

# FLORIDA FACTS



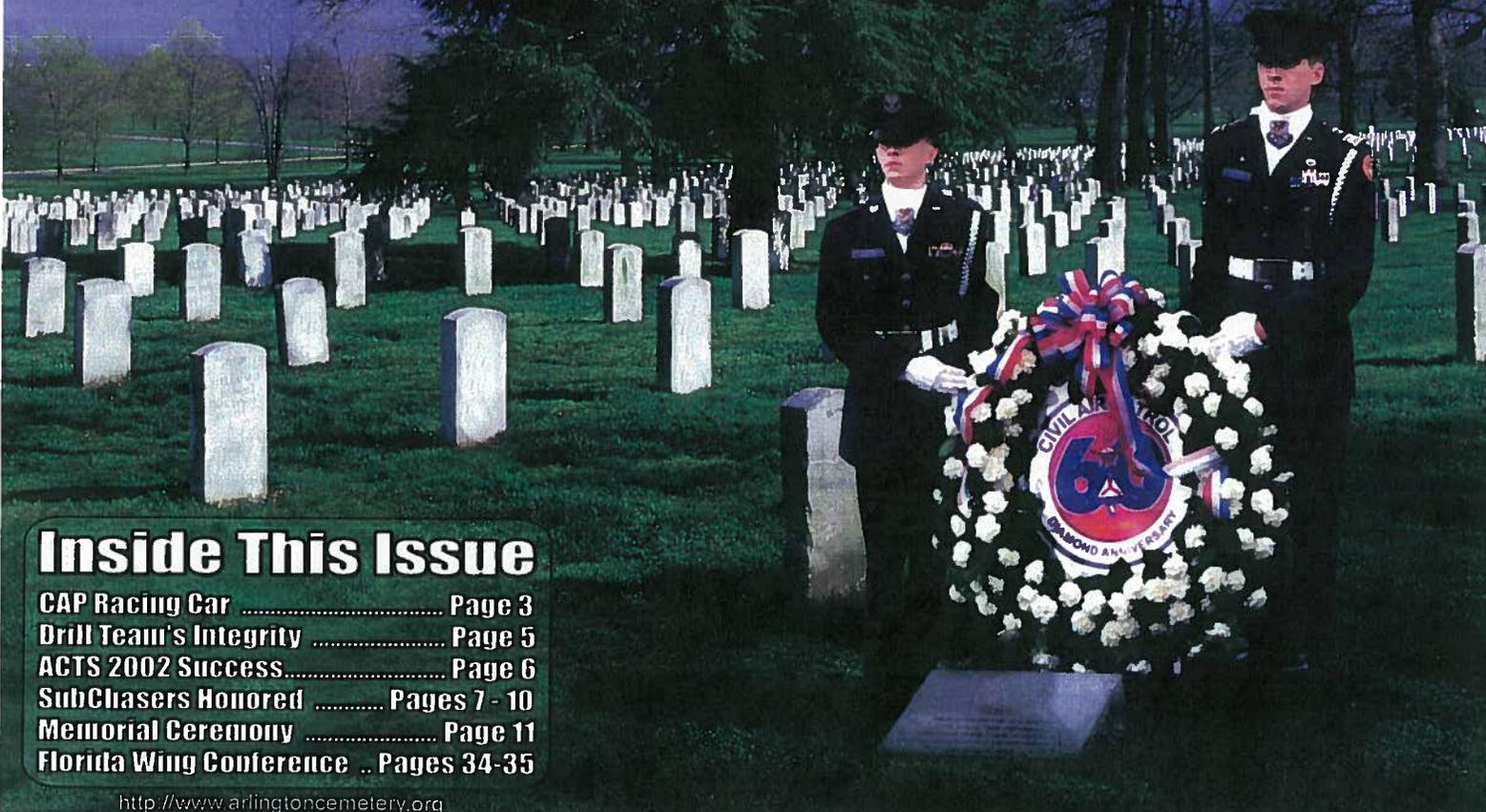
Florida Wing News Magazine | Spring 2002 Volume 7 Issue 1

