

# FLORIDA FACTS



Florida Wing News Magazine | Summer 2003 Volume 8 Issue 2

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## "60 YEARS AND STILL SERVING"

Pages.... 31 & 32



1943



2003

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## "Wing Conference - Pages 6&7"

## COMMANDER'S COMMENTS

**F**or those who weren't at the 2003 Conference in Daytona Beach, you missed the best attended and well run Florida Wing conference in the last twenty years. This issue of FLORIDA FACTS will highlight many of the awards, events, and commentary but I want to extend my congratulations to every member who was recognized, as well as thank every one who attended.

The key person behind our event, as well as the last four conferences, is Major Sharon Taylor. I cannot sing enough praises about her making us move forward to newer and newer heights every year. Of course, there is an entire support team, too numerous to mention, but my deep appreciation is extended to each of them, as well.

At the General Assembly I briefed the 550 members about a few of our accomplishments in the past six months. Our wing is performing a new Homeland Security mission in conjunction with the U.S. Coast Guard and its auxiliary, another highlight is our team's winning the Southeast Region Color Guard competition, a safe, successful weeklong mission at Sun 'n' Fun, a "Save" awarded by AFRCC for the finding of a downed pilot, and a well attended Professional Development Weekend in Milton.

I also informed the assemblage of challenges we face. Our membership role has increased steadily over the months to where we currently top 4,200. However, each month when non-renewals are processed we experience a drop in total members, rather than a gain. Our challenge is we must retain our members at the unit level, and that means all our members. Everyone joins CAP for a reason and our challenge is to find the 'why' and ensure we channel them into

that role, whether it be Testing Officer, Safety Officer, or air crew. The way to continued growth is through the squadron level. Lets look to the sky for the things we can do and not focus on the things that we cannot do.



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

Another challenge I talked about was the growth of CAP in areas of the state where we have little or no presence. I have discussed this with the Group Commanders and it appears we are tracking six new units to open before the end of the year. This should bring 150 new CAP members into our family.

Lastly, and I'm requesting some help here, I need a team of volunteers to step forward to assist in the Professional Development of our senior members. If you are interested, please contact me direct. This is my most pressing need for our wing at this time.

Our organization [emphasis on "our"] depends on your involvement at all levels to succeed. We are volunteers, but we are some of the BEST professional volunteers that Florida will find. Lets continue our accomplishments throughout the balance of the year, as well as do all that is possible to do and be safe in all that we do.

**Cadet Major Sean O'Key and Captain Pat O'Key are deserving of all our thanks for their efforts in creating the "2002 Yearbook" which showcased the accomplishments of Florida Wing during the year 2002.**

**FLORIDA WING OFFICERS:**  
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*Vice Commander*  
Lt Col Wes Hannah  
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*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.*

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## **SER COMMANDER LAUNCHES INTO THE FUTURE.** **Col Antonio Pineda takes a slice of space for CAP Cadets**



**Up, Up and Away!**

As Pineda was carried aloft like a space shuttle atop a rocket, doubters were contributing money to the colonel's "memorial fund", cadets formed up and delivered a 'memoriam salute', photographers stood at the ready, and conference attendees gazed upward in awed silence.

Looking down from his orbit, Col Pineda waited until his heart started to beat, his brain stopped saying 'no', and his paralyzed fingers regained strength to pull the release pin. The good colonel plunged toward earth accelerating to hypersonic 'G' Forces measurable only by his shouts of "Oh Gee, Oh Gee, Oh Gee." As the Bungee cables swung him out and over the Atlantic Ocean, Col Pineda proved the survival of the fittest does prevail.

It was only then that the truth emerged that Tony hated amusement rides and would never even consider boarding a 'Cyclone or a Steeplechase'. His children had to satisfy their daredevil urges by going on amusement park rides with their mother, Rose.

At the conference banquet Col Pineda announced that \$320 in contributions would be given to the Florida Wing Tamiami Cadet Squadron to offset some of their travel expenses to the National Color Guard Competition.



# PROP WASH

Larry Taylor of Group One had a stork perform a smooth, three point landing while delivering baby boy Christopher Jackson Taylor. The future cadet for the year 2015 weighed in at 6 pounds, 11.9 ounces and was 18.5 inches long.

Group Seven has had a group patch approved by wing commander Col Matthew Sharkey. These patches may now be purchased for \$4.00 each and may be worn on the CAP uniform in accordance with CAPM 39-1. This includes the BDU's, Flight Suits, and Jumpsuits.

Have you ever wondered why, or noticed that American military wear their flag patches backwards on the right sleeve of their uniforms? It's because they are brave!

The patch is symbolic of the flags courageous fighting men used to carry onto the battlefield. As they moved forward, the flags streamed out behind them. Since the American flag attaches to the flagpole with the stars nearest to the pole, the flag would be seen star first as the soldiers ran toward the action.

There's no problem with the left sleeve, where the patch

naturally begins with our flag's star spangled side.

**Capt Vickie Meyer**  
Director of Cadet Programs

Wing Commander, Col Matt Sharkey announces 534 uniforms have been issued free to cadets from October 2002 to May 2003 totaling \$53,946. This amount equates to 10% of the national allocation.

Florida Wing Emergency Services Director, Maj Chip Maher announced the addition of Lt Col Bruce McConnell who will serve as Chief of Preparedness and Mitigation. Col McConnell has extensive experience in disaster preparedness and training. His designed curriculum is still being used by the USAF.

The American Institute of Aeronautics and Astronautics [AIAA] has partnered with the Cessna Aircraft Company to recognize the Wright Brother's aeronautical achievements by inspiring the next generation of pilots and visionaries. This is not an award program, it is a \$1000 scholarship for 50 award winners between the ages of 16 to 25. For additional information contact Maj Ivan Acosta, Florida Wing Deputy Director of Cadet Programs.

Lt Gail Davis, Fernandina Senior Squadron serves as a member of the local Department of Defense certified Honor Guard which presented the flag at the funeral of Nassau County resident Sgt Ker-man Mitchell who died in Iraq.

World War II veteran and VFW Past Commander Edward P. Meshalko was honored on Memorial Day by the Lake Composite Squadron in Leesburg. The ceremony was conducted at the Waterman Village Nursing Home and Rehabilitation Center.

The Naples Senior Squadron was tasked by Kenneth Pineau, Collier County Emergency Management Director to fly Ms Joni Vander Till, EM Coordinator, for aerial video taping of the Gulf of Mexico coastline from the northern tip of Captiva Island to Flamingo on the south. The flight lasted 3.5 hours and provided the county with its annual pre-hurricane video of the shoreline's condition. In the event of a hurricane, a post-incident video taping will be flown and a comparability study of the damage would be assessed. All approvals for a non-member to fly in a CAP aircraft were obtained by Sandie Gaines, Mission Coordinator, CAP National Operations Center, Maxwell AFB.



### GOVERNOR BUSH HONORS CADET

State of Florida Governor Jeb Bush presented C/TSgt Joseph Danza with an award for having received a Scholarship for a complete Florida Alli-



ance for Arts Education. The award ceremony was at a reception in the Governor's Mansion hosted by the Governor and Mrs. Bush. Cadet Danza was the Project Officer for the North Tampa Cadet Squadron's float design used in the Lutz Fourth of July Parade last year and he also donated one of his fine paintings to the squadron. A prolific artist, Cadet Danza's military and aircraft paintings are outstanding.

Major Diane Westcott, PAO

### ON THEIR WAY!

The St. Augustine Senior Squadron is working aggressively towards accomplishing its goal of becoming a Composite Squadron. A recruitment campaign to local Middle Schools has had great results. Prospective cadets, their parents, siblings and grandparents were invited to a 'New Cadet Welcome Night' and the turnout was excellent. More than 40 paid applications were turned in and others were promised for the next meeting. Col Matt Sharkey is looking forward to receiving the request for a change in charter in the very near future.

Robert Parnell

### GROUP SIX FTX A SUCCESS.

The Damage Assessment Field Training Exercise

[FTX] was an outstanding success. At the North Perry Airport, the mission was flown in a grid search to evaluate the damage in Dade and Miami Counties caused by a recent hurricane. State officials had requested the Civil Air Patrol determine the status of several water management, communications, and airfield resources west of the airport. Lt Col Bruce Smith was the Incident Commander, 2Lt Bud Moreland was Project Officer and Lt Col Harvey Seigel served as Operations Officer. Twenty-eight seniors and seven cadets participated.

Capt Ralph Parness, PAO

### 30,000 BIKERS PARTICIPATE

The annual BIKE FEST in St. Augustine was in support of Angel Aid, a hospice program for terminally ill children. The Daytona Beach Squadron Color Guard performed in the ceremonies at which time Florida Wing Chaplain, Major Dewey Painter blessed the event. Some 30,000 bikers participated in the three day event. A CAP Recruiting Booth was set up on the event grounds and recruiting materials were distributed to the hordes who visited the booth.

### BALLOONIST RECEIVES AWARD

Wing Commander, Col Matt Sharkey and Major William Westcott presented an Appreciation Award to Ben Nevel for his Aerospace Education assistance to the North Tampa Cadet Squadron. Ben is a balloonist and some cadets, parents, and senior members have had the experience of flying in a balloon. Additionally, cadets have served as part of a chase team at balloon events held during Sun 'n' Fun Fly-In and Balloon Festival.

Major Diane Westcott, PAO

### NEW SQUADRON CHARTERED

Squadron FL 814 will be chartered as a result of efforts by Lt Col Rex Meyer with teacher Lee Sage, who will be squadron commander. The potential is for 100 cadets at this Aviation Magnet School and 6 teachers have already submitted new membership applications.

Lt Col David Mikelson, Commander, Group 800

# FLORIDA WING CONFERENCE IS ALL-TIME RECORD BREAKER

By Major Sharon Taylor

The Adams Mark Hotel in Daytona Beach was the site of the largest wing conference ever held in Florida. From May 29 to June 1, more than 500 CAP members gathered at this beachfront hotel for Florida Wing's Annual Conference and Awards Banquet. Daytona Beach City Commissioner Rick Shiver presented the conference with a proclamation designating May 30 and June 1 as Civil Air Patrol weekend.

The Annual Awards Banquet also recorded the highest ever attendance of 475. Group 5 brought home the top honors this year with Senior Squadron of the Year going to the **Naples Senior Squadron**. Cadet Squadron of the Year to **Naples Cadet Squadron**, Composite Squadron of the Year to **Highlands County Composite Squadron**, and Group of the Year and Group Commander of the Year to **Group 5** and its **Commander Fran Gleockler, Capt Mike Cook** of Florida Wing Staff was named Senior Member of the Year and **C/Lt Col Paul Cheval** from Coral Springs Cadet Squadron was named Cadet of the Year.

**Lt Col S. Buddy Harris** was awarded the Distinguished Service Award and Medal for his six years of service as Editor/Publisher of FLORIDA FACTS and long career of Civil Air Patrol service.

The conference began informally with an expanded Friday evening social event in the Ocean Terrace Room and on the outdoor patio overlooking the ocean. The weather was delightfully pleasant allowing several hundred wing members to mingle,

renew old acquaintances and make new ones. Capt Tom Baldwin provided music both indoors and out as attendees and their guests were treated to a cheese, fruit, and vegetable buffet and a turkey carving station plus soft drinks.

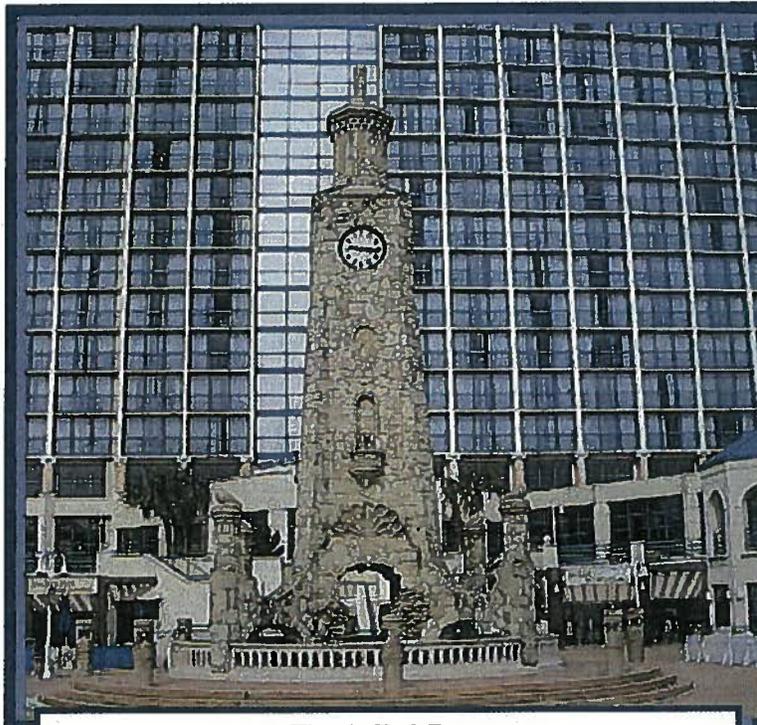
During the opening general session on Saturday morning, Col Al Allenback, NHQ Executive Director, stressed "headquarters' goal of helping and supporting our members." He noted "Florida Wing sets the gold standard in CAP" and that CAP is "the fastest growing non-profit volunteer organization in the nation."

Southeast Region Commander, Col Tony Pineda emphasized his keen desire to see Florida Wing's membership grow. "I would like to have each member bring in just one new member - only one - and we will then top the 8,000 member goal that I have pledged to accomplish." He also complimented Florida Wing for its

Color Guard team taking first place in the SER Competition and for having "the best commander."

Col Matt Sharkey reviewed the wing's many accomplishments in the last year:- membership increased to 4,213 as of EOM May; brilliant performance in Task Force Sentinel where we provided aerial surveillance of the Columbia Shuttle launch; Fire Watch Mission at Eglin Air Force Base; Satellite Imaging Program; the providing of more cadets

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**Historic Clock Tower**

built under the WPA (Work Progress Administration) in 1940 during President Franklin Delano Roosevelt's Administration.

The plaque reads,

"Dedicated to Sir Malcolm Campbell honoring his land speed record of 276.82 mph achieved on sands of Daytona Beach in 1935."

By

Mayor Baron "Bud" Asher

Continued from Page 6

with "O"-Rides; and Chaplain Painter's "Support Our Troops" campaign.

Brig Gen Dwight Wheless, National Vice Commander, focused his comments first on the war in Iraq and remembering our troops. He noted that our military, "toppled an evil government in less time than it took to count the votes in the last presidential election in a certain southern state!" He then spoke of having "safety pervade our lives and be a cornerstone of our culture" and he underscored this objective with the announcing awards of thousands of dollars for wings and squadrons with the best safety records.

In a first for any Florida Wing conference, Capt Ernie Manzano, Florida Wing Director of Safety, led the members in this Safety Pledge, "I pledge to do my part to foster a safe environment during all CAP activities, to be a responsible steward of CAP resources and to fully prepare myself for the challenging missions that serve America."

Throughout the day, twenty-eight seminars and workshops, ranging from moral leadership in the squadron to future activities of cadet programs to funded Emergency Services training, kept participants busy although the sun, the beach, the surf, the nearby shops and restaurants undoubtedly beckoned as well.

