooms.

Wing Commander, Col. Sharkey strongly suggests that all CAP units - Senior Squadrons, Composite Squadrons and Cadet Squadrons - contact their local ROTC Detachments to arrange for uniforms pickup. Col. Sharkey said, "For cadets, this ROTC supply plus the uniform chit they are

given when they first become a member of Civil Air Patrol should provide each with an adequate supply at no personal cost."

"As an aside, if any members have uniforms that no longer fit, or are no longer needed, it is requested that they be turned in to your unit Supply Officer or the Supply Officer at Group or Wing. They can be put to excellent use by organization members who can't afford to purchase uniforms."

# MISSION MEMOS

Submitted by Captain Chip Maher,  
Director of Emergency Services

**Mission 02M 0656 –9 April:** The Volusia County Sheriff's Department requested CAP's assistance in the search for a missing skydiver in the Deland area. At 1600 hrs. two skydivers had jumped at 5000 feet in high winds of 20 to 25 knots. One jumper was safely recovered at the drop zone, the other was missing. Search teams from the Volusia Fire Department and the sheriff's helicopter had been searching fruitlessly since then. The 72 year old male jumper had 1300 jumps to his credit. There was no confirmation that his chute opened, but neither was there any concrete evidence that it hadn't.

The unified Fire and Sheriff command requested CAP supply the Planning Section, Ground Search and Rescue [SAR] Teams and aircraft. A Command Base was immediately set up at the edge of the Area of Probability, the search area was defined and local USGS Topographic Maps were assembled. Ten Incident Command System Officers were called up and resources were allocated including two Rescue Wilderness Teams, a Mounted SAR Team, two Ground SAR teams, one boat unit, two helicopters, two CAP Aircraft, and eleven communication radios from the Fire Department and CAP.

A search plan was developed, team maps were gridded, blow-ups were annotated, briefings prepared, family members and witnesses were re-interviewed, Incident Action Plan was written and posted, and all grabbed a few winks before the sun broke over the horizon.

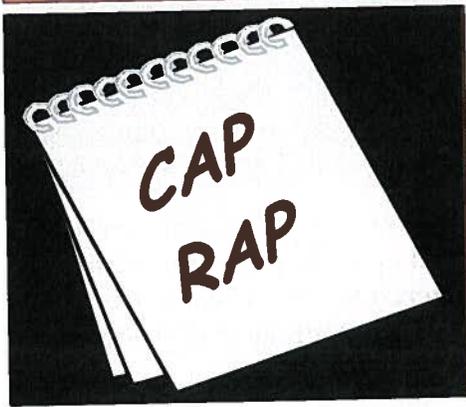
As the first rays of light streaked across the morning sky, 16 Mission Base personnel were in place, CAP Flight 841 from Group 2 was airborne followed by the Sheriff's helicopter. CAP Flight 840 from Orlando was on the deck for the next sortie. All command post radios were manned by CAP Radio Operators, a Ground SAR team was dispatched to the highest Area of Probability, two mounted SAR teams were inserted and the boat was launched...all by 0900 hrs. At 0925 hrs. a 'find' was reported inside the highest probability section of the search area. Unfortunately, the victim's parachute had not deployed and he was deceased. Wing Com-

mander, Col. Sharkey transmitted his personal thanks to each and every CAP person who responded or registered for the mission. He was proud of the extremely high level of professionalism displayed by all.

**Mission 02M 0677—12 April:** At 0205 hrs. the Air Force Rescue Coordination Center assigned a mission for a Cessna 150 which called in a "PAN PAN PAN" distress call. Group 2 was alerted by Captain Chip Maher, Director of Emergency Services to establish a Mission Base, assemble an aircrew, Ground Search and Rescue team, and a Directional Finder. The aircraft's N number was checked and it turned out to be registered to a Flight School in Ormond Beach. The owner was contacted and asked who was assigned to that aircraft. Luck set in when the owner then received a voice mail on his cellular phone. One of his pilots reported that they had engine trouble and landed at Palatka. A confirmation call to the Putnam County Sheriff determined that a deputy had given the crew a ride to the Holiday Inn. The hotel was contacted and the crew was confirmed to be safe and well and the mission was closed.

**Mission 02M 1360—19 June:** The Air Force Rescue Coordination Center at Langley Air Force Base in Virginia assigned an Electronic Locator Transmission [ELT] alarm mission to the Naples Senior Squadron in Group 5. An air crew was launched and a search was initiated at 1926 hrs. Flying a parallel search pattern above and around the Naples Airport, an ELT alarm signal was picked up on the Directional Finder and tracked. After a few sweeps, a crashed Malibu Aircraft was sighted and it was subsequently determined that the three persons on board did not survive the crash.

**As of 30 June, Florida Wing has responded to and successfully closed 1,421 missions.**



Level I Training was conducted for the very first time at the Florida Wing Conference. It was an overwhelming success with 16 members graduating, as follows: Lt. Col. Albert Ferris, Lt. Col. Michael Mceleney, Major Louis Reolo, 2Lt. Herman Pfeiffer, Senior Members Virginia Knudsen, Mark Siviglia, Jose Hernandez, Bernard Rosenberg, Solomon Sims, Cezary Sniadecki, Craig Touchton, Bennie Henley, Alfred Stipo, Joanna Hapner, Donna Scafariello, and William Barthel.



C/Capt. Sean O'Key is Group 5 Cadet of the Year and was also named Cadet of the Year for the SRQ Composite Squadron. Sean maintains the SRQ and Group websites.



Be sure to check out the website [www.flcadet.com](http://www.flcadet.com) newly created by Capt. Robert Sims for Cadet Programs. It has some really interesting links...go to FUN STUFF and click on any section of the picture. If you click on the control tower, you'll actually be linked to an airport control tower and you can listen in. It also has interesting information. The second Spaatz Award ever given in the nation was to a cadet in Florida—Kenneth Kelly in 1965. Our newest Spaatz cadet, Jonathan Calise, is Florida's 100th Spaatz Cadet.



C/1Lt. Timothy Medeiros, St. Petersburg Cadet Squadron, has been chosen to serve as a student ambassador to Australia and then he will travel to Washington, D. C. to be part of the Future World Leaders' Summit. The Student Ambassador Program was started by Pres. Eisenhower in 1963.

For three weeks in Australia, Timothy will encounter and live with people very much like himself but in a different economic, political and cultural environment. He will also meet government and political leaders. In Washington, Cadet Medeiros will meet teen representatives from 30 countries. They will attend workshops and seminars at the International Monetary Fund, Organization of American States, National Defense University, Capitol Hill, The White House, Pentagon, State Department and the U. S. Holocaust Memorial Museum.



Col. Albert A. Allenback, USAF, will be the Executive Director of the 60,000 member Civil Air Patrol upon his retirement in July. Out of a field of 40 applicants, the Board of Governors unanimously endorsed Allenback. Lt. Gen. Nicholas Kehoe, Chairman of the Board said, "It was a difficult decision, but the Selection Committee felt that he was the best qualified to lead the CAP National Staff in serving the CAP volunteer members, elected CAP leadership, and the CAP Board of Governors." Colonel Allenback said, "I appreciate the Board of Governors' confidence in my ability to lead the Civil Air Patrol, U. S. Air Force Auxiliary, as it transforms into one of America's leading volunteer Homeland Security organizations."



Each week the Pentagon receives a mission summary report from Lt. Col. John Dean, CAP-USAF. The following is just a brief digest from only one such report

Saturday, 4 May—North Dakota Wing flew 2 sorties searching for a missing 56 year old man with a heart condition. The subject was reported missing Friday at 1600 and has not yet been found.

Friday, 3 May—Arizona CAP Wing flew the AF/CV and AETC/DO on Goldwater Range Complex survey mission to observe first hand the level of professionalism and excellence of the Civil Air Patrol aircrews.

Thursday, 2 May—Maryland Wing flew two National Weather Service personnel to survey damage and better gauge the size of the tornado that struck Maryland on 28 April.

Sunday, 29 April—Maryland Wing supported the Emergency Management Agency [MEMA] with two photographic reconnaissance sorties to obtain imagery of the path of the F5 tornado that had passed through Charles County in Southern Maryland.