<http://flwg.cap.gov>

## CEREMONY HELD AT CAP MONUMENT

## ARLINGTON NATIONAL CEMETERY

"Where Valor Proudly Sleeps"



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<http://www.arlingtoncemetery.org>

## COMMANDER'S COMMENTS

I have had the opportunity to be involved with many endeavors and activities over the 22 years I have been actively involved with Civil Air Patrol, but nothing, throughout that period, prepared me for the events held during the month of February and the first week of March. This timeframe was probably the most demanding, day in-day out, to which I have ever been exposed. What occurred during that span? I personally attended a seven day Wing Commander's Familiarization Course at Maxwell Air Force Base in Alabama, a Wing Staff Meeting at MacDill Air Force Base in Tampa, the inaugural NASCAR Busch Series race of our CAP-sponsored car in Daytona, the CAP National Board of Directors Meeting of which I am a member in Arlington, Virginia, and the 60th Anniversary GALA event at the National Air and Space Museum in Washington, D.C. Most of these events are reported to you in this issue of FLORIDA FACTS and on the Florida Wing web site.

This activity is brought to your attention to let each of you know how proud I am for the positive feedback and use of Florida Wing as an outstanding example at each of the various meetings I attended. The CAP-USAF team, National Headquarters staff, and the National Command team repeatedly asked me to pass along their congratulations to you for all the accomplishments that our wing has achieved over the past five months.

From all of the education training I have been exposed to during the month, there are two things that have become entrenched in my mind. They are so simple, and yet we forget them all too frequently in the fulfillment of our mission. The first one brought to the fore, was emphasized by Col. Albert Allenback,

CAP-USAF Commander, when he talked about the 'rental car' mentality that people sometimes adopt. Since there is no direct ownership of a rental car, the care one is usually given is way below the norm of care we give to the cars we own. When Col. Allenback discussed this, my mind flashed to the movie "Days of Thunder", where two lead actors continuously bashed their cars against each other. We need to treat and care for our assets as if they were our own. The washing and waxing of aircraft and vehicles, maintaining of our building facilities, and the upkeep of equipment are responsibilities that come to mind. The assets we have are essential to our missions.



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

The second theme that I find ringing in my ears was one presented by Lt. Col. John Salvatore, National HQ/DO. Throughout his presentation on safety, a key element was his use of the term 'common sense' in the decision making process. There are times when we get so wrapped up with the need to move fast, we forget the basics. Take a break from action and think about what is going on. By using common sense, we can keep from getting into situations that could lead to hurting a person or damaging an asset.

I am very proud of the SAFETY record we currently have. Accidents do happen, but by making the right choices and use of 'common sense', we can hold them to a minimum. Between the fulfillment of job responsibility by all local Safety Officers and the Florida Wing Director of Safety, I look forward to continued outstanding performance in the fulfillment of our mission....but SAFELY.

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Lt Col Richard J. Valone

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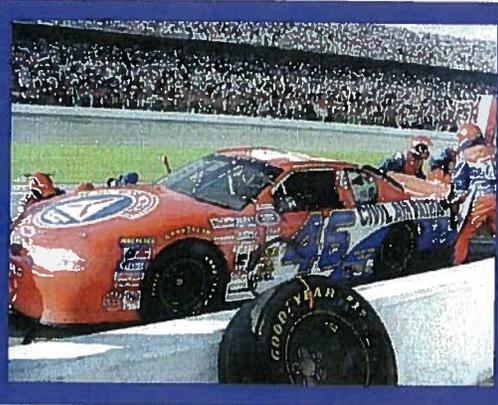
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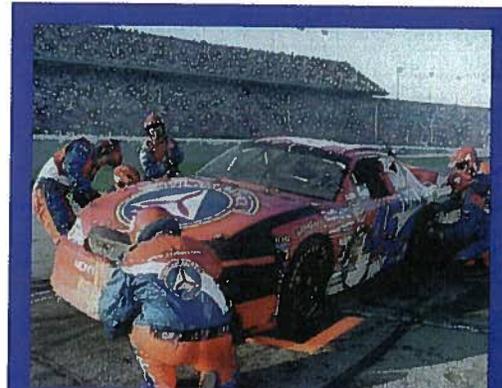
## CAP RACING CAR IS ROARING CLOSER TO CHECKERED FLAG