During the R and R (rest and relaxation) period in late afternoon, a bungee jump challenge was extended to SER Commander, Col Pineda. Tony accepted the challenge on the condition that all wagers go toward offsetting transportation costs for the Color Guard Team's trip to the National Competition in Dayton, Ohio. Odds against his successful jump were running rampant and the basket was rapidly filling to overflow. The result is fully covered in

story and photos on page 3 of this issue. The memory of his dropping toward earth like a meteor and then sailing out over the ocean will long remain.

The conference was also attended by a large turnout of more than 100 cadets and many took part in the Academic Competition. Cadets Gonzalez and Spencer from the Tamiami Composite Squadron and Cadet White from Central Florida Composite Squadron took First Place Award.

The Civil Air Patrol Bookstore, soon to be known as the CAPMart featuring an on-line ordering system, sold more merchandise in Daytona Beach than at any other conference. In only one and a half days, they rang up over \$9,000 in sales.

Major Sharon Taylor, the Conference Project Officer, commented, "In spite of our huge turnout, we were able to complete registrations quickly and were able to assist people with their many questions about the program, the social events,

and the hotel and its facilities. Capt. Sharon Freeburg, Capt Ginnie Brockman, Lt Col Irene LaFollette, Lt Col Sally Fitzgerald, C/Col Draupadi Beloved, Jayne Daly and S/M Kelly Wells composed our outstanding Conference Staff. The conference is the end result of hundreds of man hours extended throughout the year in planning, programming, and implementing the hundreds of details that a successful conference requires. Even finding and returning all lost and found articles was efficiently handled by C/MSgt Katherine Spencer, C/SSgt Mario Pozo, and C/Amn Keri Larkins who returned all things lost to their rightful and extremely grateful owners.

On Sunday evening, as most of the attendees had departed with a reminder from Col Matt Sharkey to drive and fly safely, he smiled and said, "This conference was incredible, but Ft Lauderdale in 2004 will undoubtedly set a new record."



L to r Major Sharon Taylor, Conference Planning and Programming Director and her top performing committee, Capt Sharon Freeburg, Lt Col Irene LaFollette, C/Col Draupadi Beloved, Jayne Daly and S/M Kelly Wells. The committee is already deep into the 2004 conference.



**First Place Color Guard Team**-cadets l. to r. Garcia-Borbon, Martin, Ortiz, Hidalgo and Brewer. Col Sharkey, far right, made the presentation of plaque and trophy to each member of the team. This is the second consecutive year that Florida Wing's Color Guard has won.



Turtle that caused a major sea search for a vessel in distress off Bermuda's coast.



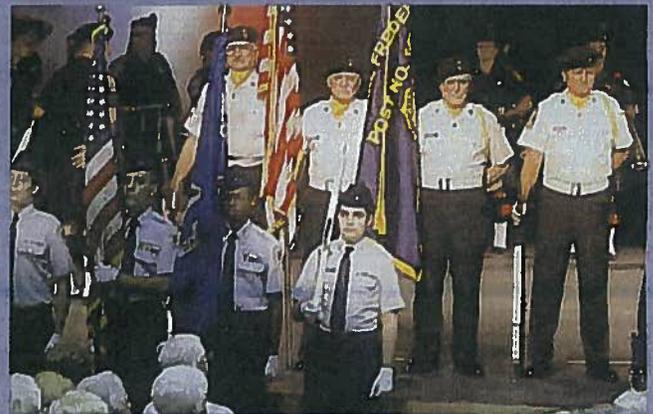
1Lt Linus Gomez was extremely proud that Col Tony Pineda attended Group 7's fourth annual banquet and interacted with cadets.



Miami Beach Cadet Sq. Color Guard participated in the candle-light vigil at Torch of Friendship to President John F. Kennedy.



Valencia Cadet Squadron performed a flag raising ceremony in dedication to the opening of a new community in St. Cloud.



Ft. Lauderdale Composite Squadron cadets were one of a dozen color guards in a spectacular fund raising event for "Operation Brave Kids".



# LATE BREAKING NEWS



 Florida Wing has been recognized for having the best Aerospace Education Program in the Southeast Region and the Nation. This is the second consecutive year that Florida Wing has earned these honors. Col Sharkey extended wing's appreciation to Lt Col John Lynn, Capt Linda Trimpey and Capt Liz Mathis who are the mainstay force behind our AE program.

 Richard A. Ortega, VP, Aerospace Education, Air Force Association [AFA] Florida, presented the AFA Bronze Medal to Cadet MSgt Ronald Baraso, Lake Composite Squadron for his developing planned activities for new cadets and integrating them for greater involvement and closer interaction with more senior members.

 A standardized Aircraft Information Manual with local area info included for every CAP aircraft in the nation is in draft format. Col Matt Sharkey and Lt Col David Lehtonen are reviewing the Southeast Region Manual draft.

 A Membership Directory has been approved by the National Executive Committee that will allow members to include their CAP vitae. This is on a voluntary basis only and the data will be collected, printed and bound by a publisher who will sell the book with profits given to the Cadet Program.

 Wearing of a nametag on the Class A uniform has been assigned for study to the NEC Uniform Committee. A flight scarf is similarly under study. A Department of Defense ID card is under study for those CAP units and members that meet on USAF bases.

 42 new C-182's are being purchased. The Air Force Academy is transferring some of their gliders to CAP. Florida Wing has been

assigned one of the gliders.

 Counter Drug training for new participants has been temporarily suspended due to a funding shortfall.

 A new Headquarter's/National website will be rolled out and should be on-line in August '03. "CAPMart" will be the on-line CAP Bookstore and will be available for internet ordering by September '03 according to Exec Dir Al Allenback.

 As proof positive that CAP and USAF relations are closer now than ever, all outbound Air Force members are being briefed about Civil Air Patrol, its programs and missions, and they are encouraged to join. Thanks to Maj Gen Bowling.

 \$100,000 has been earmarked for purchase of the SATPHONE System equipment which will be used to send pictures from an airplane to receiving stations anywhere in the world via satellite or Outlook Express e-mail. Lt Col John Salvador is spearheading this activity.

 The June issue of "AIR FORCE" magazine has devoted five pages to the Civil Air Patrol story and our current services provided to Homeland Security. Many local newspapers have recently printed stories about local unit activities. "Aviation Week & Space Technology", a McGraw Hill publication, is working on a major story about CAP from its inception onward. Story should break in concert with the 100th celebration of the Wright Bros. incredible inauguration of powered flight.

 The SER Cadet Leadership School is set for 27 July to 2 August at Patrick AFB. Cost is \$150 which includes hotel, meals, and graduation banquet. Participants must be at least 15 years old and have received a Mitchell Award.

# WINGS WIG-WAG

Membership of Florida Wing is rapidly approaching 4400 members. This continues the growth trend that stretches back to 9/11. Congratulations to all the members and units that have contributed to this growth. Remember! It only takes each member to recruit just one new applicant for our wing to reach 9000 members.

Col Matt Sharkey  
Florida Wing Commander

Florida Wing's Cadet Competition Teams did extremely well at the Southeast Region Cadet Competitions. The Color Guard from Tamiami Squadron placed first overall and will travel to Dayton, Ohio. The Drill Team, made up of cadets from across the wing placed Second overall behind Puerto Rico. The Tamiami Squadron team will defend the trophy won last year. Hooah!

Our CAP NHQ leaders met with Homeland Security Secretary, Tom Ridge to tell him how the 64,000 members of the US Air Force Auxiliary can help tackle one of the biggest enemies of national security—the high cost of maintaining it. "CAP has the largest privately owned fleet of single engine planes in the nation," said Maj Gen Richard Bowling. "We can put an aircraft in the air for \$90/hr as opposed to several thousand dollars an hour for military aircraft or helicopters."

A new Safety Policy has been issued for FLWG. Succinctly it states, *All Operations must be conducted in the safest, most professional and efficient manner possible.*

Commanders must:

- ◆ Know the members under their command, as well as the capabilities of the members.
- ◆ Monitor the environment for hazards. Report and correct all hazardous conditions.
- ◆ Enforce compliance with safety and health hazards, technical data and procedures and enforce proper use of all equipment.

The Regulation Uniform Manual, CAPM 39-1, is in revised draft format. Graphics and illustrations are in process and additional fit and grooming standards are being written. Final Draft will be posted for comments prior to the August National Board meeting in Las Vegas. This revise has been long in coming and will be welcomed by all.

The following is excerpted from Air Force Print News: One of the newest names in Homeland Security is actually more than 60 years old.

The Air Force Auxiliary, also known as Civil Air Patrol, has been in the defense business since December 1, 1941, when it was chartered to support na-

tional defense by providing submarine reconnaissance.

In recognition of their traditional homeland security role, policy and guidance support at the Air Staff for the Auxiliary was transferred to the Air Force Directorate for Homeland Security from the Directorate of Operations and Training.

They're an eye in the sky," said Brig Gen David Clary, Air Force Director for Homeland Security at the Pentagon. "The capability they bring is they can see things from the air that you can't see from the ground."

In February 2002, the auxiliary provided security support during the Salt Lake City Olympics, where they flew law enforcement officers over selected high-threat areas.

Earlier this year, CAP officials worked with the Air Force and NASA to support the Space Shuttle Columbia launch and recovery. "You don't want small boats or potential terrorists in there, so they flew around looking for people who were not supposed to be there," Gen Clary said. "That's why CAP is so valuable in the Homeland Security business. They can support either the Department of Defense or other lead federal agencies in the observation mission," Clary said.

The June Issue of AIR FORCE magazine has a comprehensive five page article about the Civil Air Patrol, US Air Force Aux.

# FLORIDA FACTS EDITOR RECEIVES TWO AWARDS

By Major Sharon Taylor

Late Saturday evening, at the Civil Air Patrol Florida Wing's 2003 Conference, Lt Col S. Buddy Harris got the surprise of his life - and after 76 years, it takes a lot to surprise Buddy. The **Distinguished Service Award**, only given to an exceptional few, forty so far in the sixty-one year history of Civil Air Patrol, was awarded at the Annual Awards Banquet to Lt Col Harris for outstanding performance of duty from 1943 through 2003 and in particular as Editor of FLORIDA FACTS from 1997 to the present.

Many CAP members probably assume that a sizable staff is responsible for the creation of the 44-page magazine every quarter and that Lt Col Harris is the Executive Editor. Well in reality, he also is the reporter, interviewer, copy writer, photographer extraordinaire, editor, production manager and desktop publisher. In other words, except for the excellent cover designs by Capt Dan Thompson, and meticulous proofing by Harris' wife, Phyllis, he is truly a one man enterprise. And, of course, he cannot quit or fire himself-no one in CAP would stand for it!

How does a man who served as Technical Director of Ladybird Johnson's Committee for a More Beautiful America with a staff of public relations and technical people reporting to him, become such a dedicated CAP volunteer? Retirement. Lt Col Harris moved from Washington, D.C. to Marco Island in 1986 where he again became active in Civil Air Patrol. He says his friend and then commander, Lt Col David Mikelson, started his public affairs career in CAP when he appointed him Chief of Staff for the Marco Island Senior Squadron with responsibility for editing and publishing the squadron's newsletter.

Lt Col Harris went on to be recognized for his achievements as Florida Wing PAO of the Year in '94, '95, '96, '97, '98, and '99 and SER PAO of the Year in '96, '97, and '98.

In 1997, at the request of then Chief of Staff Valerie Brown and appointment of Wing Com-

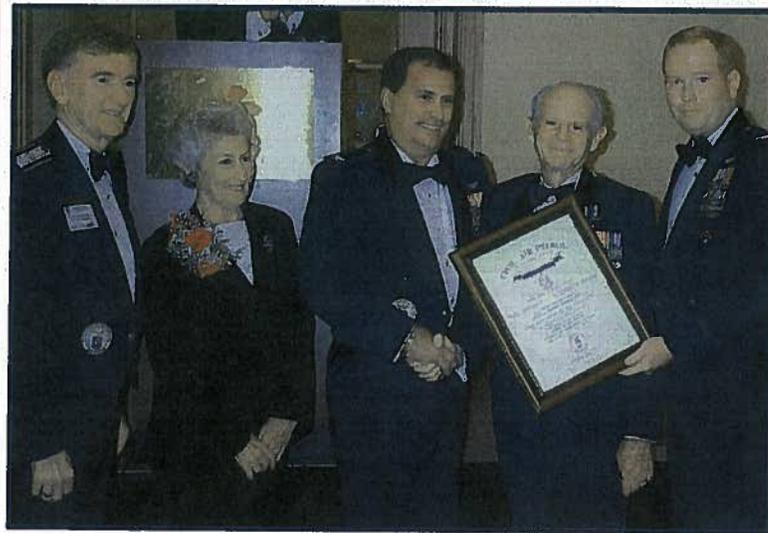
mander Col Andrew Skiba, he took over as Florida Wing editor of a black and white newsletter known as Florida Facts.

Three years later, FLWG Commander Col Tony Pineda envisioned a four color, high quality magazine. With Harris' leadership FLORIDA FACTS has evolved into a

multi-color, glossy 44-page magazine distributed to 5,000 recipients, including the Secretary of the U.S. Air Force. USAF Col Richard Anderson, Chief AFA Division of Air Force Directorate of Homeland Security in a letter to Harris wrote, "I am highly impressed with FLORIDA FACTS professional appearance, journalistic quality, and attention to useful detail for your members. I have read many CAP periodicals from regions, wings, and squadrons over the last 30+ years, and the Florida Wing news magazine is at the top of the quality tier! I share my copy with other senior AF leaders here at the Pentagon."

The story of Lt Col Buddy Harris' CAP career actually begins in 1943 with a little group of courageous pilots and air crew known as the

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L to r Brig Gen Dwight H. Wheless, Phyllis Harris, SER Commander, Col Tony Pineda, Lt Col S. Buddy Harris receiving Distinguished Service Award from Florida Wing Commander, Col Matt Sharkey

### CAP Coastal Patrol.

Buddy, as he was known then, as now, at age 15, soloed in a Piper Cub J-3 and after high school graduation, he volunteered to join the US Army Air Corps for the Aviation Cadet Training Program. Since, by order of Gen "Hap" Arnold, pilot training was limited to 18-year old cadets and he was 17, he was assigned to fly Coastal Patrol for the Civil Air Patrol. He spent that first year as a subchaser protecting the coastline from attacks by German submarines, flying Pipers and Aeroncas by the seat of his pants on wheels, on skis, and on floats.