Ongoing—At the request of the AFNSEP, Louisiana Wing is conducting ongoing aerial reconnaissance of high river level induced sinkholes in downtown Monroe.



In spite of Florida Wing responding to more Search and Rescue missions than any other wing in the nation—an average of 1.25 missions every day of the year—and in spite of our 4000 members—more Cadets and Senior Members than any other wing in the nation—giving so generously of their professional volunteer services day in and day out to Florida and its communities, 19 states appropriate more annual funds to their Civil Air Patrol Wings than does the State of Florida. For example:

Alaska—\$503,100; Pennsylvania—\$300,000; Illinois—\$250,000; Colorado—\$177,267; and Tennessee—\$165,243.

Florida CAP has never received a greater appropriation than \$55,000!!!



# From The MAILBAG

The Editor reserves the right to edit letters for brevity, clarity, good taste and accuracy; to reject letters and to avoid libel or slander of others.

The quality of your publication provides a great service to the members of Florida Wing and others who are privileged to read the publication. Its substantive, eye-catching stuff like this that bridges the communication void and keeps everyone in the loop. Keep up the great work.

**Lt. Gen. Nicholas Kehoe**  
Chairman, Board of Governors, CAP/  
USAFA



Thanks for putting some of my folks on the cover of the FLWG magazine. That was real class!

**Col. Larry Trick,**  
Maryland Wing Commander



I am a cadet from Miami Beach and a reader of FLORIDA FACTS. It is a great publication.

**C/CMSgt. Eddie Rodriguez**  
Miami Beach Cadet Squadron



I must say FLORIDA FACTS is able to capture and accurately depict the hard work and total dedication of our force in action within Florida and the Southeast Region. The recognition you are able to provide for these untiring and unselfish individuals is a tribute to their professionalism and clear perspective of our organization for all to see.

**Col. Thomas J. Stufano**  
SER Vice Commander

You are doing an absolutely spectacular job with the FLORIDA FACTS! It has to be the very best news publication in the CAP. Thanks again for your outstanding effort.

**Major Frank N. Haas**



I like the FLORIDA FACTS format. Well done!

**Lt. Col. Karl Geng**  
National Headquarters Staff



I am certainly impressed with the quality of your publication.

**Major Perry Snell**  
SRQ Composite Squadron  
*Editor's Note: Maj. Snell is an original founder of the Civil Air Patrol.*



I would like to commend you on the quality publication that the Florida Wing has developed. The FLORIDA FACTS is an interesting and engaging publication. Keep up the outstanding magazine!

**2Lt. Michael R. Odle**  
South Dakota Wing Director, PA



The magazine coverage of the 60th Gala of the CAP/Air Force Auxiliary at the Air and Space Museum was sensational.

**Charlotte K. Frank, Vice President**  
Research & Development  
McGraw Hill Companies

You all do great work and make us proud.

**Lt. Col. Neil Cosentino,**  
Group Five



Hard to believe but your issues get better every time. This past one was OUTSTANDING. I've heard so many positive comments about it. Thanks to all of you for all your hard work.

**Capt. Vickie Meyer, FLWG**  
Director, Cadet Programs



Congratulations to you and your staff for the job you are doing on FLORIDA FACTS. I am especially pleased to see the "Let Us Pray" article by our wing chaplain and the support Col. Sharkey is giving the wing by example. He recognizes our spiritual needs in performing our mission to the USAF and the Nation. May God bless the Civil Air Patrol and America.

**Chaplain Lt. Col. Larry Upham**



Great job on FLORIDA FACTS.

**Mary Nell Crowe, Director**  
NHQ Marketing and Public Affairs

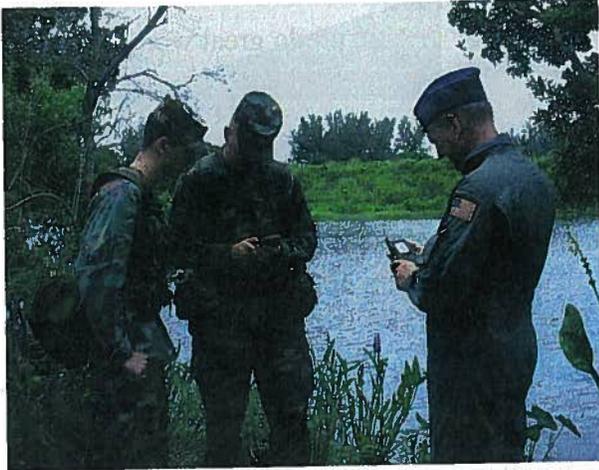


Gets better and better with each issue. I'm sending my copy to ATC friends in England.

**Brig. Gen. William Cass**  
Former National Commander CAP

## ALWAYS A BETTER WAY!

Senior Member Dave Harrington of the Lake Worth-Lantana Cadet Squadron had a 'brain wave'. Wouldn't a GPS be quicker and more efficient for es-



L. to r. C/Capt. Jose Flores, C/Lt. Col. Scott Tessmer and S/M Dave Harrington load in coordinates for a field test of the GPS units during a Search and Rescue training exercise.

establishing latitude and longitude coordinates rather than plotting it on a sectional map! When timing is a factor in an emergency mission, every second is vital.

Dave contacted the Magellen Corp. regarding their hand held GPS units and received an instant response from Thales Navigation of Santa Clara, CA., who represent Magellen products.

. They were extremely helpful in providing technical recommendations suited to the intended purpose and donated four Meridian units for the squadron.

On a recent field test in a wilderness area Cadets Tessmer and Flores were able to show an 'old hand' some new tricks! Technology just seems to flow through their veins, thought Harrington. The cadets made comparisons with their magnetic compasses and field gear and found the new Meridian GPS units to be more than up to the task. The units proved to be rugged, can float in water, and can be custom

designed to fit the needs of the user.

Several other cadet members have tested the units and found them to be user-friendly, multi-functional and totally responsive to SAR requirements. The only suggestion that emerged from the testing was "take plenty of batteries with you."

## CAP MOU's IN PROCESS

At the Salvation Army National Headquarters in Arlington, Virginia, a new cooperative Memorandum of Understanding [MOU] was signed between the Salvation Army and the Civil Air Patrol. General Rick Bowling, Colonel Al Allenback, and Colonel Scott Hamilton were present for the ceremony.

CAP NHQ is also currently working closely with American Red Cross officials to update the MOU between our two organizations. This is not expected to be a lengthy process as it is simply an update modification to an existing MOU.

## TOW PILOT TRAINING APPROVED

In response to a field request, HQ CAP/DO and HQ CAP-USAF/XO have approved the use of training funds for the training and evaluating of glider tow pilots. These funds may now be used to qualify CAP Glider Tow Pilots. However, it is clearly underscored that this new authorization does not include a parallel increase in training funding. The authorization merely provides an additional avenue for the use of existing training allocations. Pilots qualified to use these funds should be highly skilled and totally dedicated to supporting the cadet glider orientation program. The current CAP Form 10 procedures are not modified.

## AFA AWARD TO CIVIL AIR PATROL

CAP NHQ advises that Mr. John Politi, National President, Air Force Association [AFA] announced the Civil Air Patrol has been selected as AFA's 2002 'Hoyt S. Vandenberg Award' winner for CAP's outstanding contribution to Aerospace Education. The award will be presented at the AFA's National Convention in September. Congratulations to the CAP National Staff and the CAP Volunteers who worked so hard to earn this prestigious recognition.



**All Aboard!! Conference attendees leaving for the Half Moon Beach Hotel via the cable-car type trolley for a Hospitality Mixer.**



**Hospitality Mixer well underway with barbecue wings, salads, veggie dip, fruit, assorted cheeses, beverages and amiable company.**



**As the sun silently sets below the horizon the volleyball teams dig into the sand for a heated play-off game.**



**Saturday registration went so rapidly and smoothly that before the General Assembly all had more than enough time for coffee and...**



**The CAP Bookstore from Maxwell Air Force Base did a thriving business during the 3-day weekend.**



**Free Flight Suits! Volunteers are sorting by size U. S. Air Force Flight Suits offered free to all attendees as an unexpected surprise.**

# E-MAIL EMISSIONS



The following Florida Wing Cadet Statistics have been released by Lt. Col. Robert Masiker:

- The Cadet Corps has 301 female cadets.
- There are 333 cadets in Groups 4 and 7. The largest contingent in cadet membership.
- The top 3 squadrons in cadet members are Coral Springs Cadet Squadron with 84, Gainesville with 76 and Sweet Water 75.
- Four cadets have reached the age of 21, 329 are 15 years old and 118 are 12 years old.