On February 17, 2002, the Civil Air Patrol car number 46 started its first racing season at Daytona Speedway and was tenth to cross the finish line. The recent NASCAR race in Kentucky saw the CAP car receive the checkered flag as fifth to finish. Driver Ashton Lewis, Jr. and the CAP pit crew are determined to make this first year a memorable one for CAP.



The Civil Air Patrol Chevrolet racing car #46 made its 2002 debut at the Daytona Speedway in Florida before a packed grandstand and TV viewing audience.



The Civil Air Patrol racing team crew members in their new Civil Air Patrol uniforms and helmets make quick repairs to Chevrolet Car # 46 during its first race of the 2002 NASCAR Busch series at Daytona.

# PROP WASH

All 18 repeaters plus our airborne repeater will soon be operational if Communications Director Major Paul Blystone's efforts are rewarded. The Tampa and Jacksonville repeaters are now working well. Thanks to Major Ray Spengler and Jim LaFollette for tuning the Quantar repeater and duplexer before they replaced the non-compliant repeater on the VAB building. The Marco Island repeater is working to capacity now that they have fixed the amplifier and Group 7 is making great progress in rounding up everything needed to get their repeater operational. Great effort, great results.

Newly appointed Cadets Program Director, Captain Vickie Meyer hasn't stopped to catch her breath. She recently attended the USAFR Airlift Conference and has increased the possibility of Florida Wing being airlifted to various functions in or out of state. She is currently instituting a joint CAP training program with the US Navy Sea Scouts and has just completed an extensive schedule of cadet programs. We can hardly wait to see what Capt. Meyer comes up with next after she takes a breath!

The CAP 'Oscar' certainly should be awarded to Mary Nell Crowe, National Director of Marketing and Public Relations

and Robin Hunt, Brandy Ratcliff, Diane Long and Linda Andrews of her staff for the awesome 60th Anniversary Gala at the Air and Space Museum in our nation's capital followed by a highly emotional wreath laying ceremony at Arlington National Cemetery. These memorable events are highlighted elsewhere in this issue.

Col John Kittle has been appointed NHQ CAP Chief, Counterdrug and Homeland Security. This new HQ position will more effectively work with the new Headquarters Air Force Homeland Security Directorate and other government agencies in the Washington, D.C. area. John is ideally suited for this position. He has already established a great working relationship and rapport with many government agencies as HQ CAP Chief, Counterdrug Plans. He spent 29 years in the USAF, retiring as a Colonel in the Fall of 1998. Prior to retiring, John spent nearly five years as the CAP-USAF Middle East Liaison Region Commander. During his Air Force career, Col Kittle served in the Pentagon for nearly four years, and as Deputy and Support Group Commander and on-scene Commander during contingency operations. He is a decorated Vietnam War veteran and was Commander of a joint special operations base in Italy supporting Operations DELIBERATE FORCE,

JOINT ENDEAVOR, DECISIVE ENDEAVOR, and JOINT GUARD. John is a pilot with over 4,100 hours including over 810 combat hours, and 1200 instructor hours.