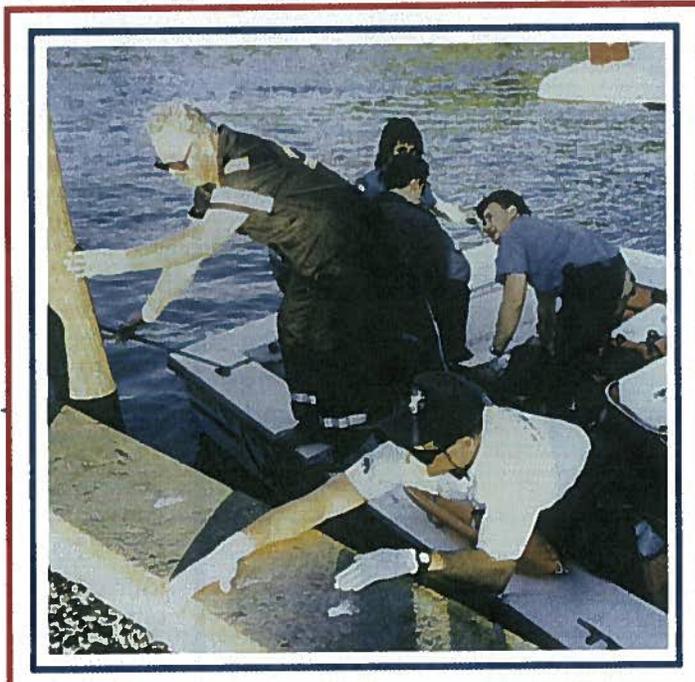
At the Florida Wing Banquet, after Lt Col Harris received the Distinguished Service Award and had the medal pinned to his uniform, he was asked to remain at the podium for a second surprise. The Certificate of Recognition of Life Saving for Outstanding Humanitarian Service was awarded to Lt Col Harris for saving the life of a choking victim.

Just three days before, while dining out with his wife, Phyllis, Lt Col Harris saw and

heard a woman at another table holding her throat and gasping for air. Her face had turned blue but her companions looked on in shock and



L to r SER Commander, Col Tony Pineda, Lt Col S. Buddy Harris receiving the Life Saving Award from Florida Wing Commander, Col Matt Sharkey.



Sheriff's Marine Emergency Response Team arrives at dock with two badly injured boaters for transfer to the Medicopter. were unable to act.

Buddy rushed to the table and applied the Heimlich Maneuver. On the third try, a chunk of salad dislodged from her throat and flew half-way across the table.

"Being prepared to take action in an emergency is something I learned in my CAP training. You never know how you will react in a crisis. CAP training really makes a difference," said Lt Col Harris. "I just reacted instinctively."

This is the second Life Saving Award, Lt Col Harris has received. While on Marco Island, he flew 236 Sundown Patrols as a Master Observer and during one in 1997, as the flight Mission Observer, Lt Col Harris received a faint radio message, "Help...help..." As the Cessna, piloted by Capt Donn May approached and then circled the scene of the accident, Harris saw two bodies

on the deck of a power boat. At full power, the boat had hit a sand shoal and threw the skipper through the boat's center console. Both individuals were seriously injured.

He made an emergency distress call for the Sheriff's Marine emergency response team and a Medicopter, which was waiting at the dock

for the two wounded men to transport them to the Naples Community Hospital. The Sundown Patrol's May and Harris had saved two lives.

# MISSION MEMOS

Capt. Chip Maher, Director FLWG ES

## EVERY MISSION TREATED AS A LIFE-SAVING EFFORT.

Each year, Florida Wing responds to a greater number of mission alerts and 2003 might reach 400. But Wing Commander, Col Matt Sharkey repeats the reminder that every mission must be treated as a life-saving effort. Mission 03M 0725 was a prime example. A Beechcraft airplane dropped off radar while on flight following from St Petersburg to Leesburg. Last transmission from the aircraft was that the pilot was going to shoot a few pictures. Shortly afterwards, no radar return was received and attempts at radio contact were unsuccessful. Flight service conducted a telephone ramp check of the affected airports and then issued the ALNOT. [Alert Notice] AFRCC [Air Force Rescue Coordination Center] repeated the ramp checks and other pre-comm protocols and then assigned the mission to Florida Wing.

The RADAR drop point was approximately 5 miles SW of Leesburg airport. In addition a PIREP [pilot report] was received from an aircraft 10 nautical miles south of Sanford at 7000 ft. who reported a strong ELT signal. Capt Chip Maher assumed the role of Incident Commander and mission personnel were contacted. Information Officer inquiries discerned the aircraft was registered to an

aircraft sales company out of Delaware and no further information could be obtained until Monday,

The initial IAP [Incident Action Plan] included a repeat ramp check at Leesburg, scrambling two aircraft, establishing mission base, continue to develop NTAP data, build a proximity search plan and consider repeat ramp checks at St Petersburg and surrounding airports.

When the ramp check at Leesburg Airport proved negative, the two aircraft were launched, one on an electronic search, and the other on a visual search. The visual search aircraft reported they had the aircraft sighted safe on the ground.

A stand down was given to Groups 2 and 9 and Group 3 was relieved from stand-by. Personnel from Lake Composite Squadron and Central Florida Composite Squadron were notified of the mission being closed with AFRCC.

This quick find and adherence to the IAP forestalled a major search effort being launched by CAP and Coast

Guard for a downed aircraft that in fact was safely on the ground. It is assumed the pilot supposed when he notified he was descending to take pictures he had cancelled the flight following. Flight Service considered flight following was still active so when they saw the aircraft 'drop-off' radar they initiated the Search and Rescue response.



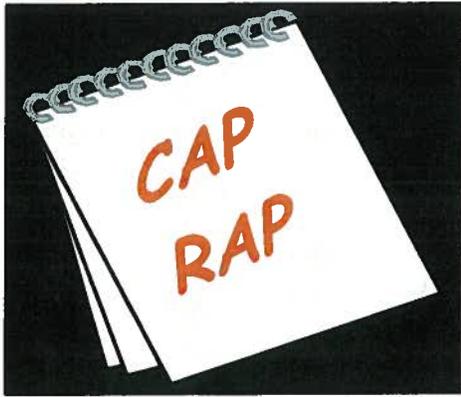
FLWG was activated for Impact Assessment of the severe flooding experienced by DeSoto County on 23 June, 2003. The wing Forward Control Team [FCT] was immediately dispatched to the DeSoto County EOC [Emergency Operations Center] along with an IC [Incident Commander] and a Safety Officer. CPF 840 from Orlando was assigned mis-



Impact Assessment SSTV photo from CPF 840 of car half submerged in flood waters in DeSoto County.

sion aircraft. The mission was coordinated by the state EOC and the CAP-National Operations Center. Forward air operations were conducted from Arcadia, Fl.

The aircraft used SlowScan TV and sent the pictures directly back to the DeSoto County EOC. The county was extremely pleased with the CAP team's effort and quality of photos.



 Membership in Florida Wing is approaching 4400 members. Col Matt Sharkey expressed his pleasure with the increasing inertia of the recruiting program. However, greater emphasis on member retention is an imperative. A new member's first year is the stress period. The member requires readily offered guidance through the Level I requirements, a feeling of welcome and belonging to the unit, and a meaningful assignment. The retention stats increase noticeably after a member's first renewal. Let that be our goal.

 This merely serves as a reminder. No CAP pilot is permitted to fly while wearing night vision goggles.

 "Aviation Week and Space Technology" magazine may now be subscribed to at a discount rate on the CAP/ NHQ web page. It's easy when you follow the link.

 In case you are not aware, major conferences like Florida Wing's Annual Conference must be booked at least 13 months prior to the date of the affair. That's why Major Sharon Taylor, who directs Florida Wing's Con-

ference Planning and Programming, begins working on our next year's function long before the prior year's conference is held. So, in case you didn't attend the Daytona Beach Conference at the Adams Mark Hotel, be aware that the Florida Wing 2004 Conference has already been booked at the Marriott Hotel in Ft. Lauderdale. Is there any wonder why Major Taylor received a standing ovation from nearly 600 attendees?

 The Florida Wing Color Guard from the Tamiami Cadet Squadron took first place in the Southeast Region competition and the Drill Team placed second to the Puerto Rico team. This is the second consecutive year Florida took first place and Col Sharkey expressed his thanks to the cadet teams for their superb performance which evidences their many hours of practice. Col Tony Pineda was so pleased that instead of jumping through hoops, he jumped 100 feet on a bungee cord to raise money to offset a portion of the cadets travel costs to the National Competition in July. [see photo on Page 8].

 The US Coast Guard launched a C-130 plane from Elizabeth City, North Carolina and diverted the Norwegian Tug Boat Skandi Moegger to an area off Bermuda's coast in response to an emergency beacon alarm signal. Other vessels in the area were alerted to be on the lookout for a boat in distress. The airplane eventually pinpointed the source

of the signal and directed the tow boat to the coordinates. Petty Officer Tim Pike of the USCG station in Miami reported that the Norwegian sailors pulled a turtle out of the water and found it was somehow caught up in a rope with the beacon. Pike said the beacon was covered with barnacles and debris. It was registered to a man, who when contacted by telephone, informed the Coast Guard that he had lost it "some time ago". *Editor's Note-Now there's a battery that just kept going, and going and going!* {See photo on page 8}

 The cover photo on the Spring Issue of this magazine showed a Florida Wing CAP aircraft flying aerial surveillance over the Columbia Shuttle on the launch pad at Kennedy Space Center. We all owe a loud *THANKS* to Capt Tom Klemper, NASA/CAP-LO who, for many a day, had to race the clock for us to obtain required security clearances which made possible the use of that outstanding photo. The story "**Space Shuttle Columbia Mission - Serving NASA from pre-liftoff to post tragedy**", which appeared on pages 5 and 6, reported on the outstanding response efforts extended by nearly 500 Civil Air Patrol members from coast to coast for a period of 32 days. That story required sixteen initial interview calls and nineteen call backs to sources in ten states.

 Col. Sharkey reminds all members of the Unit Citation awarded to the Florida Wing. That achievement authorizes all members of the wing at that time to wear the Unit Citation Ribbon.



# 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.

**To:** Col Matt Sharkey  
**From:** Col Bob Bess

I appreciate all your help in the Homeland Security area. Your folks are doing a great job. Some of my best memories as a cadet were spending a few summers with the Key West Squadron. I always enjoy Florida.

*Editor's Note: Col Robert Bess, CAP, is the new Chairman of the CAP National Board of Governors replacing Lt Gen Nicholas Kehoe, USAF [Ret.]*



I have thoroughly enjoyed and envied your publication, but since I completed my tour as Virginia Wing Commander, you may wish to send your outstanding magazine to the new commander. I would not wish to deprive him of Florida Facts. Thank you for all previous issues.

**Col H. Click Smith, Sr.**  
[former] VAWG Commander



Thanks for your efforts. I like FLORIDA FACTS.

**Maj John W. Desmarais, Sr.**  
Chief of Emergency Services  
CAP NHQ, Maxwell AFB



Thanks for keeping everyone informed after my fall resulted in a broken neck. I have no doubt that my full recovery was with the help and prayers of your readers. As you know CAP is a large part of my family and after my accident I feel that I now have a much larger family.

**Lt Col Rex R. Meyer, USAFR**  
482D Logistics Readiness Squadron Commander



Having just passed my 80th birthday, I wonder who is the oldest active CAP Crew Member in the nation! By crew I mean active Pilot-in-Charge, Observer, or Scanner flying missions.

**Capt Russ Loomis**  
Florida Wing Staff



In a recent issue of FLORIDA FACTS it was incorrectly stated that Middleton was a "middle school" instead of a

High School. I finished the magazine this morning and found it very interesting.

**Capt Richard L Crawford**  
SER-FL-808

*Editor's Note: Mea culpa for the name faux pas!*



What a "block buster" publication FLORIDA FACTS was and is becoming. It seems each issue outdoes the previous issue. The Winter 2002 issue is superb.

**Maj Russ Vizzi**  
Broward County Squadron



The publication Florida Wing sends out is great.

**Dean R. Martinez, SSgt, USAF**



The latest edition of FLORIDA FACTS is a wonderful compilation and presentation of Florida Wing News. I marvel how you get it all together and presented in such an attractive way.

**Capt Perry Snell**  
A CAP Founder



Another great issue. At the Group 6 Banquet, all 280 attendees agreed.

**Lt Col Virginia Montalvo**



The front cover of the Spring Issue of FLORIDA FACTS was awesome. We are very proud of the Florida Wing Civil Air Patrol performing the prior-to-liftoff aerial reconnaissance mission of the Columbia Space Shuttle for NASA. And we are particularly proud that the Naples Senior Squadron's assigned aircraft N922CP was the plane featured on the cover photo. Florida Facts gets better and better.

**Capt Tom Kuznar, Commander**



You do an admirable job. I wish every wing created something like FLORIDA FACTS.

**Melanie LeMay, Public Relations Specialist,**  
CAP NHQ, Maxwell AFB

# CAP RIDES HIGH ON WAVES OF SUCCESS

For the third time in less than two months, history was in the making. Lt Col Drew Alexa, CAP NHQ; SER Commander, Col Tony Pineda; and trained members of

live satellite relayed photos were e-mailed from the aircraft to the Raytheon Response Vehicle, to the U.S. Coast Guard Station in Key West and to CAP National Commander, Major General Richard Bowling, in Tennessee.

The located and photographed 'on the water targets' included a freighter, cruise ship, and a sailing vessel and all were over 110 nautical miles from Marathon.

The transmitted real-

was tested included a SATPhone, laptop computer, and a digital camera. The three days of testing included demonstrations for U.S. Northern Command, Gen Ed Eberhart; U.S. Southern Command, Army Gen James Hill; Commander, Maritime Defense Command, Seventh District Coast Guard; U.S. Customs; and various other military agencies and senior officers.

As a further demonstration, during the National Executive Committee meeting in Atlanta, real-time photos were e-mailed via satellite from Florida ground and aircraft transmitters [See photo]

Col Pineda, so impressed with the demonstrated technological equipment, purchased the system for installation in one of SER's aircraft.



Southeast Region and Florida Wing Staff supported another successful testing of a new satellite phone system with Raytheon Corp. and the U.S. Coast Guard in the Florida Keys.

Florida Wing pilots were dispatched to find 'on the water targets' that were picked up on radar located at the Raytheon Radar Station in the keys. [See Photo] Within twelve minutes,

time photos were crystal clear at all reception points and those that were zoomed made possible the reading of names and registration numbers of the vessels. [See Photo]

The technological system in the CAP aircraft that



LTC Luis Garcia, Col Tony Pineda and LTC Russ Reichmann

# PHOTO MAT II



**Each Weston Cadet Sq. member was required to carry their own backpack and supplies on an overnight in the Everglades.**



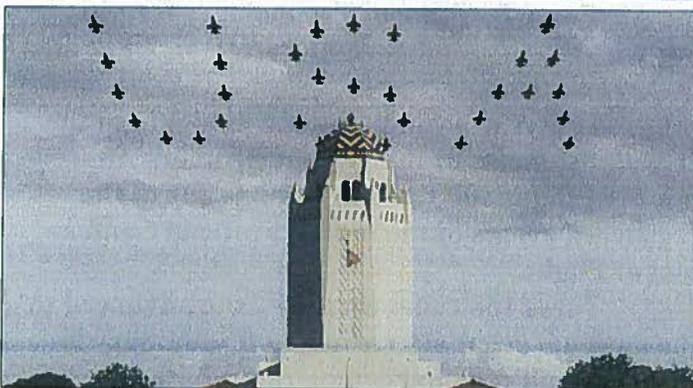
**They prepared their own food, slept in tents and saw alligators, snakes, wild boar, possums, raccoons, and even a Glades deer.**



**Clearwater Composite Squadron cadets welcomed NASA Astronauts Kevin Ford and Nicole Stott at an Open House.**



**Fernandina Beach Senior Squadron donned their aprons for the annual Shrimp Festival fundraiser selling strawberry Smoothies.**

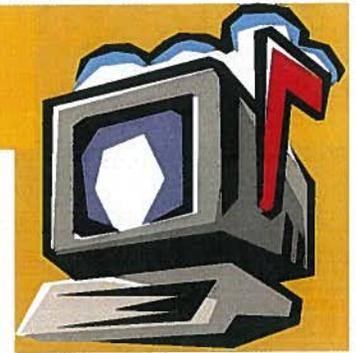


**Precision flying over the control tower "Taj Mahal" headquarters building at Randolph Air Force Base in San Antonio, TX.**



**Boca Raton Composite Squadron Color Guard march in annual Memorial Day ceremony at Veteran's Park, Palm Beach County.**

# E-MAIL EXTRACTS



Lake Composite Squadron assisted the Experimental Aircraft Association [EAA] as volunteer pilots toward reaching EAA's goal of one million youngsters receiving a free airplane ride before the honoring of the Wright Brothers first flight celebration in December.