Every CAP member should be proficient in knowing how and when to perform the Heimlich Maneuver - a lifesaving technique to stop choking. Detailed information is available at no charge at [www.heimlichinstitute.org/maneuver.html](http://www.heimlichinstitute.org/maneuver.html)

The National Center for Tobacco-Free Kids offers a free activity guide at [www.kickbuttsday.org](http://www.kickbuttsday.org)

*The typical CAP family!!!* Lt. Col. David Mikelson recently unearthed, from a long forgotten carton, some college photos of his wife in uniform on the drill team at Ohio State University. As a member of the University Coed Cadet Corps, CAP Capt. Sharon Taylor competed in the midwest and nationally and was featured on the inside full photo back cover of - are you ready for this??? That's right, LIFE MAGAZINE.

Renovation of the Ormond Senior Flight CAP Hangar is on schedule. Site preparation and delivery of materials has taken place and

construction and renovation is nearing completion.

2Lt. Steven R. Lichliter, PCO

The 2002 FLORIDA WING CHALLENGE, two day event, is scheduled for August 30 and September 1 at the Florida Elks Youth Camp in Umatilla.

This fun and competitive weekend is open to senior members and cadets. Individual and team events include competition in DDR Skits, ELT Circle, 2K Walk or Run, Model Rocketry, Compass Reading, Rope Climbing, Volleyball, Radio Operations, IDR, Tug of War, Paper Aircraft, Flag Folding, Slow Pitch Softball, Night Compass Course, Basic First Aid and many others.

Lt. Col. Rex R. Meyer

Virus hackers are becoming much more innovative. Now, there are viruses that can infect your computer without your even opening an attachment. Your system can be diseased just by the previewing of E-Mail in the preview pane.

Even if you just click to delete E-Mail, the preview will be activated. If you suspect an E-Mail may have a virus, you can delete it without having it open in the preview pane. To do this: [1] Open the E-Mails just above and below the suspect E-Mail, respond to each if necessary but don't delete them yet. [2] Now that you have processed the E-Mail just above and below the suspect mail, [3] highlight the E-Mail just above the suspicious transmission, [4] hold down your Shift Key and click on the E-Mail below. This will highlight all three files with the suspect sandwiched between the other two. Now hit delete and all three are gone without previewing the suspected E-Mail.

# THE NEW CAP/USAF LIAISON OFFICE

By State Director Jerry Angley

Ever since the early days when Civil Air Patrol was conducting coastal patrols for German U-boats and towing targets for the War Department, military officers and NCOs have been assigned to advise and assist CAP members in performance of their missions. Initially this cadre of personnel came from the Army Air Corps. When the U.S. Air Force became an independent service and CAP was officially integrated as the auxiliary, Air Force personnel took over this role. This structure continued until the mid-nineties when military draw downs gave way to using retired officers and NCOs filling the wing liaison positions.

Beginning in 1995 the wing liaison staffs were employed by Civil Air Patrol even though they were accountable to the Air Force. This structure continued until reports by the Government Accounting Office and the Department of Defense Inspector General recommended that the liaison staff be brought directly back under Air Force. Initially the liaison personnel were to become independent contractors working for the Air Force but problems obtaining insurance and not having the ability to obligate Air Force funds led to other options. The final resolution was to convert the wing liaison staff to federal employees. This action took place 25 March of this year.

All of us in the LO office hope the conversion is transparent. Other than the fact that we no longer wear the Air Force uniform there is little to no change in the services provided to Civil Air Patrol. We did end up with new titles. LO's are now called state directors and LNCO's are deputy state directors for

CAP-USAF liaison affairs. It's such a long title that you will most likely hear us answer the phone with the familiar phrase "Air Force Liaison Office."

One major change is that USAF funded training missions are now released by our office instead of the CAP-USAF Southeast Liaison Region. Our region still controls the amount that is allocated but managing the funds is our responsibility. We highly encourage the wing to use as much of the allocated training funds as is possible. We are seeing more and more SAR/DR exercises and Form 5/91 check-rides being accomplished than previous years, but we still need your help. Please forward the mission paperwork to the wing headquarters as soon as possible after the mission is closed out. All the money on the Form 10 is obligated and cannot be used for other activities until we close out the mission. Also please let us know whenever you cancel a training mission. This will free up the dollars for future training. If you need help completing the mission paperwork contact Luis Garcia for Form 5/91 check-rides or Larry Gray for SAR/DR exercises. If you have any questions regarding how to submit Form 10's or mission paperwork for reimbursement, give us a call at the state director's office.

Our primary focus remains the same. We are here to advise and assist the wing in the day-to-day operations of Civil Air Patrol. You will continue to see us at unit meetings, exercises, encampments, aerospace education activities, and a multitude of other events. The only difference is the way we will be dressed and addressed.

# CHALLENGES OF TODAY, HOPES FOR TOMORROW

Over the years, those who have served in the Florida Wing as Chaplains and Moral Leadership Officers have looked beyond themselves and have tried to make a difference in the lives of those whom they serve. As chaplains they have provided spiritual and moral leadership as well as being an integral part of missions, training, and endeavors within their unit. As Moral Leadership Officers they too have taken the lead to insure that Moral Leadership Seminars are provided for the cadets and have been active in all aspects of service within their unit.

They have spent many volunteer hours to that effect, The efforts have not gone unrewarded as many have been aided through the local unit and by participation in wing and regional events such as the encampments. For all of this we give thanks to the Lord for what he has done and how He has used us for His purposes. Our littleness becomes His greatness when His will is applied to our lives.

As we look beyond ourselves to others, we find both opportunity for service and opportunity for fulfillment in all we do.

The challenges of our nation have never been greater than they are today. From all areas of life we are truly, as our president has said, at **WAR**. From the direct attack on our nation, to the frontal attack on the morals and values which we all hold dear, to the very foundation of our fibers of faith, we are engaged in warfare that requires our participation. Should we ignore the challenges we affect the hope of many of tomorrow. How will you respond to the challenges? Everything we do has consequences in life and the great or sad thing about it is that it is up to someone else to determine the consequences of



Chaplain Major Dewey E. Painter,  
Florida Wing Chief of Chaplains

our action. If we speed, we have law enforcement to remind us that we should not, if we give someone a helping hand we have the change of emotions on their face that reveals the consequences of our actions.

The challenges that members of the Civil Air Patrol are facing to serve our nation in time of need has not been as great as is today.

Two great challenges are facing the wing in areas where Chaplains and Moral Leadership Officers play such an important role. The first is more people to serve. The need to meet the minimum requirement of a

Chaplain for every unit in the Florida Wing is critical. Because of the educational requirement for Chaplains they are harder to recruit, but they can be recruited. If each member would speak to their faith group leader about serving as a Chaplain that would be a great help. A second part of the first challenge is for Moral Leadership Officers. Since MLO's need only two years of college, more can qualify for this position. Encourage senior members to check out this specialty and apply if qualified.

The second challenge is to meet the needs of our cadets within the Florida Wing for Moral Leadership Sessions as mandated by the CAP Cadet Program Achievement Specifications. In each of the four phase levels that a cadet goes through, he or she must complete the Moral Leadership portion in order to be eligible for advancement. If the unit cannot provide the training than the cadet's advancements are withheld. This should never happen and I believe it to be one of the most important challenges of today to help build the hope of tomorrow in our future leaders. Working together, we can meet this challenge. The consequences of our actions will make for a stronger wing and a safer nation.