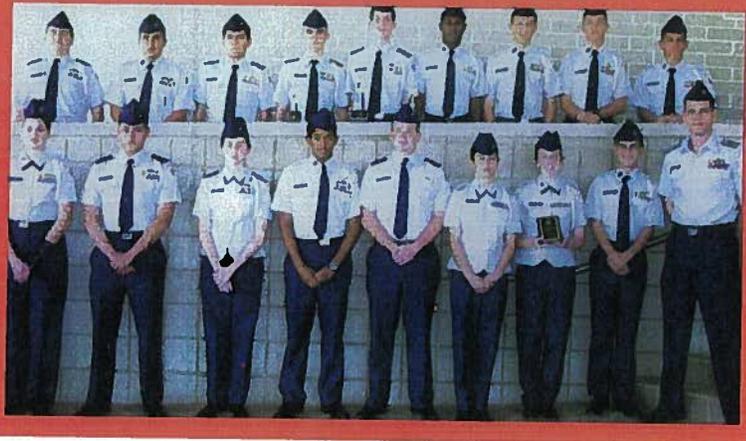
Aircraft Owners and Pilots Association [AOPA] have entered into an "Affinity Marketing" agreement with CAP. Each organization will benefit from access to mutual target markets. CAP marketing materials will be distributed at AOPA Pilot Town Meetings, Sun 'n' Fun fly-ins at Lakeland, Fl., Oshkosh, WI, and Frederick, Md. AOPA will distribute its "Future Pilot Kit" to CAP cadets attending National Flight Academies and membership information to all new CAP Senior Members. Increased visibility and enhanced image will be a direct benefit to CAP and AOPA.

**CORRECTION:** It was incorrectly reported on page 5 of the Winter Issue 2001 of FLORIDA FACTS magazine that Richard Shoemaker of the Central Brevard Senior Squadron was promoted to the grade of Colonel. *The Editor apologizes for not checking this submitted news story, prior to publication.*



## DRILL TEAM TAKES 2ND PLACE

The Florida Wing Drill team took 2nd place overall at the Southeast Region Drill Competition. Drill teams from Alabama, Florida, Georgia, Puerto Rico, and Tennessee competed at Tyndall Air Force Base. Each team was required to have 16 members competing in Inspection, Standard Drill, Innovative Drill, Volleyball, Mile Run, Cadet Panel Quiz, and a 50 question written test. Florida's team took first place in Inspection, Innovative Drill, and the written tests on Aerospace and Leadership. Cadet/Capt Sean O'Key and Cadet/MSgt Steven Kester tied with 47 out of 50 as highest individual score.



## DRILL TEAM TAKES HIGHEST HONORS IN INTEGRITY

Rarely is Integrity in Action ever witnessed since by definition it's "doing the right thing when no one is looking." At the SER Drill Team Competition members of the Florida Drill Team, composed from SRQ, Tamiami, and Lantana Squadrons, noticed the Alabama Team appeared to be younger and less experienced and they were one member short. If a team has less than 16 members they take a penalty for each missing member. Florida fortunately had 17 members present and C/MSgt Alfredo Valdivia from Tamiami Composite Squadron, who came only to cheer his team on, was offered to the Alabama Wing Team.

The entire Florida Wing Team then helped the Alabama Team prepare their uniforms by cutting strings, straightening shirts, cutting belts to fit, knotting ties, and so on. As the competition began, out marched the Alabama Team being commanded and led by Florida Wing C/MSgt Valdivia. Yes, the Alabama Team decided to ask him to lead their team in the competition. Not only did this young man participate in the drill/inspection portion but he also ran with the Alabama Team in the mile run to, once again, prevent them for taking a missing member penalty.

At the Dining function, the Alabama Team presented two large cakes to the Florida Cadets in a showing of appreciation. At the Awards Banquet, Lt Col Phil Casha, SER Director of Cadet Programs proclaimed to Cadet Valdivia "You're my hero." The cadet was awarded a totally unexpected Participation Ribbon and Certificate. Though Alabama took 5th place, the team members stated this was a "highlight of their lives" and "I want to be like Florida when I grow up". *That's what the Civil Air Patrol Cadet Program is all about.*

**Capt. Vickie Meyer**  
Director of Cadet Programs, Florida Wing

## CAP RACING CAR ON DISPLAY

CAP has a 'show car' which is an identical mock-up of Car #46. This show car has a flight simulator and racing simulator and is traveling around the country to malls, fairs and large gatherings.