Eight members of the squadron escorted youngsters to and from the waiting aircraft, assisted them in boarding and preparing for the flight, while senior members provided flight line service to assure a smooth rotation of airplanes and speeding up the flight process.

O-rides were first given to cadets who then enthusiastically shared their love of flying with the younger children who next arrived steadily during the three hour event. Recruiting materials were distributed to those teenagers who met CAP's recruiting guidelines. Visiting young people were encouraged to locate their nearest squadron, some as far away as Chicago.

As of end of June, 969,000 youngsters have been flown.

Lt Col David Moseley,  
Commander  
1Lt David Gahrng, Commander  
Herlong Composite Squadron

Erik Lindbergh was a recent speaker at the National Congress on Aviation and Space Education [NCASE]. In May of 2002, Erik Lindbergh, grandson of Charles Lindbergh, successfully recreated his grandfather's solo flight from Farmingdale, N.Y. to Paris, France in 17 hours, seven minutes....exactly 75 years after his grandfather flew it in the "Spirit of St. Louis".

Gus McLeod, in April of 2000, flew solo to the North Pole in an open cockpit bi-plane. His next challenge will be the attempt to become the first person to circumnavigate the world from pole to pole flying solo as part of the Centennial of Flight celebration.

The CAP National Aerospace Education Officer Staff School was held in Cocoa Beach, Fl. CAP

members currently serving as Region Director of Aerospace Education [DCS AE], Wing Directors of Aerospace Education [DAE], and External and Internal Directors of Aerospace Education attended.

The Air Force Association established the Aerospace Education Foundation [AEF] in 1956 to provide educational opportunities to America's youth. As part of that program, the AEF provides CAP units the opportunity to receive up to \$250.00 in grant money once every other year. Since 1996, the AEF has provided over \$70,000 to CAP units to help fund their Aerospace Education Programs.

*Editor's Note: Has your unit applied for the Grant? If your unit has received a grant in the past, is it time to reapply for another?*

The top 168 male and female Civil Air Patrol cadets geared up to match their brains and brawn at the National Cadet Competition at the Air Force Institute of Technology, Wright State University, and Wright-Patterson AFB, all in Dayton, Ohio.

This year's competition will highlight the accomplishments of the Wright Brothers' first powered flight 100 years ago and is one of the registered events of the nation's official Centennial of Flight.

These 168 cadet finalists have advanced to the national event after winning preliminary local, state and regional competitions based on teamwork in precision drill, physical fitness, and academic challenges. The Florida Color Guard Team is one of the competitors.

# DEPUTY STATE DIRECTORS DEPART

By State Director Jerry Angley

Due to mandated reductions in the Department of Defense civilian work force, Florida will be losing both of their deputy state directors this fall. These reductions are nationwide. Every deputy state director throughout the CAP-USAF will disappear come 1 October 2003. This will be a tremendous loss to CAP and especially the Florida Wing.

Randy Whitesell and Reymond Rodriguez, the deputy state directors for Florida, have over 25 years of combined experience with CAP. They bring a wealth of knowledge and expertise to the liaison office and their departure will definitely leave a void.

Randy Whitesell was first assigned to the wing in 1992 while still on active duty in the United States Air Force. Randy's accomplishments, first as the LNCO and later as the deputy state director, definitely helped make Florida one of the premier wings in the nation. For the past 11 years Randy insured that critical Air Force direction and oversight was provided whenever and wherever it was needed. He accomplished this by coordinating the duties and assignments of over 60 reservists located throughout the state.

Randy was an enormous asset to the Florida Wing. He helped secure military airlift to National Board meetings, aerospace education events and field trips to Wright Patterson AFB and Charleston AFB. He was able to locate and distribute hundreds of uniforms to wing members. He obtained computers for units throughout Florida. He convinced NASA to donate a flight simulator to the wing. The expert guidance and training that he provided to the wing's logistics and supply staff helped make Florida's logistics program a model throughout CAP. Randy developed administration forms and filing procedures that are being used throughout the Southeast Region. Randy also managed one of the largest and most active AFROTC flight orientation programs in the country.

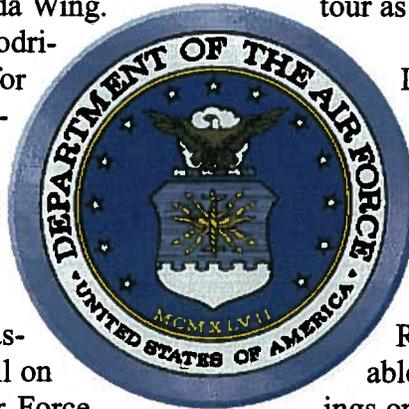
Reymond Rodriguez brings over 14 years

experience in CAP to the liaison office. His first assignment with CAP was at Maxwell AFB where he served on the CAP-USAF IG team. Rey is one of those rare individuals who inspected all 52 CAP wings so he definitely knows what works and what doesn't. Before coming to Florida, Rey also had a tour as the LNCO in New York.

Rey's accomplishments as the LNCO and DSD for Florida Wing are truly outstanding. As the program manager for SAR/DR training he meticulously reviewed every operations training plan to ensure that safety was paramount and that CAP and USAF training objectives were being met. Rey's constant pursuit of excellence enabled the wing to receive outstanding ratings on SAR/DR evaluations for the past four years and garner awards for having the best search and rescue and the best disaster relief programs in the nation.

Rey also validated and processed all the wing's reimbursements for SAR/DR and CD missions; an enormous task considering that Florida leads the nation in the number of AFRCC missions performed. He was instrumental in streamlining the reimbursement procedures for CAP's Homeland Security missions at Patrick AFB. Rey also worked base support requirements for CAP activities. He arranged for the wing to use DoD facilities for meetings, cadet encampments, training courses, and SAR/DR exercises and evaluations. Rey's military bearing and professional manner made him the perfect choice to administer Spaatz exams. Rey tested more than 70 cadets since being assigned to the Florida Wing.

Rey Rodriguez and Randy Whitesell are true professionals in every sense of the word. Their unwavering dedication and untiring efforts have helped to make Florida Wing the benchmark for excellence throughout CAP. It has indeed been a pleasure to work with such outstanding individuals. They will both be sorely missed. Rey and Randy are planning to remain in the Orlando area.



## FAITH-TRUST-BELIEF PRODUCES CONFIDENCE.

There are no days in our lives that passed in which we did not exercise faith. In most cases, we do not realize that we are doing so. For example, when someone goes to the kitchen sink and puts a glass under the water-spout, they exercise faith. When they turn the handle, they do so as an act of faith. They trust the water system is working, with anticipation they expect the water will come out. They performed an act of faith.

Faith requires an element of trust. We put our trust in the pilot to safely fly the plane. By faith we trust the pilot will safely control the aircraft, taking the plane into the air, and most importantly, bringing it back down. Faith requires an element of confidence. Our climbing into the aircraft shows our confidence in the pilot. By example, we show our trust in the pilot to fly the plane and by faith we exercise that element of trust. Faith requires an element of belief, My faith is demonstrated in my belief that shows my confidence and trust. I believe the pilot will safely fly the plane, therefore getting into the plane shows my trust and confidence in the pilot and demonstrates that I, in fact, am a person of faith.

Confidence comes from experience and requires an element of trust. As you work with others you begin to develop trust in them and their ability to accomplish what you believe they can perform. Confidence is something that is developed through sustained effort. While it takes time to achieve, it requires continued action to maintain. Confidence can quickly be lost by a

breach of the faith and trust that one has placed in you. Character is the element that makes the difference. Your developed moral character will guide you to success in maintaining the confidence others have in you. This is the aim of the CAP Moral Leadership Program.



**Major Dewey E. Painter,  
Chaplain, Florida Wing**

Many years ago a great leader stated, as recorded in the bible, that faith was "the substance of things hoped for and the evidence of things not seen." It is by faith that we hope for the best. For our country we trust the future will be brighter, for our children we trust that their lives will be enriched, for ourselves we believe we can make a difference in what we do. This is why we serve in the Civil Air Patrol. Our hope is in someone, no one stands alone and no one is an island unto himself. Good men or women can be expected to do well.

Because of good triumphing over evil we can believe in tomorrow, we can believe in the future. Our faith was brought to reality in the things we have seen. Our substance was the hope for victory, and having seen the evidence of success, we now enjoy the fact that victory has been achieved. We continue to exercise faith, trust, hope, and belief that having achieved victory our country can sustain in the face of continued threat.

Faith is evidenced in trust. Trust is evidenced in belief and belief is any act of confidence, faith, and trust that you exhibit in others and particularly in someone. Those that believe in the providence and care of an almighty God are known as men and women of faith.

# NEWS FLASH

The First Air Force and the Air National Guard had tapped CAP Lt Col John Brennan, Florida Wing's Legislative Commander, to help CAP better understand USAF's commitment to homeland defense and the North American Aerospace Defense Command. Col. Brennan accompanied Maj Gen Craig McKinley and Brig Gen Charles Bouchard on a five day informational tour of the Northeast Air Defense Sector at Rome, N.Y. and various Canadian Air Force bases throughout Canada.

2Lt Merideth Lowery, attached to Group One, has become the newest wing Moral Leadership Officer. Another step forward in achieving Col Sharkey's goal of the manning of a chaplain for every unit.

Capt Doris Fernandez-Barker has been appointed Florida Wing's new Director of Personnel by Col Matt Sharkey. All CAP Forms #2A, #27, and #120's are now to be sent to her at Florida Wing Civil Air Patrol Headquarters, 2700 Eagle Staff Court, MacDill AFB, FL 33621-5208.

2Lt Alina Garcia has been appointed by Major Robert Sims, Commander of Group Seven, to serve as the Group's Emergency Services Officer.

Air France has retired the Concorde following the completion of the

supersonic jet's last New York JFK-Charles De Gaulle Paris service on 31 May. Air France Chairman Jean Cyril Spinetta said, "The Concorde will never stop flying because it will always have a place in people's imaginations." Air France's final supersonic flight over the North Atlantic took place on 12 June bringing a Concorde to Washington Dulles International Airport where it will be displayed in the National Air and Space Museum's Steven F. Udvar-Hazy Center now under construction.

Naples Senior Squadron Chaplain Lt Col Norm Taylor participated in a track meet in Tampa and another in Orlando in May and then took off to Norfolk, Virginia to compete in a three-day National Track Meet. Having placed in the top five in meets around the state of Florida, he qualified to run the 100 meter dash, do long jumps and do high jumps. The Naples Senior Squadron issued a Proclamation of sponsorship and Col Taylor was therefore able to wear the CAP running uniform.

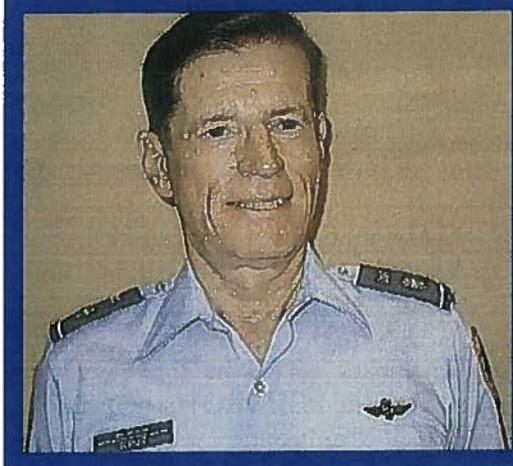
The Air Force will turn over functional management of the combat search and rescue mission to the Air Force Special Operations Command in October.

C/2Lt Tatiana Shaeppler will be serving as the new Chairperson of the Cadet Advisory Council.

C/Major Charles Rivenbark II was named Cadet of Hillsborough County and was accepted into the NASA SHARP Program. Cadet Rivenbark serves as the Executive Officer of his NJROTC unit and is Cadet Commander of the North Tampa Cadet Squadron. Charles is in the International Baccalaureate Program at the C. Leon King High School and has been accepted into the NASA Summer High School Apprentice Research Program working on a NASA funded research project. C/Major Rivenbark intends to pursue the study of Astrophysics and the NASA Space Program.

The owners of Richland Tower in Orlando were presented with a CAP Certificate of Appreciation for permitting the location of a CAP Repeater to be installed on the top of their building. This achieves an 895 feet antenna height as compared to the previous height of 179 feet in Apopka. This move will dramatically improve the area of coverage and will allow significant coverage over all the Orlando theme parks in case of an emergency. It is anticipated that this new height will also make possible the use of handheld radios in downtown Orlando, which formerly was not feasible. Group Nine Commander, Lt Col Bruce McConnell, Col Henri Casenove and George Metz worked long and hard to achieve this major improvement in communication capability and were very proud to make the official presentation of the Certificate.

## MEET YOUR TEAMMATES



**Lt Col Bud Borner is Florida Wing's Counter Drug Officer.** As ADY he also serves as Group 6 Operations and Scheduling Officer for N96867.

Bud joined CAP in 1983 and transferred from California Wing in 1997. Bud is a Mission Pilot, Flight Release Officer, Mission Check Pilot, Counter Drug Pilot, Cadet/ROTC Orientation Pilot, Command Pilot, and a Transport Mission Pilot. Lt Col Borner has served as a Group Deputy Commander and served in the Navy's Manned Spacecraft Recovery Force, Pacific and recovered astronauts from Apollo 15, 16, 17; Skylab 1, 2, 3, and the Apollo-Soyuz Test Project.



**Major Sharon Taylor is Florida Wing Director of Plans and Programs and Southeast Region Director of Marketing.**

Major Taylor joined CAP in 1998 in order to sponsor the founding of a new cadet squadron in Boca Raton. This was done in concert with her husband, Lt Col David Mikelson. Sharon served as Aerospace Education Officer of the new squadron from 1999 to 2000. Maj Taylor has been the Conference Project Officer for Group Six, Florida Wing and Southeast Region. Each attracted record breaking attendance from prior years. In June 2003, Sharon joined the staff of FLORIDA FACTS.