## NEWS FLASH

The Florida Department of Environmental Protection [FDEP] is now vigorously enforcing all statutes which nearly every CAP pilot violates. The pre-flight checking of fuel by taking a 2 to 3 ounce fuel sample from an aircraft and dumping it onto the tarmac is a violation which just cost Embry-Riddle in Daytona a \$25,000.00 fine. For dumping as little as one ounce of raw fuel on the ground can cost a private individual up to \$10,000.00 for each such incident. The following are the Codes and Regulations that FDEP are enforcing throughout the state: Florida Resource Recovery and Management Act-Section 403; Florida Administrative Code 62-710 and 62-730; and Code of Federal Regulations 260 thru 266, 268 and 279. Be aware and be sure to change your pre-flight habits.

With 2,352 aircraft logged upon landing at Lakeland-Linder Airport for the 2002 Sun 'N' Fun, CAP had not a single safety-related incident to respond to. This was the SAFEST mission of all 11 years of CAP's participation. Maj. Raymond Spengler served as Project Officer and was tasked with 19 overdue aircraft, and 33 ELT alarm searches of which 18 were found and si-

lenced. 196 CAP participants worked a total of 2750 man/hours over the ten day event.

The first class of FLWG personnel to attend National Guard RECON training has graduated. During the three days of intensive training, the class learned navigation, safety, mission planning, satellite communications, satellite TV, and impact assessment. The fourth day was a field training exercise for putting all the newly learned knowledge to use. The graduates are:

Group 2-Capt. Travis Tharp  
Group 3-Capt. George Barker  
-S/M Brett Goldston  
Group 4-1Lt. Justin Fetter  
Group 6-Maj. George Navarini

The Florida Wing Color Guard-C/ CMSgt Jackie Broedell, C/SMSgt Jennifer Obranic, C/TSgt Marissa Streifel, and C/SRA Celeste Brewer-placed first overall in the SER Color Guard Competition and second in Inspection.

David Leali

C/TSgt Angela Phillips of the New Smyrna Composite Squadron was appointed Cadet Commander. She also was recognized as the Squadron Cadet of the Year. Senior Member of the Year award went to 2Lt. Glenn E. Powers.

On behalf of The Spaatz Association [TSA] Gen. Richard Anderson, former NATCAP Commander and TSA National President presented a \$100 check to Cadet Heidi Glaudel to assist her participation in this year's International Air Cadet Exchange [IACE] program.

Southeast Region Commander Antonio Pineda announces the following changes in staff assignments: Col. Tom Stufano to Vice Commander Government Affairs; Col. Valerie Brown to Vice Commander; Maj. Eileen Parker to Chief of Staff; and Capt. Ed Villalba to Director Cadet Programs.

Cadet Jonathon Calise of the Lantana-Lake Worth Cadet Squadron just became the latest Spaatz Cadet in Florida Wing. C/Lt. Col. Joshua Nemser was elected FLWG Cadet Advisory Council Chairman at the wing conference.

Lt Col. Russ Reichmann advises Mission Symbol B18 no longer exists and must not be used.

## MEET YOUR TEAMMATES



Meet Major Joseph J. Martin, newly appointed Vice Commander-South of Florida Wing, as appointed by Commander Matt Sharkey. Major Martin previously served as Group 7 Commander. This

Group encompasses 11 units and over 475 members throughout the Miami-Dade and Monroe Counties. Joe is a holder of the Carl A. Spaatz Award. He has held twelve key unit level positions and has received 19 awards, medals and ribbons. Major Martin is vested with Solo Aeronautical Wings and numerous specialty and mission rated badges.

Lt. Col. Wellesley Hannah is newly appointed by Commander Sharkey as wing Vice Commander-North. Wes joined CAP New York Wing in 1974. He served as a commander of two groups for



four years and was a wing check pilot for two years. Lt. Col. Hannah joined Florida Wing in 1998 and held various positions in squadrons and groups. Hannah is a Command Pilot, Observer, qualified for Counter Narcotics as well as Mission Incident Commander. Lt. Col. Hannah has received numerous awards, commander commendations and Certificates of Appreciation.



Col. John G Brennan is FLWG Director of Government Relations, Legislative Commander and Liaison Officer to the United States Air Force and the State of Florida. John is an active Command Pilot, Mission Pilot, and performs Orientation Flights for CAP Cadets. He also holds a Level VIII, FAA Safety Pilot rank. Lt. Col.

Brennan is active in the Air Force Association, was an Advisor to Florida Aviation Systems Planning Program and a Faculty Advisor to the Florida State University Flying Club. Currently, John is on the faculty at FSU in the Marketing Department. He has extensive management experience with some of the most major corporations in the U.S. Lt. Col. Brennan is a task force member for wing's annual report.

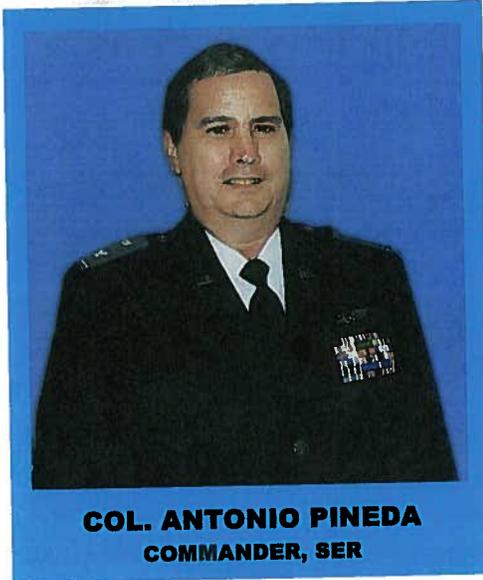
Lt. Col. Virginia Cullity currently serves on Florida Wing staff as Emergency Administrator. Over the many years that Lt. Col. Cullity has been an active member of CAP, she has held many important assignments, simply because she never says no to serving. Since 1992, Virginia has sold 35,000 foot long hot dogs to raise funds for CAP. A judo teaching injury ended Cullity's career as a Physical Education Teacher and her active participation with the Civil Air Patrol "saved my mental health". Virginia has been involved with all levels of Search and Rescue missions-lost planes, distressed boats, aerial communication over wildfire areas, bringing food, water and clothing to hurricane victims and EPIRB/ELT locating. Lt. Col. Cullity still travels around the state training new recruits and teaching aerospace education courses. She received a well deserved Exceptional Service Award at the recent wing conference.







# AROUND THE REGION



**COL. ANTONIO PINEDA**  
COMMANDER, SER



Mark your calendar...the Southeast Region Conference 2002 will be held at the Wyndham Garden Hotel in Atlanta, GA. on 5-6 October. Final plans are currently being formulated but it is already apparent that this will be the best conference yet, by a long shot.



Col. Pineda announces the promotion of Col. Don Greene to Commander of the Georgia Wing and Col. John Tilton as Commander of the Alabama Wing.



South East Region nominated Jonathan E. Vazquez of Puerto Rico's Muniz Air Base Cadet Squadron for the Cadet of the Year 2002 Award. Cadet Vazquez was recognized for his excellent record and exceptional achievements.

A select board of CAP and Air Force personnel had a difficult job of recommending one of the eight region cadet nominees for the award. The National Executive Director selected Northeast Region's Cadet Jennifer A. Neville of New York's Rockland Cadet Squadron as the Cadet of the Year 2002.



Each year the wing commanders recognize the top CAP Composite or Cadet Squadron selected for Squadron of Merit Award for their respective wing. Each Squadron of Merit receives a distinctive certificate and streamer recognizing them as the best cadet unit in that particular wing. One wing has completed their selection...the Aibonito High School Cadet Squadron is the SOM of the Puerto Rico Wing.



CAP Chief of Communications, Malcolm C. Kyser Jr. reports that the revised CAPR 100-2 is published and immediately available at the Communication's website [www.ntc.cap.gov/comm](http://www.ntc.cap.gov/comm), Since this is a totally new regulation, it requires thorough review and study.



The American Radio Relay League's [ARRL] "Field Day" was a great success. Amateur radio groups assembled radio stations in the field and operated for a period of time collecting points with other stations under 'emergency power/portable' conditions. Some of the stations were no more than a regularly installed mobile unit while others were tremendous operations with numerous stations with towers, alternative power systems, and complete amenities for comfort. Tennessee Wing's newest composite squadron, Cumberland Mountain operated station K4YZ. CAP used this Field Day to promote amateur radio and radio electronics to cadets, while training them on how to establish a mission base. There was a bivouac area for sleeping accommodations and a field kitchen where meals were prepared.