The first showing was at the Volusia Mall in Daytona Beach. Florida Group 4 members handled the crowds, assisted youngsters in the use of the simulators, and answered numerous questions from the thousands of onlookers.

## COMMANDER RECEIVES AWARD

Maj Raymond M. Hatfield, newly appointed commander of the Homestead Air Reserve Base Composite Squadron, was presented with the A. Scott Crossfield Award by Group 7 Commander, Maj Joseph Martin. Maj. Hatfield earned the master level rating in aerospace education.

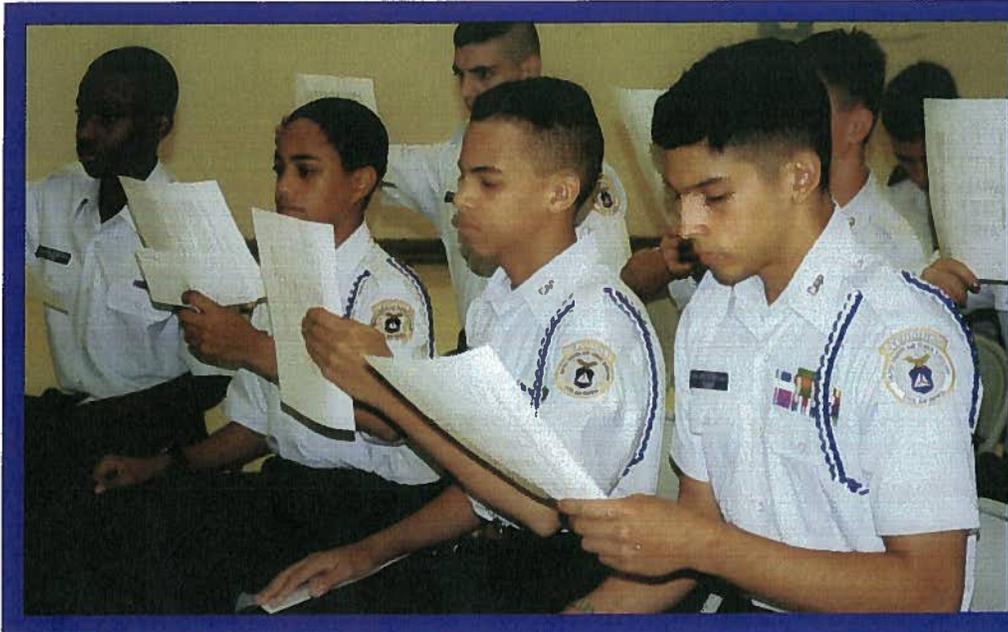
## SPECIAL ACTS 2003

Capt Vickie Meyer, Wing Director of Cadet Programs has scheduled the 2003 Special Activities Selection Board for January 18 and 19 at the Florida Elks Youth Camp in Umatilla, Florida.

The 2002 Special ACTS Project Officers were 1Lt David Leali and Maj Joseph Martin and they earned the credit for commanding an outstanding success.

## SPECIAL ACTIVITIES SELECTION BOARD 2002 IS RESOUNDING SUCCESS

This year's event attended by 142 cadets made it the largest attended Special Activities Selection Board that Florida Wing has had in many a year. It was larger than any ACTS ever held by 18 other wings and five times larger than California Wing's Special Activities Selection Board. Not only was it larger but it was more successful thanks to the efforts of Project Officers 1Lt David Leali and Maj Joseph Martin. They led an incredible team of volunteers who worked diligently to have this year's function come off so well.



Cadets from Coral Springs Cadet Squadron study industriously prior to appearing before the Special Activities Review Board.

Photo by Capt Trish Turner

John Kilpatrick won Phase IV Cadet of the Year, Danielle Baird earned the Phase II Cadet of the Year award. Jennifer Obranic the award for top scores overall.