**Capt Linda Trimpey is currently the Aerospace Education Staff Advisor for Florida Wing and Group 800-Florida Schools Group.** As a parent of a cadet member,

she joined CAP's North Tampa Cadet Squadron in 1999. Capt Trimpey has received many awards, Certificates and commendations for the outstanding service she has provided in initiating and mentoring new middle school squadrons. She conducts AE workshops for teachers, assists as a Science Fair Judge, programs CAP AE projects and displays at the Museum of Science and Industry, Sun 'n Fun, etc. Linda leads the FLWG AE Workshops, and the FLWG Conference AE Seminars.

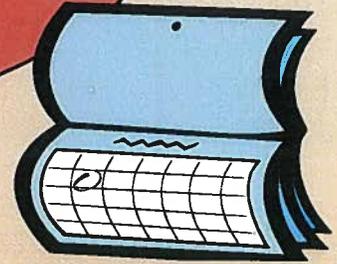


**Lt Col Alvin J. Bedgood is the newly appointed Florida Wing Cadet Activities Coordinator and Drug Demand Reduction Administrator.**

Bedgood joined CAP in 1985. He is a Charter Member of the Ramstein Cadet Squadron in Germany. He organized and commanded the first CAP Encampment in Europe in 1986. Al retired from the US Army in 1998 as a Major after serving in Europe, Korea, Persian Gulf War, and the Balkans. He has been presented with 21 Military Medals including the Legion of Merit, 9 CAP Awards, 3 Military Badges and 5 CAP badges. Lt Col Bedgood has earned BA, MS and EDS degrees.



## MARK YOUR CALENDARS



Submitted by Lt. Col. William Brockman  
Florida Wing Chief of Staff

### JULY, 2003

- 4 Independence Day
- 4 Busch Series Racing, Daytona Speedway
- 12 Operations Training Seminar, Charlotte County
- 19 Wing Staff Meeting, MacDill AFB
- 19 Water Survival School Opalocka
- 19-26 SER Staff College, McGhee-Tyson ANG, Knoxville, TN
- 26 Group 7 Inspection, TBA
- 27-2 August SER Cadet Leadership School, Patrick AFB

### AUGUST

- 8 Water Survival School, Pensacola
- 9 Operations Training Seminar, Pensacola
- 25-27 National Boards & Annual Conference, Las Vegas, NV

### SEPTEMBER

- 1 FLORIDA FACTS DEADLINE
- 1 Labor Day
- 6 Group 6 Inspection, TBA
- 6-7 Professional Development, South Florida
- 13 Operations Training Seminar, Patrick AFB
- 20 Wing Staff Meeting, MacDill AFB
- 20 CD Orientation, TBA
- 26-28 SER Conference, Westin North Hotel, Atlanta, GA
- 27-Oct 6 Jewish New Year

### OCTOBER

- 11 Operations Training Seminar, TBA
- 13 Columbus Day
- 18 Wing Staff Meeting, MacDill AFB
- 18 Group 4 Inspection, TBA
- 24-26 Check Pilot School, Lakeland
- 25-26 U.S. Navy Blue Angels, Jacksonville Beach

### NOVEMBER

- 1 AEO Workshop, TBA
- 2 Unit Finance Report due
- 4 Election Day
- 7-8 U. S. Navy Blue Angels, NAS Pensacola

- 8 Operation Training Seminar, TBA
- 11 Veteran's Day
- 15 Wing Staff Meeting
- 15 Busch Series Racing, Homestead
- 22 Group 8 Inspection, TBA
- 27 Thanksgiving Day

### DECEMBER

- 1 CAP's 62nd Anniversary
- 1 FLORIDA FACTS DEADLINE
- 13 TIGER DAY, Statewide
- 17 100th Anniversary of powered flight
- 20 Wing Staff Meeting, MacDill AFB
- 20-27 Hanukkah
- 25 Christmas Day
- 31 New Year's Eve

### JANUARY, 2004

- 1 New Year's Day



## COL TONY PINEDA CELEBRATES 15 YEARS IN CAP

By Major Sharon Taylor

The inherent characteristics of determination and integrity Southeast Region Commander, Col Tony Pineda has shown in his 15-year CAP career have also undoubtedly been fueled by his childhood experiences. "My mother and I had little hope in our hearts and relief that we had escaped a terrible dictator," recalls Col Pineda about the emotions he felt as a small boy arriving in Miami from Cuba.

From those early days with only gratitude for the opportunity to live in a free society and hope for the future to foster the family's new beginning in America, Tony Pineda went on to earn two college degrees and fulfill a 31-year law enforcement career.

And so, not surprisingly, he has focused his work and leisure time on service to others, to the community of Hollywood he served as a police officer and detective, to the state of Florida as a Special Agent, and to the community, state and southeast region in Civil Air Patrol for 15 years.

His interest in aviation began at an early age and he recalls, "I worked very hard while I was a student in high school and college to earn my private pilot's license. How I wish I had known about Civil Air Patrol then." His son, Robert, introduced him to the CAP in 1988 when they both joined the West Broward Squadron.

In recent years, working with the Gang Prevention Task Force, Col Pineda sees first hand what can happen to young people without positive role models and how much of a difference the Civil Air Patrol Cadet Program can make in their lives." With his leadership the West Broward Composite Squadron increased membership from 35 to 125 and earned many awards.

Col Pineda then served from 1989 to 1996 as Group Commander, where he doubled member-



Col Pineda accepts command of Florida Wing in 1998 from stepping down commander, Col Andrew Skiba.

ship to 800 and was Florida Wing's Group of the Year four years in a row. Col Pineda was named Florida Wing Vice Commander in 1996 and Florida Wing Commander in 1998.

Under his leadership, Florida Wing became the largest wing in the nation. He implemented the first statewide emergency alerting system, began its glider program, expanded the chaplain service to the largest in CAP, chartered a legislative squadron which grew in recognizable influence, centralized

an aircraft maintenance system considered to be a model by NHQ, and supported development of network software for pilot data.

Education and training being a high priority for him, he created Internet Yahoo Groups with monthly conference calls, ran statewide Professional Development Weekends [PDW], and held wing conferences each year that set attendance records and featured extensive programs of seminars and workshops.

While he was commander, Florida Wing took first place in the National Drill Competition, received over 100 county proclamations, and FLORIDA FACTS went from a black and white newsletter to a 44 page full color, glossy magazine with a circulation of 5000, and recognized as the best news medium in the Civil Air Patrol.

Continuing an emphasis on community service, Florida Wing responded to flood emergencies in northwest Florida and fires in central Florida and had a record year for mission responses -319 and 4 lives saved. He reactivated the DDR Middle School Initiative in Florida which has grown to twelve schools and over 275 members, the largest in CAP and recognized as a model of excellence by NHQ and the Air Force.

See Page 36



**We never forget our  
Prisoners of Wars, Those Missing in Action,  
Our Troops Serving Abroad, and Our Military  
Providing Homeland Defense.**

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

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

### **CHAPLAIN, LT COL SNIDOW RETIRES.**

**At a special ceremony held at the Highlands County Composite Squadron in Sebring, Chaplain, Lt Col Snidow retired after twelve years of service as the squadron's Chaplain and Public Affairs Officer.**

**Chaplain Snidow was recruited in 1992 by Chaplain, Lt Col Johnson, Assistant for Recruiting to the National Chaplain Service, Civil Air Patrol, and a member of the Highlands County Composite Squadron.**

**Lt Col Snidow was awarded a Service Plaque from Florida Wing, Group Five for his service as Group Chaplain since 2000. He had served as an Army Combat Paratrooper with the 101st Airborne during World War II and was a volunteer chaplain at the Avon Park Florida Regional Hospital.**

**M**ajor Jerry C. Borschard, Sr., World War II bomber pilot and longtime member of the Civil Air Patrol, died 25 May, after a short illness. He was 84 years old.

**Borschard, who was a member of the Fernandina Beach Senior Squadron, retired from the Civil Air Patrol in 1999 after 25 years of service.**

**In the Army Air Corps, First Lieutenant Borschard flew B-17's, B-24's, and B-29's and became an Instructor Pilot.**

**He moved to Fernandina Beach in 1984 where he resumed flight instruction. He flew his own aircraft, a Grumman Tiger, until well into his 70's.**

**Major Borschard had a distinguished career as a musician. He played the trombone and in the late 30's and early 40's, he played with such famous groups as the Paul Whiteman Orchestra, Glenn Miller's Band, and the Jimmy Dorsey and Tommy Dorsey bands.**

**After the war, using the professional name Jerry Shard, he formed the Jerry Shard Trio and then the Jerry Shard Orchestra and recorded six records for Capitol Records.**

**He is survived by his wife of 61 years, Mary, two sons, one daughter, one sister and seven grandchildren.**

**At his request, memorial donations would be appreciated to be made to the Fernandina Beach Senior Squadron, Civil Air Patrol.**



# COMMUNICATIONS

Maj. Paul Blystone  
FLWG Director of Communications

Florida Wing has recently completed their "Annual Hurricane Exercise." This was a mock disaster with Hurricane Zeke striking the lower east coast of Florida as a Category 4 Storm. Evacuation took place ahead of the storm, thousands of homes were damaged, and electrical, telephone, and computer outages were experienced. The Florida Wing HF [high frequency] radio network was activated at 2 p.m. on May 12 and ended at 2 p.m. on May 15. A radio roll call was conducted at the top of each hour with as many as 25 check-ins. Approximately 70% of the check-ins had use of auxiliary power, either by generator or battery back-up. Formal traffic from the affected area and formal answers returned, proved our capability for maintaining communications when all else fails.

**CAP SUPPLY DEPOT** has been closed since February. Effective as of June 1 radio equipment will be able to be purchased from the CAP Book Store, Maxwell AFB, AL.

**CEAR S-8** [Communication Equipment Accountability Report]

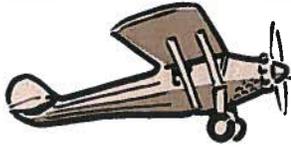
were sent to all units in January. The triplicate copies were to be signed and two copies with original signatures were to be returned to wing. These reports were due by end of March. It was a bit of a challenge to get them all collected but the mission was accomplished and the complete report was sent to the LO's office by the regulatory deadline. All units are reminded to keep their records updated and a copy of Form 37C for all transfers of equipment should be on file. This will facilitate the completion of CEAR [S-8] reports each January.

**FLORIDA WING CONFERENCE** held at the Adams Mark Hotel in Daytona Beach will have come and gone by the time this is printed. With the expectation of more than 500 attendees, a one-hour "Conference of Communicators" is scheduled followed by a two and one half hour Communications Workshop. Communications, training, compliant radios, frequency standardization, use of non-CAP frequencies, CEMS, CEAR, CAPR 100-1, licensing, aircraft radios, satellite imagery systems are only a few of the sub-

jects which will be discussed.

**REPEATERS** are an important part of our communication network and we always strive for improvement. Our moving the Apopka Repeater to a high tower east of Orlando, networked with the Kennedy Space Center Repeater, and the Tampa Repeater provides central Florida with communication coverage from coast to coast.

**TEACHING COMMUNICATIONS** and its requirements is a frequently asked question. To teach communications, one must have completed the Train The Trainer Course; must hold an Advanced ROA card; and be thoroughly familiar with CAPR 100-1 Vol. I and III. An e-mail to me stating your qualifications, verifying your TTT achievement on the National website, and ROA status and you can begin instructing. We learn so that we may teach others. Finally, a big thanks to all the communication staff, the ones who teach, all of the HF, NCS and ANCS stations, the technicians, and technical advisors. All make FLWG the best.



## EMERGENCY SERVICES



### **“SAFETY AND SURVIVABILITY MUST BE AN IMPERATIVE...”**

“Safety and survivability must be an imperative in any mission tasking. Our main concern must always be with our personnel, our resources, and our assets,” stated Florida Wing Commander, Col Matthew Sharkey. He has stressed to the Emergency Services Directorate the need to “take care of our own” as well as respond to tasking from outside agencies.

This command driven initiative was the force behind the FLWG Continuity of Operations Plan [COOP]. This plan was tested to its ultimate during the recent conducting of the annual Hurricane Exercise by the State of Florida. Exercise “Hurricane Zeke” began on Friday with storm escalation continuing to Sunday. It was then apparent that Florida would be hit by the storm’s landfall. Simulated aircraft movements were initiated based on the storm path and alerts were precipitated for personnel. The Hurricane Radio Net was activated and remained so throughout the entire scenario. The State Coordinating Officer gave the go-ahead for contra-flow operations on the Florida Turnpike and Alligator Alley. This reverse lane movement on those major roads required numerous FLWG aircraft flying in support of Florida Dept of Law Enforcement and Florida Highway Patrol.

Tuesday dawned with the realization that this was going to be “a big one”. A CAP Forward Control Team deployed and rendezvoused with a State team and tactical planning began. AFRCC issued a mission [simulated] number for the handling of distress beacon alarms that were sure to emerge. The ECO team in Tallahassee included State CAP Director, Jerry Angley, 1Lt Melissa Cook, SER Col Valerie Brown, LTC Steve Bell, and Major Chip Maher.

LTC Bell worked at the Emergency Operations Center [EOC] with State ESF-5 personnel and Florida National Guard Special Forces to develop RECON plans for the impact counties.

Wednesday was to be “Landfall Day”

Hurricane Zeke pounded ashore on Wednesday morning and it was rated Category 4 with sustained winds of 140 mph and gusts over 160 mph. Downtown Miami received a brutal pummeling. Damage reports clogged the circuits and then silence as communications failed in the south. Satellite communications were attempted to replace the lost systems as deployments were initiated. CPF 809 and CPF 841 were launched for impact assessment. SlowScan TV were radioed to the Forward Control Team and ARNAV satellite system was tested.

Miami-Dade County was found to be totally devastated and major damage was recorded in Broward County. Hurricane Zeke was exiting the state on Friday as a Category 2 storm over Naples on the southwest coast and damage was severe in Collier County as it was northerly to Tampa. CPF 841 and CPF 850 flew SSTV assessment flights.

The State of Florida Hurricane Exercise was terminated on Friday afternoon with the exception of the mission team based in Tallahassee at the Emergency Operations Center. Area responses and reports were accumulated, evaluated and an official exercise out-brief was conducted.

Major Chip Maher, Florida Wing Director of Emergency Services, commented, “This storm, had it been a real one, would have caused an estimated NINETY BILLION DOLLARS in property damage. The death toll [simulated] in Miami-Dade alone was over 300 and there were still many structures remaining to be searched. Early estimates projected 900,000 structures damaged or destroyed by Hurricane Zeke. There is a good chance that there would be no Civil Air Patrol infrastructure remaining in Miami-Dade County.

Col Matt Sharkey extended his thanks to all participants in support of this exercise. Additionally, he reminds all that we, in Florida, are in the hurricane season until November 30. If statistical probabilities fall in place, this could be a devastating year.

# SAFETY SENTRY

CAPT. ERNIE MANZANO  
Florida Wing Safety Officer

## QUESTIONNAIRE

Circle the letter of the correct answer. When completed, check answers at bottom of page. These questions are from the U.S. AIR FORCE INSTITUTE materials.