Lt. Col. Kay Cunningham, Director announces the 2002 SER Staff College will be held at the McGhee Tyson Air National Guard Base at the Knoxville, Tennessee Airport from 30 September to 3 October. The student body is limited to the first sixty applications received. Additional information and application instructions may be obtained at [kcunningham@juno.com](mailto:kcunningham@juno.com).



## FINAL FLIGHT

**1Lt. Ernesto Rodriguez  
Mann Middle School Cadet Squadron**

**Civil Air Patrol Founder  
Lt. Col. Elmer R. Boyer Sr.**

The cadets and senior members of the Illinois Wing, Civil Air Patrol mourn the passing of

**Lt. Colonel Robert E. Greenfeld, CAP  
1919—2002**

NOTE: Lt. Colonel Greenfeld formally served as a member of the Florida Wing in the early and mid 1990's and was very active within the Emergency Services/ Operations sections of the wing.

*We offer thanks for their generous gift of dedicated  
volunteerism, patriotism and fraternalism.*

**Colonel Matthew R. Sharkey  
Florida Wing Commander**

### SAD AND HEAVY HEART....

1Lt. Ernesto J. Rodriguez first joined the Civil Air Patrol as a member of the Miami Beach Cadet Squadron. He entered the program shortly after his son in March 2000. Lt. Rodriguez spent his Civil Air Patrol career providing our cadets with opportunities that would not have otherwise been available. On many occasions I observed Lt. Rodriguez as he would arrive at meetings with his car filled to the brim with cadets. He made a practice of making sure that each and every cadet had an equal chance at success by instilling strong, sound values founded in the principles and practices of leadership and moral fortitude. Some may remember Lt. Rodriguez from this year's Homestead AFB encampment where he served as a TAC Officer.

He was thoughtful, kind, generous, a wonderful husband, and above all a caring father.

**Major Joseph J. Martin,  
Group 7 Commander**

### **"I LOST MY DAD....."**

"For me, I lost my Squadron Commander, a First Lieutenant, as well as Ernesto Rodriguez, who would also wear the uniform of a dad, and would guide my sister and me through tough times like these. It is most unfortunate that he died at the young age of 42, but when the BIG officer up there said it was time to go, my dad obeyed his orders and went. It is not good to question an officer's decision, much the same we cannot question Him and His decision.

My dad had a strong back pain. Despite this excruciating pain, he continued our meetings, continued work, and continued being the best dad my sister and I could ever think of. We must learn from this. We must take our pain but continue. My dad did just that with his back pain, and would have liked us to do the same.

My family was greatly honored with the wonderful color guard we had. My father gave so much to the cadets and to the program itself, that the least I thought we could do was to give him a military burial, which to me and my family has been the most honorable thing we could have possibly done. It was even more of an honor having members of the Civil Air Patrol there with us. Hoorah!

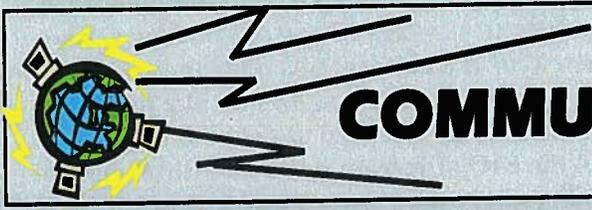
My dad was proud of me and my accomplishments in CAP, I too, am proud, but even more proud of having my father, or Lt. Rodriguez as I called him, there at my side to share that joy with. We both always looked forward to taking down challenges that arose within the squadron. Now, the challenge is with us all to continue onward.

I cry not for a loss, I cry because I am happy to have served with him. I am happy that he is in a better place. Happy am I that his spirit lives on in my heart and in the hearts of all. My dad said, "We are not here to die. Rather, dying is part of living." He also wished that when and if, he ever had to leave us and this world, that he wanted to be remembered for a little something he left behind. A small legacy of sorts.

Well dad, you left behind an infinite number of people whose lives you touched in some way or another and that everyone of those people all said you were a great man. I know for a fact you will be remembered greatly by them all. I have saluted you one final time, for I was saluting your life and your honor. I am proud to carry your name onward, and proud to be your son. I vow to hold onto your flag as a sign of your honor, and vow to take care of your cadets. Lieutenant, I will carry on. I love you very much dad.

Now, my family and I close a chapter and continue with the Book of Life. My father taught me that one."

**C/CMSgt Eddie Rodriguez**



# COMMUNICATIONS

**Maj. Paul Blystone**  
FLWG Director Communications

I know every one is tired of hearing about Sunset Dates. The one we were most concerned about was the 31 December 2001 deadline to have all non-wideband radios removed from service and those without compliant radios would lose their call signs. A number of our corporate aircraft are without compliant radios. Thanks to everyone and their innovative minds we have managed to respond to all missions, training exercises, etc., with complete success.

DoD issued a new directive stating that all new radio equipment purchased by the Civil Air Patrol would have to be APCO Project 25 compliant [Digital]. Now we are not only dealing with the narrowband issue. This put NHQ on hold as to new purchases. They have to find manufacturers that will make radios to meet our new standards. There is hope for the future, money has been appropriated and when these radios are available for purchase NHQ will begin supplying all of CAP. This will be a long process. Florida will get its fair share. National has developed a formula for issuance of radio equipment based on need. Florida Wing ranks at the very top of the list with the largest membership of any wing in CAP, having the most "ELT" missions, [average exceeds more than one per/day], plus many Redcap missions. Our number of training missions are second to none.

Our repeater network has grown to 18 in Florida Wing. It has been a long process getting all in working order. There were two, Ocala and Stuart, that were working on one tone only. Now they have been made capable of handling both the Roam tone as well as the Discrete tones. Ft. Myers has a temporary problem with their Discrete tone. Tallahassee has a control panel problem, and Miami is temporarily shutdown possibly from a lightning strike. Hopefully these problems will be resolved before you read this article.

Technology has made tremendous change for us in communications, not only in the radio equipment, but in the way we keep our records. Our wing Licensing Officer, 1Lt. Bob Colbert has all the records linked together with NHQ MML and updated weekly. These records are from where our Comm Roster is derived, all new ROA cards entered and issued, and all Radio Station Applica-

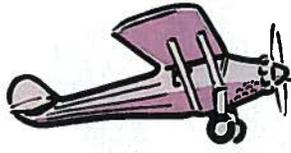
tions are processed and issued. Colbert has developed the communications web page listing all individuals who hold ROA cards, and included in this report is the date of Basic ROA, Advanced ROA, CAPID, call signs and compliant radio equipment. This is for everyone to view on the internet.

CEMS is another technological advance. This stands for "Communications Equipment Management System" and is managed by the National Technology Center [NTC], Richmond, VA. The entire inventory of communications equipment is on file there. The responsibility for inventory control of radio equipment has been removed from Logistics and turned over to the Directors of Wing Communications. New Form 37's have been made for transferring, adding, and disposing of communications equipment. Once implemented this system will make it easier to track and control equipment.

Inter Squad Radios [ISR] have only one manufacturer authorized for our use and that is ICOM. They produce the ICOM IC4008M, a 14 channel, low power, short range radio for \$85.00. At present Family Radio Service [FRS] radios are not authorized for use by the Civil Air Patrol. There is some talk going on and this issue will come up for discussion at the National Board Meeting in August as to whether these radios will be permitted in non-mission activities, i.e. parking lot parking assistance, flight lines, bivouacs, encampments, etc.

Members have been buying the TAIT T2020 which is still available from the CAP Supply Depot for \$399. These have approximately a ten year life since it will probably be that long before the transition to APCO 25 [Digital] will be enforced. Many members have purchased the Vertex VX 150 Handheld radio for \$130 that is wideband only but will be good until transition to narrowband sometime after 1 January 2008.