There were so many certificates and awards handed out, one printer was dedicated to solely printing certificates. Three computers and printers were running full time in order to keep activities running smoothly. Numerous applications were submitted by the Cadets for the National Honor Guard Academy, the Hawk Moun-

tain Ranger School, and the National Glider Academy.

Submitted by Capt Vickie Meyer

## EGLIN AIR FORCE BASE COMMANDER IS GUEST SPEAKER AT EGLIN CIVIL AIR PATROL SQUADRON

Eglin Air Force Base Commander, Colonel David Bird presented the General Billy Mitchell Award to Cadet Mathew S. Wandell. This award is the first milestone in the Civil Air Patrol Cadet Program and signifies completion of the first eight of sixteen cadet achievements. CAP cadet achievements encompass physical fitness, leadership, aerospace education, moral leadership, and community service. As cadets progress in the program, they are rewarded with promotions, decorations, awards, and increased responsibility. Additionally, the General Billy Mitchell Award requires satisfactory completion of a one-week summer encampment at a military base, and a 100-question comprehensive leadership and aerospace exam.

Cadet Wandell attended the Civil Air Patrol National Honor Guard Academy last year and has been selected to return this year as a staff member.

US Air Force Colonel David Bird is a former CAP cadet from West Palm Beach. He spoke to the assemblage about the Cadet Program, Air Force opportunities, and current Air Force opera-

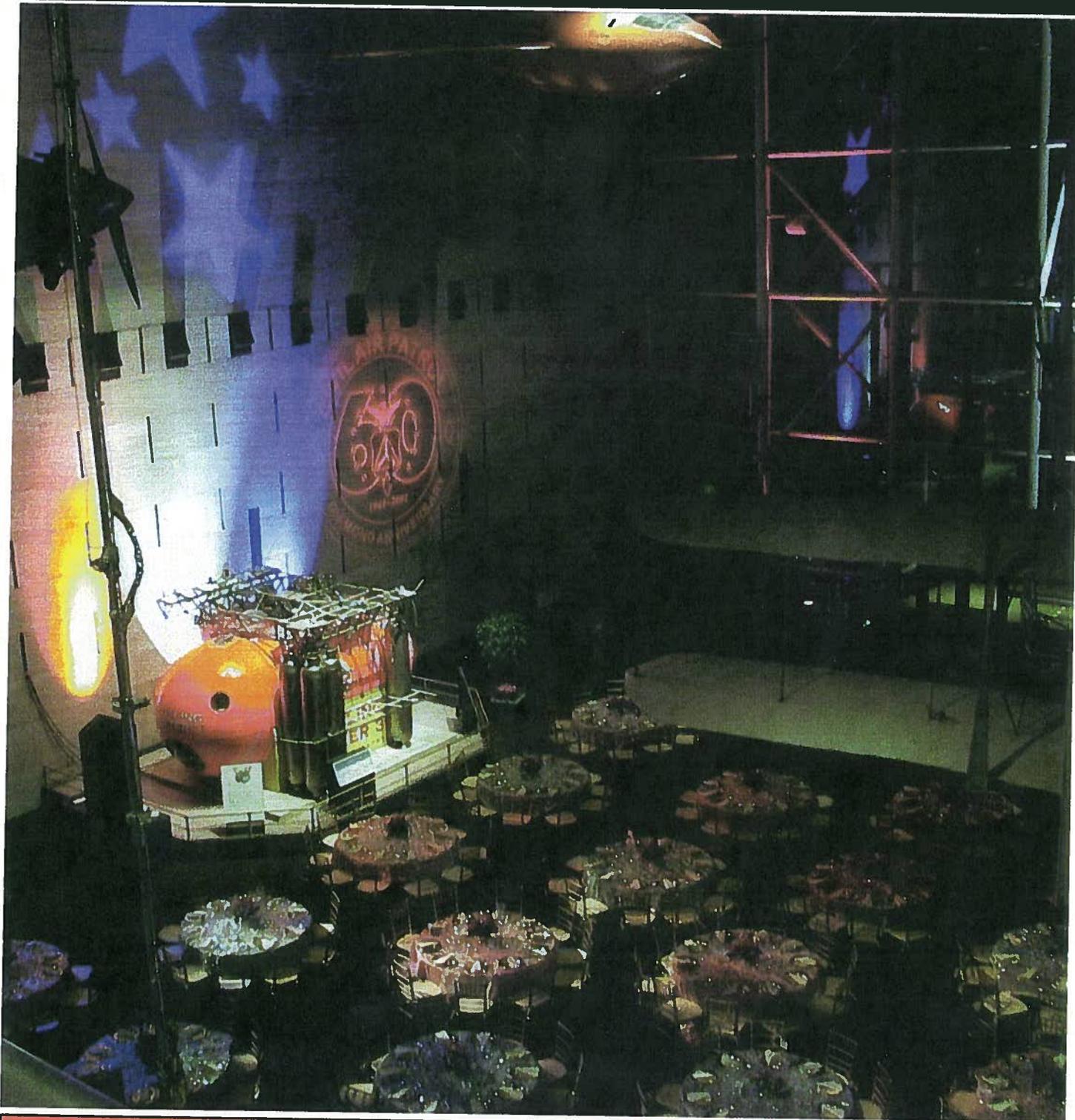
tions..