1. WHAT DOES ORM STAND FOR?
  - a) Occupational Risk Management.
  - b) Operational Risk Management.
  - c) Occupational Risk Mishaps.
  - d) Operational Risk Mission.
2. WHAT IS THE AIR FORCE INSTRUCTION GOVERNING ORM?
  - a) AFI 91-213
  - b) CAPR 62-2
3. 1LT SMITH IS AT HOME PREPARING TO WORK ON A LIGHT FIXTURE IN THE CEILING WHILE STANDING ON A METAL LADDER. WILL 1LT SMITH BE USING PROPER ORM?
  - a) Yes
  - b) No
4. WHAT IS THE FIRST STEP IN ORM?
  - a) Make a risk decision.
  - b) Assess the hazard.
  - c) Implement controls.
  - d) Identify the hazard.
5. WHO HAS THE RESPONSIBILITY TO EFFECTIVELY MANAGE RISKS?
  - a) Workers
  - b) Supervisors
  - c) Commanders
  - d) Safety Personnel
6. ORM PROVIDES COMMON SENSE SOLUTIONS TO HAZARDS BEFORE THEY CAUSE A MISHAP OR MISSION FAILURE AND IS A PROACTIVE WAY TO FIND AND RESOLVE HAZARDS RATHER THAN REACTING TO SOMETHING THAT GOES WRONG.
  - a) True
  - b) False
7. WHAT'S AN INDIVIDUAL'S RESPONSIBILITY IN ORM?
  - a) Identifies hazards/risks to supervisors.
  - b) Balances what is wanted versus what is needed.
  - c) Integrates risk controls into plans and orders.
  - d) Develops a total commitment to mission accomplishment.
8. THE RISK ASSESSMENT STEP IN THE PROCESS USES WHICH THREE VARIABLES TO DECIDE IF A HAZARD WILL RESULT IN A MISHAP?
  - a) Hazard, Location, Time.
  - b) Exposure, Possibility, Abatement Cost.
  - c) Probability, Severity, Exposure Possibility.
  - d) Location, Time, Probability.
9. MAJ TOM HAS PERFORMED A PRE-FLIGHT CHECK ON HIS PERSONAL PLANE AND SUBMITTED A FLIGHT PLAN FOR THE DAY. A FRIEND DECIDES TO JOIN HIM AND THEY AGREE TO GO TO A NEW LOCATION FOR LUNCH WITHOUT SUBMITTING A NEW FLIGHT PLAN. HAS PROPER ORM BEEN USED?
  - a) Yes
  - b) No
10. PRIOR TO IMPLEMENTING A CONTROL MEASURE THAT IS BEYOND YOUR SCOPE OF AUTHORITY YOU NEED TO GET APPROVAL FROM THE APPROPRIATE LEVEL?
  - a) True
  - b) False

ANSWERS:  
1. B]  
2. A]  
3. B]  
4. D]  
5. C]  
6. A]  
7. A]  
8. D]  
9. A]  
10. A]

# NEW MARCO ISLAND HEADQUARTERS IS DEDICATED.

By Major Sharon Taylor

A long awaited day in May finally arrived for FL376, the Marco Island Senior Squadron. After five years of planning, design, and fund raising and 18 months of construction, the Marco Island Senior Squadron celebrated the grand opening and dedication of its new headquarters and hangar at the Marco Island Executive Airport.

The formal program featured a ribbon-cutting ceremony, a Color Guard presentation by the Naples Cadet Squadron, remarks by Southeast Region Commander, Col Tony Pineda; Florida Wing Commander, Col Matt Sharkey; and Collier County Commissioner, Donna Fiala. Naples Senior Squadron Commander, Lt Col Charles Dinsmoor served as Master of Ceremonies. The program concluded with a dedication of the facility by Chaplain Lt Col Norman Taylor.

Also among the more than 100 participants were Marco Island Councilman Heyward Boyce; CAP National Finance Officer and former Florida Wing Commander, Col Andrew Skiba; Group Five Commander, Major Fran Gleockler; and FLWG Director of Operations, Lt Col David Lehtonen.

CAP National Commander, Major General Richard Bowling telephoned to extend his congratulations to the squadron members on their dedication and perseverance.

Five former Marco Island Squadron Commanders took part in the celebration. Lt Col Fritz Schaller traveled the greatest distance from Williamsburg, Virginia to be present at the dedication. Other com-

manders included Capt Donn May currently a squadron member; Lt Col Gus Ehrman; commander in the mid-1980's; Lt Col David Mikelson,

commander in the early 1900's; and Lt Col Monte Lazarus, who assumed command in 1992 and later, as one of the airport commissioners was instrumental in getting the lease approved for the land. Lt Col James Love, one of the most senior members of the

squadron said, "I waited a long time hoping for this day and wouldn't have missed this memorable occasion."

The present squadron commander, Major Jean Tremblay, credited the many talented and dedicated CAP members with the successful completion of the project by taking on the duties of general contractor, laying tiles, wiring for telephones and computers, painting, plastering, and erecting the communications tower.

In recognition of their work on the project, the new Southeast Region Civil Air Patrol Coin of Excellence was presented to 2Lt Tom Barthel and 2Lt Joe Wilkins. Maj Tremblay also explained that the fund raising programs and efforts "brought the community together for us." The 6,000 square feet building/hangar cost \$450,000 and was funded entirely by donations.

The 3,900 square feet hangar is large enough to hold four Cessna 182's and the 2,100 square feet of headquarters space includes offices, kitchen,

See Page 30



L to r Major Jean Tremblay, Col Tony Pineda, and Col Matt Sharkey in front of the new headquarters building.

training room and communication room.

The Marco squadron has always been resourceful. Until 1996 they were located in buildings originally used by PBA, an airline transporting prospective customers for Deltona, the company that developed Marco Island. The squadron's hangar building was moved from Immokalee and assembled by the CAP members in the 1980's.

When their land was needed for construction of "T" hangars, the buildings were demolished. The members then met at the Marco Shores Country Club and a construction trailer

waterways create a maze in which boaters frequently get lost or grounded and might not be rescued for days were it not for the Civil Air Patrol.

Two Marco Island Squadron members, Major Clayton Reid and Major James Matthews, lost their lives on October 2, 1991 while rescuing a boat and its occupants in distress. After locating the vessel and establishing the coordinates, they circled until the Coast Guard arrived. They contacted Lt Col Buddy Harris, who was on radio duty that evening and informed him



L to r Col Matt Sharkey, Col Tony Pineda, Commissioner Fiala, and Maj Jean Tremblay



Audience of more than 100 assembled in new hangar at Dedication Ceremony



Part of CAP's air fleet of 575 Cessna's parked at new hangar which can hold four Cessna's



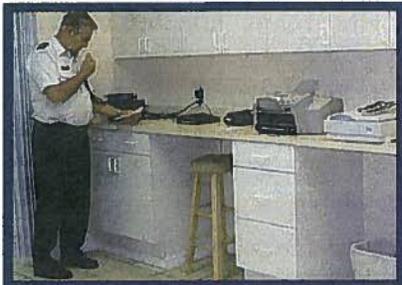
Squadron headquarters building in early 1990's



Hq. demolished for airport improvements



Construction trailer serves as temporary Hq.



Hq. has offices, planning and training rooms, kitchen, showers, and this communication room



Display memorializes the death of Majors James Matthews and Clay Reid.



Plaque honoring the downed pilots who served so that others can live.

until the new facility was built. The 45 members of the Marco Island Senior Squadron include 10 pilots and 11 observers. These mission certified personnel of the Civil Air Patrol have served Collier County for many years in a highly visible role flying Sundown Patrol every evening over the Ten Thousand Islands, weather permitting. Along the southwestern coast of Florida, hundreds of square miles of mangroves and

that they were returning to base. They never arrived having crashed south of Pavilion Key. "That is a day I will never forget," said Lt Col Harris. The plaque memorializing Majors Reid and Matthews, by the Collier County Board of Commissioners, has been mounted prominently in the new headquarters.

# 60 Years—And Still Serving.

By Lt Col S. Buddy Harris

An individual's historical perspective is definitely a multi-channel viewpoint.

"Looking back on Wilbur and Orville's awesome flight of a powered aircraft nearly 100 years ago seems a bit like ancient history to me. However, looking back to my first solo flight 61 years ago, the day when my flight instructor climbed out of the cockpit and said, "It's all yours", seems like just a few days ago." This memory was jarred as I was receiving a pre-mission briefing from Southeast Region Commander, Col Antonio Pineda for a Shoreline Patrol mission. Pineda smiled and told me that he also soloed at the age of 15 but he quickly added "in a different year".

As aviation has blasted off from the memorable flight at Kitty Hawk on December 17, 1903 to space shuttles and supersonic jets, so has Civil Air Patrol's role from its creation on Monday, December 1, 1941 - only six days before the infamous Sunday of December 7 when the Japanese attacked Pearl Harbor.

America entered World War II with meager defenses on the East Coast. Convoys carrying vital war supplies for Europe were nearly choked off as Nazi submarines operated with impunity within sight of our Atlantic Ocean beaches. Tankers and freighters were going up in flames as merchant mariners leaped overboard into flaming seas. One German submarine skipper motored his vessel right into New York Harbor navigating by a New York City tourist map and visible landmarks like the Ferris Wheel at Coney Island.

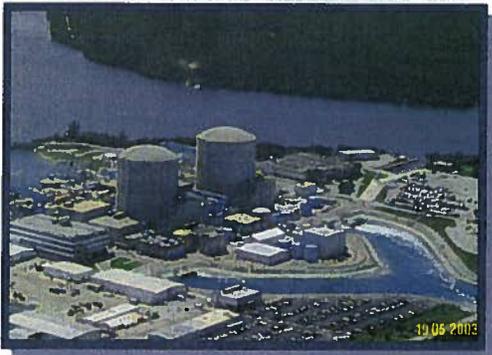
Col Tony Pineda asked

what it was like in the early days of CAP? "In early 1943, I flew my first Coastal Patrol mission in a J-3 Piper Cub with a 65 HP Continental engine, five instruments on the front panel, a floating cork fuel gauge on top the front cowling and, sometimes, a one watt radio. I was one of more than 100,000 CAP members who successfully forced the German sub wolf packs from the shores of America to the North Sea. On August 31, 1943, we were told the Coastal Patrol/Submarine Patrol missions were to stand down. I am very proud to have been a small part of CAP's record of spotting 173 submarines, attacking 57, hitting 10, sinking two, and making convoy shipping one of the major elements that led to our allied victory," I told Pineda.

"By order of Air Corps Gen 'Hap' Arnold, CAP was then assigned to target towing, searchlight crew training support, and courier service. On my 18th birthday, I was ordered to report to the Army Air Corps as an Aviation Cadet," I added.

"We are very proud that you are still very active in Civil Air Patrol 60 years after joining. You serve on Florida Wing Staff as Editor/Publisher of the FLORIDA FACTS magazine and maintain proficiency in Search and Rescue. As we both know, CAP is the finest all professional volunteer service organization in the world. Today, with a fleet of more than 550 aircraft and access to a backup armada of 4800 member owned aircraft, when combined, it is the largest general aviation air force in the world. This asset and its thoroughly trained and qualified members perform 90% of all inland search and rescue missions for the U.S. Air Force," Col Tony Pineda stated.

"Technologically, we are on  
SEE Page 32



{Top} Flight Officer S. Buddy Harris returns to base from a Coastal Patrol Mission in 1943.

{Middle} Southeast Region Commander, Col Tony Pineda provides pre-mission briefing to Lt Col S. Buddy Harris. This was 60 years after Buddy flew his first Coastal Patrol mission in 1943.

{Bottom} One of the major utility facilities flown over during the Shoreline Patrol.

**Continued from Page 31**  
**60 Years and Still Serving**

the leading edge of mission performance. Our aircraft, Cessna 172's and 182's with racks of 11 to 13 radios, advanced instrumentation and satellite navigation capability are now being equipped with digital cameras and satellite telephones which make possible the sending of real-time photos from the plane to anywhere in the world. The recent photo transmitting by CAP of a raft carrying Cuban refugees made possible the Coast Guard intercepting them," Col Pineda continued.

"This capability", explained Col Pineda "requires only two pieces of software - a Digital

Camera Wizard and Microsoft Outlook Express for e-mail." A NIKON CoolPix 5700 Digital Camera with 5 megapixels capability produces sharp imagery uploaded in a thumbnail pattern for photo selection viewing. The ARNAV-100 SATPHONE is used to transmit the selected photos through a laptop computer via e-mail. "This system is not intended to replace Slow-Scan TV, which is far less expensive. It merely brings another technology to the table", Pineda explained.

The SATPHONE system transmits photos as e-mail attachments to any single or group address via the Global Star Service Satellite. Whereas Slow-Scan TV is limited to reception at a ground station which

is further limited by line-of-sight constraints. The SATPHONE is a Tri-modal instrument-analogue, digital, or satellite—and it automatically determines the best mode for transmit. Col Pineda's assigned SER aircraft, N9386X, is the first of the CAP fleet to have this photo/transmittal equipment installed.

At the conclusion of the mission briefing and prior to take-off, Col Tony Pineda remarked, "How much sooner would we have achieved an end to World War II if we were able to bring this level of technology to the fore and what will CAP'ers be saying 60 years from now as to the level of service they will then be providing to our nation?"

**CAP Article In Magazine** - The June 2003 issue of Air Force Association magazine has a multi-page story entitled "The Citizen Fleet". This excellent story, written by Bruce Callender, traces CAP from its creation in 1941 to its aerial damage assessment mission over the World Trade Center following the 9/11 dastardly attack on a non-military target. This article is on the web and is worth reading and saving. CAP is fast becoming less of a secret!

**NEW CHAPLAIN** - Florida Wing welcomes the Chaplain Corps' newest chaplain, Captain George A. Schmidt attached to FL-423 unit. Col Matt Sharkey and Florida Wing Chaplain, Major Dewey Painter extend congratulations to the unit commander who recruited and encouraged Capt Schmidt to join.

**LOOKING GOOD!** - The Clearwater Composite Squadron has a new newsletter that does the squad-

ron proud. This four color, glossy, 100 pound stock, four pager is professionally prepared by SM Terrance Power, Public Affairs Officer. There is little doubt that CAP will be deservedly elevated in the minds of every reader. Lt Col John Atanasio, unit commander, is deserving of recognition for supporting this PA effort. John's record of accomplishments during his years of dedicated service include the securing of a building from the Coast Guard, finding a site for the building at the Clearwater Air Park, and gaining the support of the local government agencies, business groups and the public. Lt Col Robert Ashman, Group 8 Commander extends a big thanks to Lt Col Atanasio for all his past service. Ashman will be transferring squadron command to 2Lt Robert Downing.

**IG ON RADIO SHOW** - Inspector General of Florida Wing, Major Gary Owen successfully arranged for a 45 minute live interview show on

WSTU radio. Four other CAP members - Maj Walter Lane, Lt Col Charles Morrow, C/Capt Kyle Gauthier, and C/Lt Will Murphy [currently attending The Citadel] joined Owen on the show.