All old non-wideband corporate radios are to be turned back to Logistics. These radios can not be sold or destroyed. DRMO will dispose of them. Any such equipment should be turned in to Director of Logistics, Major Ray Spengler, Civil Air Patrol Headquarters, 2700 Eagle Staff Court, MacDill Air Force Base, FL 32016-5208.



## EMERGENCY SERVICES



### SOUTHEAST REGION HOLDS SIX STATE SEARCH AND RESCUE TRAINING EXERCISE

No one can say that the newly appointed Southeast Region Commander, Col. Antonio Pineda lets any grass grow under his feet. In less than a year, Pineda selected and assigned all his command staff and, in addition to all else, planned, scheduled and implemented a Search and Rescue Exercise for interactive training of all six wings under his command—Alabama, Georgia, Florida, Mississippi, Tennessee and Puerto Rico.

The two day training mission in Florida began with a SER/RCC alert for a missing Cessna 182 on a flight from Fernandina Beach to Deland. A Mission Base was immediately established at Orlando and Groups 2 and 4 were mobilized and tasked to conduct ramp checks along the line of flight. The Information Officer began gathering radar, historical weather, pilot/passengers and witness information.

Slightly over two hours following the first alert, a second missing aircraft mission was opened for a Cessna 172 that departed from Opa Locka on a flight to Tallahassee. All remaining groups were mobilized and ramp checks were assigned. INREQ [Information Request] Press Notices were written and released for the public to report any significant observations. The Information Officer learned the plane had landed in Punta Gorda to purchase some oil so the search narrowed to Punta Gorda, Gainesville, and Tallahassee, with the Everglades eliminated.

The INREQ produced reports to the Sumter County Sheriff's Office of a possible crash. Coordinates were plotted and a ground team and aircraft were launched. Debris was spotted from the air and the ground team located the simulated crash site strewn with C-172 parts. Shortly thereafter, the Cessna 182 was reported to have landed at Deland having been forced to go around a converging storm system.

The ENDEX was announced late in the afternoon of the second day. The Incident Commander, Capt. Paul Siglock thanked all participants as did Wing Commander Sharkey, who additionally stated that this SAREX proved that Florida is more than adequately trained for a multi-state mission response. SER Col.

Pineda expressed congratulations to all six wings for a superior performance and Col. Albert Allenback, USAF relayed, "Congratulations to Southeast Region for a superior SAREX...well done by all."

### FLORIDA GEARS UP FOR HURRICANE

*"The situation is grave. Over 8 million people are currently flooded. CAP facilities have been severely impacted. Most of the squadron buildings in Orange, Osceola, Polk, Broward, Palm Beach, Glades, Highlands, Hendry and Collier County are either destroyed or flooded. Many CAP personnel are either displaced due to mandatory evacuations or isolation due to flooding or impassable roads covered with debris. The storm continues to impact the state as it moves northwest. Groups 1 and 2 are inoperative. All other Groups are on standby. Four aircraft are operational out of Sarasota, 4 are in Vero Beach and all other aircraft are riding out the storm in the Panhandle but are ready for immediate call-up. The CAP/HF Radio Net has 19 stations on-line and checked in. Florida Wing remains at Level One and will remain so for the foreseeable future."*

Thus began the statewide Hurricane Wilma exercise as directed by the Florida Emergency Operations Center. Were this a real storm it would have caused far more damage over a wider area than did Hurricane Andrew. This four day post-landfall exercise was a full scale event with actual field deployment of many assets. CAP provided air resources and slow-scan and visual impact damage assessment in addition to all normally required mission tactical damage resources.

Capt. Chip Maher, FLWG Director of Emergency Services reported, "CAP provided a professional response and the state now knows our wing's capabilities. Every training exercise makes us more capable and helps make sure that we are ready when the real one hits. The state now considers the Civil Air Patrol as an important professionally trained emergency resource as they do the National Guard or Federal Emergency Management Agency."

# SAFETY FIRST

Maj. Tek Konkel, Florida Wing Safety Officer

**C**ongratulations to Lt. Col. David Fuller for being selected as the Florida Wing Safety Officer of the Year. Col. Fuller's honor was announced by Florida Wing Commander, Colonel Matt Sharkey at the wing conference in Sarasota.

The first phase of training to become a rated Mission Safety Officer was also conducted at the conference. Ten senior members attended classroom training designated to familiarize them with the ICS structure as it relates to Civil Air Patrol and the role of the Safety Officer at missions of any type. Operational Risk Management concepts were discussed and all attendees received a 101T-MSO card with congratulations for their accomplishment. These members will be offered the opportunity to demonstrate the skills required to become fully qualified Mission Safety Officers at a funded training mission later this year.

The May Edition of the "Sentinel", the official safety newsletter of the Civil Air Patrol contained an article, among others, titled "*Sterile Cockpit*" I believe this article warrants repeating in its entirety due to its relevance.

It's no secret when a pilot's attention is diverted from the task of maintaining aircraft control, the chance of having a mishap increases. One way to help avoid mishaps, especially taxi mishaps, is by utilizing a "sterile cockpit".

No, it's not a new blood-borne pathogen requirement. Nor is it a pilot condition caused by ozone depletion. The term refers to making the cockpit "sterile of distractions." When should you have a sterile cockpit? Anytime the workload is high and concentration is of the utmost importance. To emphasize my point again—distractions can result in mishaps, especially when the workload is high. High workload generally occurs when the

aircraft transitions from one phase of flight to another—basically, all of the taxi and flight phases except the cruise portion.

Taxi ops can have its fair share of distractions; making and listening to radio calls; accomplishing checklists; setting up navigational equipment, looking at the chart; etc.

So, how do we make the cockpit free from distraction. First, do everything you can before the aircraft begins to move or after the aircraft is parked. Additionally, limit conversation to only that which is absolutely required to safely conduct the flight. You should brief your desire for a sterile cockpit not only to your crew, but to your passengers as well. Be sure to let everyone know that they should not hesitate to point out traffic or bring attention to anything they feel affects the safety of the flight.

The "101" critical days of summer have begun. Hurricane season has begun. Are you prepared? More accidents occur during this period than during any comparable period of the year. Add to that the safety issues of the hurricane season and it's easy to see why most of our reportable safety related incidents happen between Memorial Day and Labor Day.

Prepare now for the months ahead. Proper preparation does a lot to mitigate the results of dangerous situations.

Don't forget, last year's supplies may need to be replaced with this year's supplies. Don't be a victim of 'hurricane amnesia'. Even small tropical storms can create a lot of damage due to flooding, high winds and flying debris.

Remember: *Think safety, act safety, be safe.*

## WING CONFERENCE WAS 'STANDING ROOM ONLY'

As the clock struck noon, cars, vans and mini-busses pulled into the curved entryway to the Sarasota Hyatt Hotel in Sarasota. An outpouring of nearly 500 Florida Wing Annual Conference attendees arrived to begin a three day session. No sooner was everyone checked into their rooms facing the Gulf of Mexico than the Workshops and Training Classes filled. Immediately following, the Friday evening fun began.

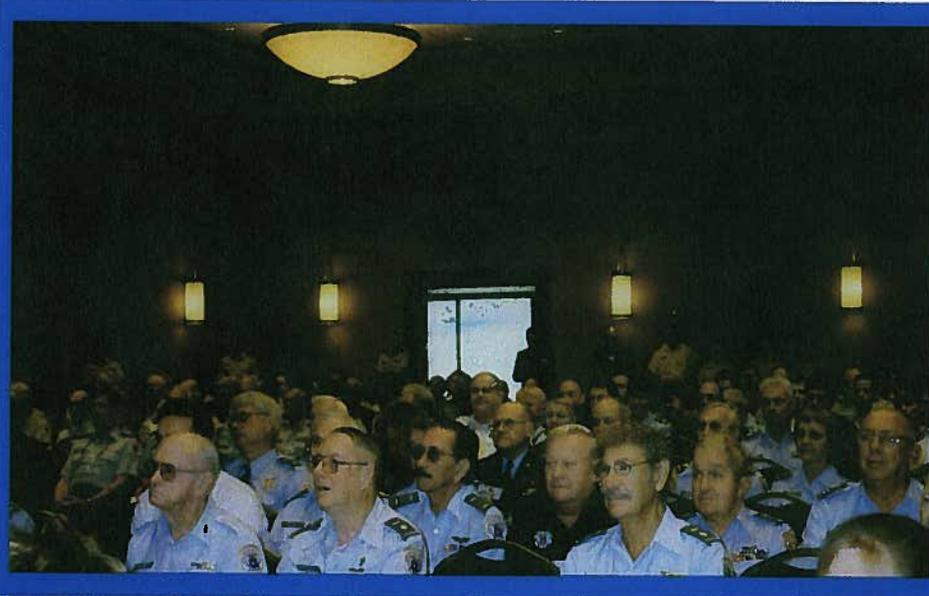
A cable car-type trolley transported hordes of Senior and Cadet members with their guests to the Half Moon Beach Club on the Gulf for a Hospitality Mixer and a strenuous series of 'sandlot' volley ball.