The interview covered the history of CAP, the three missions of CAP and the services provided by CAP to the community and its citizens. The two cadets were queried in depth as to the benefits they derive from their CAP training and how CAP has affected their lives. Both cadets excelled in their responses. WSTU has transmission coverage from Fort Pierce on the north to Boca Raton on the south—a three county area.

## A TRULY MEMORABLE DAY!

Cadet Robert Brennan of the Emerald Coast Squadron in Group One, while taking his FAA Private Pilot Check Ride, spotted and reported a forest fire [See Photo A] , located a downed ultralite aircraft [See Photo B], and passed and earned his Private Pilot Certificate [See Photo C].



PHOTO "A"

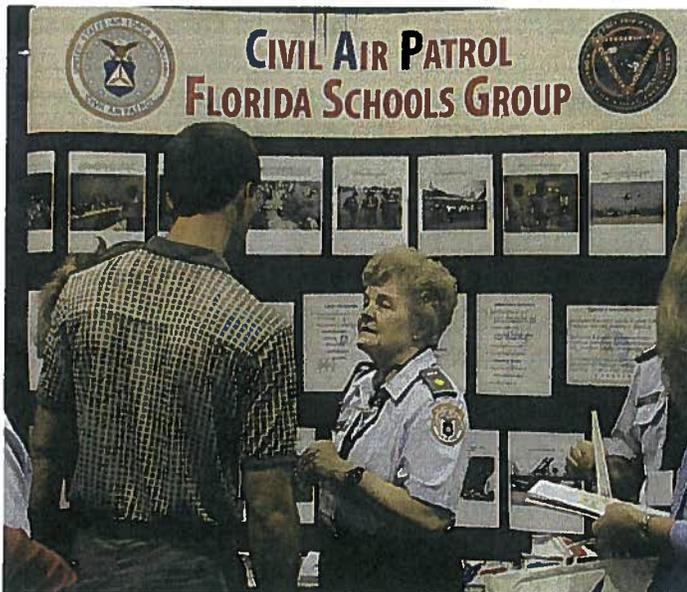


PHOTO "B"



PHOTO "C"

## RECRUITING AREA DISCOVERED!



The Civil Air Patrol had a recruiting booth at the Florida Parent-Educators Home Schooling Association Convention. Registration for the convention totaled close to 12,000 attendees. Home schooled parents and students are an untapped recruiting area. The constantly manned booth developed hundreds of contacts and thousands of pieces of CAP literature were distributed. Names and phone numbers of unit contact personnel were distributed to prospects.

## FLIGHT FOR MAYUKO!



Mayuko Sakai is a 16 year old Rotary Exchange student spending her last academic year at Eau Gallie High School while living with families from the Suntree and Eau Gallie Rotary Clubs. Col. David Lehtonen, FLWG Director of Operations, asked Mayuko if she would like to fly and she jumped at the chance.

The route of flight in the Cessna 182 was along the Indian River which gave Mayuko an aerial view of the Vehicle Assembly Building at Kennedy Space Center and then Port Canaveral cruise ships. Mayuko's comment on landing was, "Really cool."

## CUBAN REFUGEES SPOTTED BY AIR CREW

Melanie LeMay, NHQ/PR

In the process of testing a new digital imaging system off the Florida Keys, a Civil Air Patrol flight crew spotted a raft carrying three Cuban refugees and helped the U.S. Coast Guard to intercept them.

According to Ensign Brett Workman of the Coast Guard, worsening weather approaching the Keys would have endangered the rafter's lives had they not been picked up. "I credit the Civil Air Patrol with saving their lives," said Workman, Public Affairs Officer and Coast Guard Auxiliary Liaison in Key West.

CAP's Advanced Technologies Group was conducting tests on new technology its members are considering for homeland security and narco-terrorism reconnaissance flights. They were working with Raytheon Corp. and the Coast Guard at the Key West

station because that location, with its incidents of border violations and drug trafficking, offered a real-world environment for the testing.

CAP national headquarters staff members Terry Raymond and Rick McDow saw the 13-ft. raft during a routine test flight. In previous tests, they had been using an airborne digital imaging system which allows a crew member to take photos with a high resolution digital camera and transmit them via satellite phone to any e-mail address anywhere in the world. While their flight that day did not involve tests of that system, they still had it installed and operational on the Cessna 206. "I looked down and saw what appeared to be a dark gray raft carrying people," Raymond said. "The Coast Guard had briefed us that the area we were searching could

be part of an escape route for Cuban refugees, so I immediately thought of that. Even though I wasn't in the right position for taking photos, I grabbed the camera and got the best shots possible."

Raymond immediately transmitted his digital images of the raft onto his laptop computer. Using the ARNAV-100 SAT-Phone and Globalstar network, the images were sent to the Coast Guard via e-mail. These high resolution photos were received by the Coast Guard within two minutes and Raymond was able to talk to the authorities over the same phone system.

The Coast Guard requested the CAP aircraft remain onsite and a cutter intercepted the refugees. The three rafters were uninjured and repatriated to Cuba.



## CAP SHOWS RIGHT STUFF IN TOPOFF EXERCISE

When the counter-terrorism exercise recently concluded in Chicago and Seattle, CAP volunteers were counted among the responders. TOPOFF 2 was the second in a series of national-level domestic and international exercises sponsored by the U.S. State Dept., U.S. Dept. of Justice, and the Federal Emergency Management Agency. TOPOFF 2 simulated a covert release of biological and radiological agents and evaluated the nation's available response to such a simulated attack.

In Chicago, while some 30 participating members role played as victims, others stood ready to fly trained biohazard technicians to the exercise site and other members escorted VIP's and helped Chicago police with crowd control. A large group of

CAP members were sent to selected hospitals and public health facilities to receive simulated inoculations against the exercise 'plague' virus, testing the city's ability to obtain and distribute mass medications.

As a result of the response by the Illinois and Washington Wings, the TOPOFF 2 planners now understand even better what CAP has to contribute. Tom Ridge, Secretary of the Dept. of Homeland Security said, "If we are going to make our response system stronger, we first have to identify where strengths and weaknesses exist. These challenging scenarios forced me to gauge our readiness, test our communications, and reinforce relationships. We're doing everything we can to prevent, deter and disrupt terrorist activity but we also must be prepared to respond to any real life scenario that might occur."

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## CONFERENCE QUIPS AND QUOTES

**Question asked of various attendees - "What do you think of FLWG's 2003 Conference?"**

**Col Al Allenback, CAP/NHQ/EXEC. DIR.,** "The only word I can think of is 'Humongous'. Florida Wing is truly the flagship of our organization. You definitely set the 'gold standards' of CAP. Lots of initiative, lots of innovation, lots of enthusiasm, and lots of pride. Those are the essential ingredients for excellence. I'm delighted to join with you and to participate in this fabulous conference."

**Maj Gen Eugene Harwell, former National Commander/CAP [2002],** "The drive that was exhibited by CAP during WWII is alive and well today. Whatever mission the President or the US Air Force assigns, CAP will respond. I have great respect for CAP leadership and its leaders. The CAP has already provided Homeland Security services as they did in WWII. I have no doubt they will respond again and they will do it well and they will do it proudly. I am extremely pleased with the number of cadets in attendance. They carry themselves with high level of dignity and professional pride. Col Pineda has achieved outstanding success with the six states and Col Sharkey has brought Florida Wing to new heights."

**Cadet from Tamiami Composite Squadron,** "To meet officers that I have read about and to be able to talk to them has been a thrill. Their interest and advice is truly appreciated."

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**Brig Gen William Cass, former National Commander/CAP,** "Thinking back to the early 1950's, I can still visualize the Florida Wing Conference here at Daytona Beach with perhaps 100 attending. This mass assembly of nearly 600 is truly stirring and indicative of the growth and potential of CAP."

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**C/Capt Chris Nielson, Charlotte County Squadron,** "This is my second conference. The first was in Sarasota, last year. I am amazed at the attendance and number of workshops and seminars. There has been a good selection of topics and Daytona Beach is an excellent location."

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**C/Capt Danielle Meyer, Patrick Composite Squadron,** "This is my second conference and I was pleased with the addressing of Proper Protocol and Regulation Changes at seminars. They were informative and very helpful. The location here at Daytona Beach is great and I will never lose the vision of Col Pineda's bungee jump."

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**Col Antonio Pineda, Southeast Region Commander,** "Florida is the leading wing in the nation in performing Homeland Security missions. You have an outstanding Emergency Services Program. Your Color Guard Team took First Place in the SER competition and will

now compete in the national finals. CAP is the finest second response volunteer organization in the nation."

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**Overheard comment of Col Matthew Sharkey, FLWG Commander,** "At the Southeast Region Conference in Atlanta last year, a large contingent of cadets and seniors visited the Seven Flags Over Georgia amusement park. I was asked by the cadets, "Who is that old man riding all those roller-coasters?" And this morning during the sunrise three mile Daytona Beach walk I was asked, "Who is that old man way ahead of the pack with Capt Steve Drew and his wife?". Well it's the same answer to both questions...none other than our own Lt Col Buddy Harris."

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A letter from **Governor Jeb Bush** was received by Cadet/Col Nicholas Wahbe congratulating him on his earning of the Spaatz Award. C/Col Wahbe is a student of the Embry-Riddle University.

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**Col Matt Sharkey, Florida Wing Commander,** "This is the largest attendance at any previous conference. I am particularly pleased with the representation from the Panhandle to South Florida. You have performed brilliantly in the Task Force Sentinel Mission where we provided aerial surveillance for numerous days prior to the Columbia Space Launch. Our Task Force Watch Coastal Patrol for the Coast Guard is outstanding. The Fire Watch Mission at Eglin Air Force Base is now increasing in frequency and responsibility."

Since being named Southeast Region Commander, Col Pineda has focused on using his broad experience to support the SER wings through education, training, communication, and innovation. He has held SER national AE officers school, two regional staff colleges, region cadet leadership school, national check pilots school, a region-wide SAREX, and developed a SER Safety Guide booklet.

In his very first year, Col Tony Pineda held the largest region conference in SER history, offering an outstanding program of seminars and workshops taught by the NHQ Directors and staff. His idea for the "Just Do It" campaign is underway with the goal of each member recruiting only one new member which will double the size of the region.

Following through on the NHQ Homeland Security mission, Col Pineda has supported the NHQ-Raytheon Corp. testing program in his region and has organized a SER Special Response Team. To bring opportunities and funds to the wings, he has formed a Marketing and Grants Unit.

Communications and the use of technology has been a priority with the creation of an extensive SER e-newsletter distributed monthly region-wide and current updates of importance are reported in the "News Flash" to the members.

Col Pineda readily acknowledges this long list of outstanding accomplishments is the result of a team effort. His on-going goal is to develop and support highly qualified staff and unit commanders. Empowerment of dedicated volunteers and the implementation of modern business practices are the hallmark of his outstanding tenure as a leader in the Civil Air Patrol. "Only contributions of many members working as a team can deliver great results. It has been my privilege to serve and lead those members."

When asked what is his vision for the future of CAP, he responded, "I would change the format of CAP NEWS to a magazine similar to what we have in Florida. Our national journalistic communication medium would then be the equal of the Army, Navy, Marine, and Air Force magazines. Second, I would work to strengthen our relation-

ship with the Air Force and be a more integral part of the defense team, and finally, in order to make the boating and general aviation communities more aware of Civil Air Patrol's mission I would like to initiate a requirement of all manufacturers of EPIRB's and ELT's to include in each product package a CAP message that transmission of an alarm precipitates a life-saving mission by the Civil Air Patrol on a 24/7 basis."

When asked what is his vision for his future in CAP, Tony said, "I look forward to continuing leading the Southeast Region and I have also submitted my candidacy for National Vice Commander. Our organization faces the greatest of opportunities and challenges. I have a desire to see Civil Air Patrol develop into the finest organization possible and one that is nationally recognized by all segments of the community. I am not afraid of the hard work it will take to make that happen."

Not a surprising statement from the CAP Region Commander who as a little boy escaped to America and grew up with a deep rooted belief in the American ideals of freedom and unlimited opportunity to excel.



## **SOUTHEAST REGION CONFERENCE IN SEPTEMBER**

The Southeast Region Annual Conference will be held September 26 and 27 at the Westin Atlanta North Hotel in Atlanta, Ga. The Westin is a luxury hotel close to the MARTA mass transit station. All seminars and workshops and the banquet will be held on Saturday with several specialized seminars and a social activity Friday evening. To allow for travel, no seminars will be held on Sunday.

The Atlanta area was chosen again as the conference site because of its proximity and convenience for all members in the Southeast Region. Last year a record crowd of nearly 300 traveled to the conference and banquet from the five SER states and Puerto Rico and were rewarded with an outstanding program. The program for this year is being developed by Rob Smith of NHQ and will highlight NHQ and SER experts and officials.



# CADET CAP'ERS

BY 1LT MICHAEL TIER

## CADET ACCOLADES



**SPAATZ AWARD:**  
Nicholas Wabeke



**EARHART AWARD:**  
Donald Van Patten II  
Harrison H. Whiting  
Mark Dauss



**MITCHELL AWARD:**  
Ramy Ramirez  
Evan Leighton-Castro  
Diego Ospina  
Secretse Sinclair  
Danielle Hayford

**Cadet 2d Lt Tatiana Schaeppler has been appointed as the Florida Wing Cadet Advisory Council Chair.**

**Cadet 1st Lt Richard Barnard appointed as Cadet Commander of the Tallahassee Composite Squadron.**

**Cadet Lt Col Steven Schweichler was presented with the Cadet of the Year award for the North Tampa Cadet Squadron at their annual banquet.**

## SEAWORLD SUPPORTS CAP

Central Florida Composite Squadron [CFCS] presented Certificates of Appreciation to various Sea World employees for contributing time and resources to the squadron over the past few years.

Sea World has made signs, donated supplies, and supported various activities of the squadron. CFCS also thanked Anheuser Busch for its free entry program to members of the armed forces and Civil Air Patrol.



## Cadet Honor Society

The Cadet Honor Society (CHS) of the Florida Wing is to help cadets gain academic recognition and credit for educational and scholarship purpose.

The Criteria is to gain a 90% or above per achievement, which will be the average of both Aerospace and Leadership tests for enlisted and Leadership for officers. Note the Curry achievement is a single test and will stand by itself, as will all cadet officer achievements (AE for officers is open book and is not accepted.) Maintain this average over a three-achievement span, with no time frame.

## SQUADRON EVENTS

Members of the Miami Beach Cadet and Homestead Air Reserve Composite Squadrons conducted an eventful Aerospace field trip to the Titusville County Air Show and visited the Kennedy Space Center.

The cadets had the opportunity to meet with an A-10 crew member who was a former CAP cadet. The cadets watched an emotional lowering of the US Flag at the Astronaut Memorial and toured exhibits at the Kennedy Space Center Visitors Complex.

The Brandon Cadet Squadron celebrated their twenty-fifth anniversary on 15 May 2003. The squadron is among the oldest established units in the Tampa Bay area.

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## **Young Essay Writer goes to Washington**

**By 1Lt Michael Tier**

Christina Zarrilli recently entered her essay "Space Mashed Potatoes, Anyone?" in the Council for Agricultural Science and Technology's essay contest. After winning the Florida State level contest, she had the opportunity to visit the University of Florida's Agricultural Department sponsored by the council. After winning the state level, her essay was submitted to the national contest where it won first place. Christina went to Washington, D.C. where she was presented with her First Place award by Ann Veneman, the Secretary of the Department of Agriculture.

While on her trip, Cadet Zarrilli also had the opportunity to meet with Congressman Wexler where he presented her with an American Flag that had flown over the Capitol.

Christina aspires to be an astronaut and hopes to attend the Air Force Academy.

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## **Cadet Officers Basic Course**

I originally thought that the COBC [Cadet Officers Basic Course] was going to be just another CAP activity that costs money and takes up vacation time, but I quickly learned, it was much more than that.

We had the opportunity to learn from Air Force instructors that taught us classes that would cost thousands of dollars in the real world. It broadened my knowledge and experience as a manager, and enhanced my communication skills. Most importantly, I learned a lot more about myself and my abilities and fears from the Air Force instructors.

Every night, we were required to write a sum-

mary of the days' activities which took hours, but being able to reflect on what I learned made me realize that an idea considered during the day should not just be forgotten the next day. Also, I observed two most valuable leadership traits. I saw the hard work and sacrifice the staff had put into COBC. The staff started working on the school six months before with no guarantee that it would happen. Their dedication to the COBC was perhaps the greatest example of servant leadership I have ever witnessed.

COBC is about the mind, not the classes. It is about the lessons learned outside the classroom, not the schedule. I didn't just attend the COBC...it was an experience.

-C/Capt Ben White

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## **Florida Leadership Academy**

Throughout the week of FLA, we learned many new ways to better run our home units. We reviewed the Myths and Legends, the new 52-16 program, and how to communicate with memoranda. We had actual drill instructors help us perfect our drill and ceremonies. MSgt Douglas of the Patrick AFB volunteered his vacation time to help train us during the week. The hardest time came at the end of the week. We had final speeches and essays for evaluation. In the middle of doing that we had our New Year's Eve party where we still learned leadership and morale while watching Lean On Me. Though only a week long, FLA challenged us to do things we had never done and think things we have never thought.

-C/SSgt Danielle Roth

## WING CONFERENCE PRIZE WAS ICING ON THE CAKE!

**C**apt Arthur "Bob" Dunlop really enjoyed his participation in the recent Florida Wing Conference at Daytona Beach. As Aerospace Education Officer with the Tallahassee Composite Squadron, he reported to them how valuable the AE Seminar was as well as the Flight Management System Work Shop and all the other activities he crammed in.

The enjoyment was further enhanced when he was presented with an award for the 2002 AE Circle of Excellence and advised that he had won the door prize at the conference banquet.

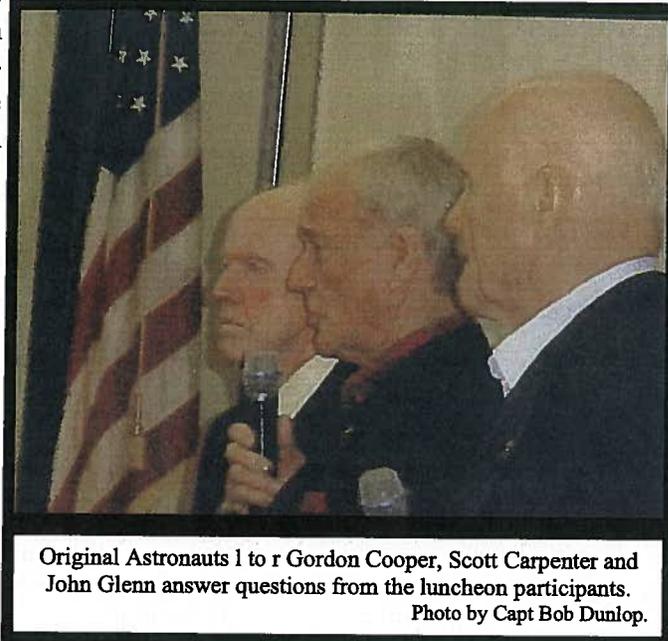
The incredible prize was two tickets to the Astronaut Weekend at the Kennedy Space Center from 20 to 22 June. Capt Dunlop and his wife, Barbara attended the ribbon cutting ceremony with 14 astronauts participating in the dedicating of the Astronaut Hall of Fame as an official part of the Kennedy Space Center Visitor Complex.

### WING CONFERENCE 2004 SET FOR FT. LAUDERDALE

If you enjoyed looking out over the beach and the ocean in Daytona Beach, then in 2004 you will have views of yachts and cruise ships on the intra-coastal waterway to enjoy. The Ft. Lauderdale Marriott Marina Hotel on the intracoastal is only two miles from renowned restaurants and Ocean Avenue activities.

With all of the meeting space booked solely

As unbelievable as it might sound, the next day included a lunch with three of the original seven astronauts - John Glenn, Scott Carpenter and Gordon Cooper and approximately 400 other folks involved with the NASA Space Program. Each astronaut's brief speech was followed by their answering questions from the luncheon attendees.



Original Astronauts l to r Gordon Cooper, Scott Carpenter and John Glenn answer questions from the luncheon participants.  
Photo by Capt Bob Dunlop.

Another highlight of the weekend was the induction of four more astronauts into the Astronaut Hall of Fame. Daniel Brandenstein, Hoot Gibson, Story Musgrave, and Sally Ride. They joined the 48 astronauts who had previously been inducted into the Hall of Fame. This Hall of Fame presents the personal side of the

space program. It's about the astronauts, their accomplishments and their families while the remainder of the Kennedy Space Center Visitor Complex emphasizes the hardware associated with man's travel in space.

"I know that Col Matt Sharkey put in considerable effort to make certain I received the tickets in time so that I would be able to participate in this memorable Astronauts Weekend," concluded Capt Dunlop.

for the Civil Air Patrol, this luxury hotel will virtually be dedicated just to CAP for the weekend of June 4 to June 6. The Marriott is located across from the Broward Convention Center and the 17th Street Causeway. On the interior side, many of the rooms face the tropical pool and picturesque marina. The water taxi stops at the hotel dock and you can go to restaurants, the theater or for a great scenic ride up and down the New River and intra-coastal.

Friday's program will include more workshops and seminars as well as an evening cruise. So plan now!

# VIETNAM VETERANS ARE ANNUALLY HONORED.

In a city park by a serene lake in the center of Tallahassee sits a UH-1B, the ubiquitous "Huey" of Vietnam fame. It has been carefully restored to Medvac, dustoff configuration by veterans of that war as a memorial to those who have passed on after returning home.

Each Memorial Day, another years worth of names are added to the plaques at the memorial. Every day, year round, people stop to search for the names of those they knew and/or loved as they do at "The Wall" in Washington, D.C.

Acquiring and restoring the helicopter had no formal organization backing it, nor did it have a budget, financing, manpower, or familiarity with the equipment. So the originators went in search of such an organization and found the Civil Air Patrol. As a community service project, a project to support our military veterans, as an educational his-



**The 'Huey' of Vietnam fame now has a permanent site in the Tallahassee park near the Memorial honoring the veterans of Vietnam.**

torical and aviation oriented project, it fit CAP's missions in many ways. So, on Memorial Day 2003, the Tallahassee Composite Squadron of the Civil Air Patrol added to their list of responsibilities and activities

the maintenance and upkeep of this special equipment and the grounds of the memorial.

## SEARCH FOR ELT A SUCCESS

Ground Team members from Lake Composite Squadron in Leesburg, were successful in finding an ELT in spite of deteriorating weather and approach of nightfall. Being in a rural area with night fast approaching, no signal to track and no aircraft to assist since they were grounded due to weather, the team gathered intelligence. They learned from the local police and EMS personnel that a glider had crashed a few days previous. That lead to queries about private airports not shown on

charts.

The owner of a private airstrip was called and he agreed to try to pick up a signal. The ELT warble was loud at his location but was shielded by buildings at the end of his driveway. In checking the aircraft on the field, the team located an ELT inside a Piper Chieftain.

The aircraft had been towed to the field that afternoon and a new battery was installed into an old ELT. Its switch was defective and could not be shut off without removing the batteries. The Team Leader was Lt Col David Mosley.



The POW/MIA team performs the solemn ceremony honoring those service personnel who are missing in action or have given their lives in defense of our nation.



The Grand Banquet and Annual Awards Dinner was attended by 475 members from as far west as Pensacola and as far south as Miami-Dade County. A very large attendance of cadets was also noticeable.

Major Sharon Taylor received well deserved recognition from Chief of Staff, Lt Col William Brockman, on the left and Florida Wing Commander, Col Matthew Sharkey, on the right. The standing ovation from the entire banquet assembly was a further indication how much her efforts toward making the Florida Wing Conferences better and better are appreciated.



Florida Wing can now be even more appreciative with Sharon having joined FLORIDA FACTS as a Staff Writer. Note the many bylines throughout this issue of those stories she has written.

Lt Col Buddy Harris, Editor/Publisher said, "I asked if she would consider it, though I predetermined her response would be, I'd love to but I'm much too deeply involved. To have heard just the first three words - I'd love to...made my day."



Seminar and Workshop break times provided great opportunities for renewing old acquaintanceships and making some new ones.



The General Assembly packed the Grand Ballroom and a standing room crowd was addressed by top echelon CAP officers.



**Capt Mike Cook receives the award for Senior Member of the Year**



**Capt Pat O'Key receives recognition award as Public Affairs Officer of the Year**



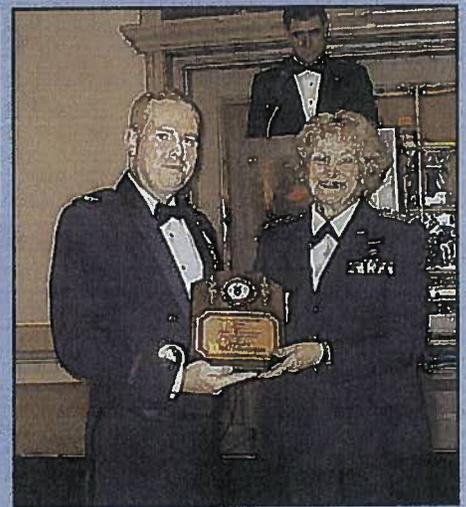
**Capt Sharon Freeburg earned Florida Wing Staff Officer of the Year Award**



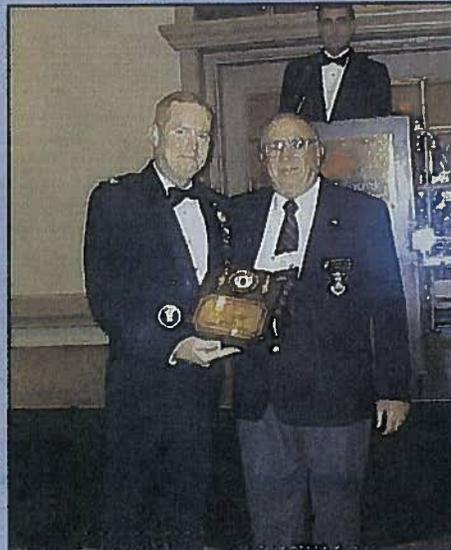
**Major Fran Gloeckler → received Group Commander of the Year Award from Col Matt Sharkey and the Group 5 she commands was recognized as the Group of the Year.**

## CONFERENCE AWARDS 2003

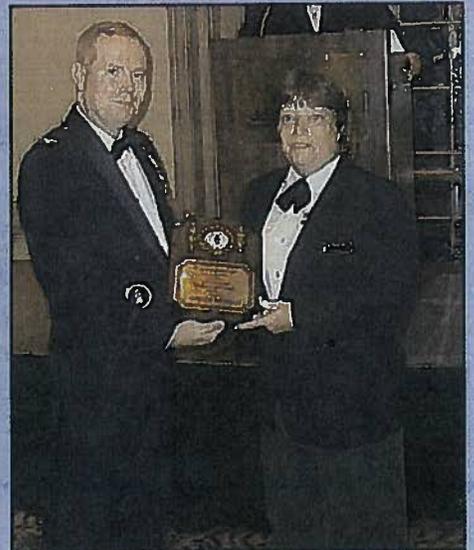
**← C/Lt Col Paul Cheval received the distinctive honor of being named Cadet of the Year**



**C/Capt Danielle Meyer earned the Col Bob Owens Leadership Award**



**Capt Thomas Kuznar, Commander, Naples Senior Squadron was awarded Senior Squadron of Distinction**



**Capt Christie Mathison was selected Outstanding Incident Commander of the Year**

## CAP HELPS DEMONSTRATE NEW PERSONAL RESCUE BEACONS

The Vermont Wing demonstrated the effectiveness of Personal Locator Beacons [PLB's] during the first activation in the U.S. on 1 July, the first day PLB's became available for public purchase and use.

The pocket sized PLB is a ground version of the Emergency Locator Transmitters [ELT's] used on aircraft and marine vessels. People can use them when they are lost or in distress to transmit coordinates of their location to search and rescue organizations, like CAP. These beacons transmit on 406 MHz with accuracy down to two to six square mile radius. The Air Force Rescue Coordination Center [AFRCC], in conjunction with National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration [NASA], is

setting up an integrated computer alerting system in the 48 contiguous states, Alaska and nine National Parks to support these PLB's.

The 1 July demonstration, which was televised by CNN, MSNBC, NBC and local TV stations included an "injured" Boy Scout who activated his PLB. Once the signal was relayed by satellite to the Vermont State Police, they requested, through AFRCC, assistance from the Vermont Civil Air Patrol to help find the scout.

A CAP aircrew was launched and quickly located the PLB signal whose coordinates were transmitted to the Vermont State Police ground crew. The CAP aircraft remained circling the injured scout until the ground crew arrived at the recovery area.

The PLB's generate

coordinates by using the same COSPAS-SARSAT satellite system currently used to locate aircraft and ships. "This technology represents a tremendous leap forward in capability for us," said Col Richard Greenhut, commander of the Northeast Region [nine states]. "It has the potential of saving precious hours when trying to pinpoint the location of a lost or injured hiker or downed aircraft. With it and our existing airborne and hand held Direction Finding [DF] gear, we can quickly find our target and help direct assistance."

It is apparent that this new technology available to the public at large will improve CAP's chances of saving more lives

## CAP NASCAR ON DISPLAY IN MALL

Hordes of people saw the Civil Air Patrol NASCAR #46 at the Volusia Mall over the full July 4th weekend. Driver Ashton Lewis, Jr. was there to sign autographs and meet-n-greet visitors.

CAP simulator cars containing NASCAR racing and Cessna 182 flight simulation were also in the display. These simulator cars serve as magnets to the younger set.

The combined interest of CAP and NASCAR has helped tie aerospace and racing together. "The motor sports program has been a real asset to the Civil Air Patrol," said CAP National Commander, Major General Richard Bowling. "We saw our membership numbers increase by over 7% last year, which shows that this program is definitely increasing public awareness."

S/M Anthony Gorss, PAO  
8049th Squadron

# FLORIDA WING

## CIVIL AIR PATROL

*Where  
imagination  
takes FLIGHT*



Emergency Services



Cadet Programs



Aerospace Education



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