The on-lookers watched while juggling platters filled with barbecue wings, salad, fruit, cheeses, vegetable dip and beverages. A two-mile sunset walk along the beach brought one right up to friendly blue Herons and white Egrets. Long after sunset with sore shoulders, full bellies and tired feet, all were trolleyed back to the conference hotel.

Just slightly after sunrise on Saturday, Conference Registration began. This magazine's photographer was totally disappointed in his anticipation of being able to photograph hordes of registrants backed up in a three mile queue. The Registration Desk—thanks to the Conference Planning Committee—was professionally organized, adequately staffed, and provided speedy sign-in.

Florida Wing Commander Colonel Matthew Sharkey greeted the standing room only crowd at the General Assembly with a hearty welcome. "This 2002 Florida Wing Conference is our celebration of Civil Air Patrol's 60 years of service

to our nation and state. Thank you for joining with your fellow CAP members to develop your skills that will continue to make our wing one of the best in the nation. Throughout this weekend, my staff will be offering workshops and seminars that I invite you to attend and learn more about your area of expertise or about a new area of interest. Let's continue to strive for excellence in all we do."



As the assemblage poured out of the session they flowed into 31 different training sessions throughout the day which covered every aspect of CAP operations, functions and service.

Between sessions, opportunities were af-

forded for interaction with CAP leadership—National Headquarters officers, Southeast Region Commander and staff, and United States Air Force representatives. Included were Col. Dwight Wheless, National Vice Commander; Col. Andrew Skiba, National Finance Officer; Colonel Antonio Pineda, SER Commander; Lt. Col. Mark O'Brien, SER Liaison Commander; and State Director Jerry Angley, Florida Wing Liaison Officer.

The Grand Banquet provided all guests a regal ambiance, impeccable service, gourmet platters overflowing with mahi-mahi and top sirloin beef filets followed by an unbelievable layer upon layer upon layer of rich, dark, velvety chocolate cake covered with chocolate syrup over mini-chocolate chips.

Chief Master Sergeant Roy Boudreaux, USAF [Ret.] was Master of Ceremonies extraordinaire as he was at the recently held National Civil Air Patrol's 60 Year Gala in the Smithsonian's Air and Space Museum in Washington, D.C.



**C/Capt. Marc Lawson receives a Commander's Commendation from Colonel Matthew Sharkey**



**Major Linda Rose proudly accepts the Squadron Commander of Merit Award**



**Capt. Chip Maher receives an Exceptional Service Award from NAT/CAP Vice Commander Col. Dwight Wheless**



**Capt. Ben Atchley is named Chaplain of the Year**

## **CONFERENCE AWARDS**

**Capt. Linda Trimpey is designated AEO of the Year**



**C/Lt. Joshua Lee is presented the Amelia Earhart Award from Col. Sharkey [l.] and Col. Wheless [R.]**



**Maj. Paul Blystone, FLWG Communications Officer was named the Wing Headquarters Staff Officer of the Year**



**C/SMSgt. Jennifer Obranic proudly holds the Air Force Association Award presented by [l.] Col. Sharkey and [r.] Col. Rex Meyer USAF [ret.]**

## CONFERENCE TEAM RECEIVES RECOGNITION

Three hundred sixty four days ago, just one day after the 2001 Florida Wing Conference in Orlando, the Conference Planning Committee headed by Capt. Sharon Taylor held their first Planning Meeting. Successful conferences don't just happen! They take nearly a full year of planning, programming, scheduling, arranging, preparing, selecting, printing, negotiating, ordering, buying, checking, confirming, dress rehearsing, dry running, and then producing...to name just a few of the tasks this herculean effort requires.

The question always uppermost in everyone's mind is "How can last year's conference be topped?" Arranging for the standard conference requirements is mandatory. It's the extras that are the toppers as evidenced by the Hospitality Mixer on the Beach, Volley Ball, equipment, open air shuttle trolleys, Registration bags filled

with goodies, Continental Breakfasts, CAP Bookstore, Surprise Drawing Gifts, Free Flight Suits, Late Checkouts, etc., etc., etc. Col. Sharkey under-

derstated when he said, "This conference was the best ever and all of Florida Wing is extremely grateful to the Planning Committee."

Only moments later, the Conference Planning Committee Chairperson, Capt.



**L. to r. Lt. Ginnie Brockman, Capt. Sharon Taylor, C/Lt. Col. Beloved Draupadi, Matthew R. Sharkey, Jayne Daly, and Lt. Sharon Freeburg**

Taylor announced that the site for the 2003 Conference has already been set at the famous Adams Mark Hotel on the Beach in Daytona. Be sure to mark the first weekend in June 2003 on your calendar.....now! You don't want to miss this one!

### FLORIDA SWEEPS AWARDS

Col. Antonio Pineda, Southeast Region Commander announced that the SER presents annual awards to the outstanding wings in the areas of Aerospace Education, Emergency Services, Counter Drugs, and Disaster Relief.

At the wing conference, Col. Pineda presented to Col. Sharkey ALL FOUR of these awards. This was the first time that any wing ever earned all four in any single year. With pride, Col. Pineda also announced that Florida Wing will be receiving the National Aerospace Education Award.

### AIR FORCE AWARDS

U.S. Air Force Lt. Col. Mark O'Brien, Southeast Region Liaison Commander presented the SER's Outstanding Cadet of the Year Award to Florida Wing Cadet John Mark Kilpatrick and the SER's Outstanding Support Of Air Force Mission Award to Florida Wing's Capt. Chip Maher.

LTC. O'Brien said, "It is not a single action or activity that earns this award but recognition for outstanding, devoted, and professional services rendered for the Air Force throughout the year."

### STATE AWARD

Capt. Edward J. Welch, Naples Senior Squadron Deputy Commander was named Flight Instructor of the Year 2001 by the Miami Flight Standards District Office [FSDO-19].

Capt. Welch has been flying for more than 35 years and has been a certified Flight Instructor for 20 years. He currently is the Senior Flight Instructor and Professional Development and Testing Officer for the Naples Senior Squadron. Many of our mission rated pilots have been trained by Capt. Welch.

Capt. Rad Weaver, PAO

## AIR FORCE GENERALS VISIT CAP SITE

photo/story by Capt. Trish Turner

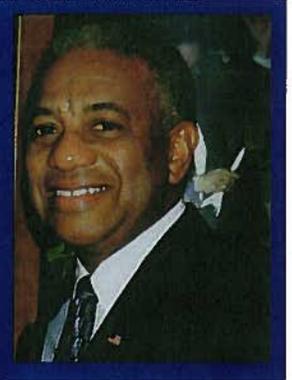
The 18th Annual Air Warfare Symposium hosted by the Air Force Association, once again had a Civil Air Patrol presence. Robin Hunt, National Hq. Chief of Membership Development manned the CAP Display booth with assist from Seminole Cadet, Central Florida Composite, and Valencia Cadet Squadrons.



Gen. Ed Eberhart,  
NORAD, US Space &  
Central Command



L.to.r. Capt. Shane Turner; Gen. John Jumper, Chief of Staff; Kim Calabrese



Gen. "Fig" Newton  
[ret.]

### SHERIFF AND COMMISSIONER PRESENT AWARDS

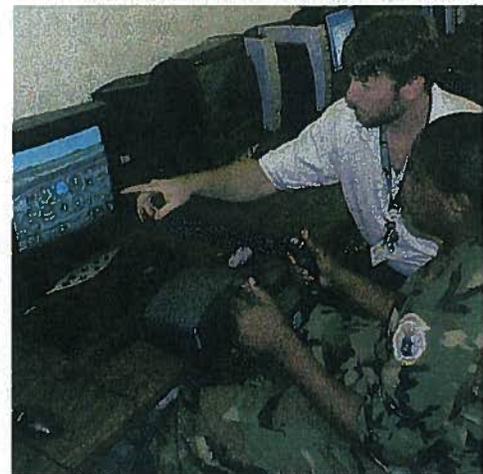
Hernando County Sheriff Richard Nugent and  
County Commissioner Nancy Robinson present



The Gil Robb Wilson Award to l. to r. Major Charles  
Walter, Lt. Col. Herman Schaefer, and Major Richard  
Trout at an Awards Meeting.

### MIDDLE SCHOOL SQUADRON READY FOR LIFT-OFF

Capt. Sean Gallahan, Ass't. Principal of the Horace  
Mann Middle School, is also a pilot and a radio



'ham'. As squadron Aerospace Education Instructor  
Sean is seen at the flight simulator with Cadet Sr.  
Airman Jean-Alix Simon. Capt. Gallagan is cur-  
rently preparing for his Form 5 to become an "O"-  
ride pilot for the cadets..

## MEMORABLE MOMENT

Providing various services and a Color Guard at the A Charlotte County Composite Squadron Cadets had the opportunity to meet some very special guests.



Meeting retired Air Force General Tibbetts, the pilot of the Enola Gay which dropped the first atomic bomb on Hiroshima, Japan and members of the first Thunderbird Team was a moment each would always remember. The atomic bomb led to the early ending of World War II hostilities with Japan.

by Capt. Patrick O'Key, PAO



### 20/20 HINDSIGHT IS ATTAINABLE

Most of us have had a close encounter because of a blind spot in our rearview mirror field of vision. "But this doesn't have to be", said George Platzer, member of the Society of Automotive Engineers. The concept is simple...

- Sitting in the drivers seat, lean to your left until your head touches the side window.
- With your head at this point, adjust your left side rear view mirror so the edge of your fender is barely visible on the inside edge of the mirror.
- Now, move or lean to the right with your head at the car's centerline and make the same adjustment to the right side rear view mirror.
- Your three mirrors will now provide a panoramic view of the area behind and to the sides of your car.

## NCO SCHOOL GETS HIGH RATING

Members from Florida Wing Staff, cadet and composite squadrons from Groups Three, Five and Eight attended NCO School hosted by Group Eight.

Courses included Problem Solving, Recruiting, Human Relations, Moral Character, Leadership Psychology, Group Dynamics, Appearance and Action, Patriotism, and Effective Communication.

A post-school poll was taken and the Leadership Class rated the highest and Effective Communication was the least popular. 83% were extremely pleased with the courses and 100% polled that they were extremely satisfied with the NCO Class.

Learning of these results, FLWG Commander, Col. Matt Sharkey, requested all Group Aerospace Education Officers in the wing to consider conducting similar NCO Schools and inviting members from adjacent Groups to participate. Graduates from the NCO curriculum show a tendency to advance more quickly than others and prove to be better officers and leaders.

By Capt. Christine Ferry



## HOMELAND SECURITY

The Boca Raton Composite Squadron enforces General Aviation Security at the Boca Raton Airport.



Shown is C/SrA. Frans Badenhorst checking papers and authorizing C/MSgt. Alex Gelbard access through security gate to Boca Raton Airport hangar area.

## THE GENERAL BILLY MITCHELL AWARD

General Billy Mitchell was a bold advocate for airpower. In commanding air forces from several nations in 1918 and through later experiments and demonstrations, he laid the foundation for U.S. airpower today.

The General Billy Mitchell Award has existed for CAP since 1964. The award honors the late Brigadier General, an aviation pioneer, advocate and staunch supporter of an independent Air Force for America.

The Cadet Program is one of CAP's three missions. This cadet program provides the opportunity for the learning, maturing, and nurturing of leadership to nearly 30,000 young Americans from 12 to 20 years of age.

After completing the first eight achievements in the CAP Program, the General Billy Mitchell Award is earned by a cadet. Additionally, the cadet must pass an arduous 100 question examination testing leadership theory and aerospace elements.

Once the cadet earns the Mitchell Award, each is then promoted to the grade of Cadet Second Lieutenant. When these cadets enter the CAP's Senior Member Program, they are eligible for immediate promotion to CAP 2nd Lt., once they reach the

age of 21. Since the inception of the General Billy Mitchell Award, more than 45,000 cadets have earned this coveted honor.



## THE GENERAL CARL A. SPAATZ AWARD

Carl A. Spaatz became the first Chief of Staff of the U.S. Air Force in September 1947.

In 1910, he entered the U.S. Military Academy at West Point. On May 10, 1910, an early aviator Glenn Curtiss flew over West Point and as Spaatz watched the fly-over he decided to learn to fly, and learn he did.

When the United States entered World War I in 1917, Spaatz was one of 65 flying officers in the Army. He saw action in Germany and in one day shot down two German airplanes.

In World War II, he was assigned to command the Eighth Air Force.



General Eisenhower said that Spaatz was one of two officers most responsible for winning the war in Europe. He summed up Spaatz as "Experienced and an able air leader; loyal and cooperative, modest and selfless; always reliable."

In the cadet program, the General Carl A. Spaatz Award is the highest honor a cadet can achieve. Comprehensive written tests, a written essay, and a Physical Fitness test is administered by the USAF/LO. Only an USAF or CAP general officer, a governor, federally elected official or a cabinet level officer may present this award to a cadet



# LATE BREAKING NEWS



## EMERGENCY CHANGES TO CAPR 60-1



Col. John A. Salvador, Director of Operations, HQ CAP, advises that the Federal Aviation Administration has denied our request to transport non-CAP passengers and equipment unless the mission is paid for with funds we receive from the Air Force. In accordance with the Memoranda of Understanding [MOU's] that CAP has with the Federal Emergency Management Agency [FEMA], Red Cross, Salvation Army, etc., these organizations can request missions through the appropriate Air Force agency—AFNSEP or AFRCC.

If an Air Force reimbursed mission is authorized, transportation can be performed with commercial pilots. This is the major reason we're asking to receive a substantial amount of funding to perform Homeland Security missions. If we get the money through the Air Force, the Federal Aviation Administration will allow us to perform transportation missions with CAP certified commercial pilots.

## HEADQUARTERS THANKS FLORIDA WING



Chief John Kittle, CounterDrugs and Homeland Security extended the thanks of NHQ for the assistance provided by Bud Borner, Debbie Grimes, Bob Crane and Van Vredenburg of Florida Wing at the CAP Na-

tional CounterDrugs Committee Meeting and the National CounterDrugs Officers' Training Conference recently conducted in Orlando. Wing Commander Col. Sharkey passed on his personal thanks for the weekend these members put aside from their personal time. A job well done.

## POSITIVE THINKING!



Lt. Col. David Mikelson, Group 800 Commander has reserved four charter numbers in anticipation of his successful establishment of four new school squadrons. When they are created, they will be the Sarasota Military Academy, Tampa's Robinson High School, Tampa's Middleton Magnet High School, and Sarasota School of Arts and Science Squadrons.

## STOP THE PRESSES ! ! ! !

Col. Matt Sharkey wired, "Just received a phone call from Capt. Vickie Meyer, who is at the National Color Guard Competition at the Air Force Academy in Colorado that the Color Guard Team with members from Lantana/Lake Worth and Sarasota Squadrons won the **National** Color Guard Competition. The team scored first place in every event, which is the first time this has been achieved in the past ten years." The Drill Team from Puerto Rico placed second overall in the Drill Competition. *4000 'OOOAH's" to our winners!!!*

# FLORIDA WING

## CIVIL AIR PATROL

Where  
*imagination*  
takes FLIGHT



Emergency Services



Cadet Programs



Aerospace Education



<http://flwg.cap.gov>

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U.S. Air Force Auxiliary  
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