Air Force Senior Airman Matthew D. Shafer was also recognized with a Certificate of Appreciation for producing a beautiful recruiting poster for the Eglin Civil Air Patrol Squadron. Airman Shafer's poster will be used in the Youth Centers at Eglin and Hurlburt Air Force Bases, local middle and high schools, at the upcoming Eglin AFB Open House, and various other recruiting opportunities.

Civil Air Patrol Cadets often go on to become future Air Force officers and enlisted members. Cadets who complete certain cadet program milestones become eligible for advanced standing when enlisting in the U.S. Air Force or for preferential consideration when applying for the Air Force Academy. Civil Air Patrol Cadets have a greater success rate in the Air Force Basic Military Training and at the Air Force Academy, thereby saving the Air Force millions of dollars annually.

Submitted by Lt Col Dale Robinson

**CIVIL AIR PATROL AND ITS VETERANS  
ARE HONORED AT 60TH ANNIVERSARY GALA  
at the NATIONAL AIR AND SPACE MUSEUM  
IN WASHINGTON, D.C.**



## **CIVIL AIR PATROL CELEBRATES DIAMOND [ 60TH] ANNIVERSARY IN OUR NATION'S CAPITAL.**

The Civil Air Patrol and its 'SubChasers' from World War II were highly honored at the 60th Gala held at the National Air and Space Museum in Washington, D.C. on 2 March 2002.

This writer never realized that GALA was the acronym for Grandeur, Awesome, Laudatory, and Astounding. The 60 Year Anniversary celebration meant that and more to every one of the invited guests. The entire affair—from beginning to end—was beyond expectation. So let's begin at the beginning.

At 6 p.m. the lobby of the Marriott Crystal City Gateway Center Hotel began to swell with blue mess dress uniforms, black tuxedos and formal gowns as 410 invited guests from across the nation boarded chartered busses for transport to the National Air and Space Museum across the Potomac River.

One of the busses received a police escort after being stopped for having mistakenly gone the wrong way on a one-way street! This won't surprise anyone who is familiar with the confusing street network in the District of Columbia, compounded by heavy rain.

Upon arrival, each bus was greeted by Middle East Region Cadets in full dress uniform providing a continuous line of umbrella escorts to the grand Air and Space Museum entry. Other cadets were stationed at every escalator and other posts on the main and mezzanine levels greeting each guest with a resounding "Good Evening, Ma'am or Good Evening, Sir".

The grandeur of the Gala immediately became apparent. The interior full height walls were bathed with multi-colored spotlights and a CAP 60th Seal was light projected onto the main wall. The banquet tables on the main level were located in the Hall of Flight directly under various planes hanging overhead.

Music of the 40's wafted from the mezzanine where an Air Force band with members dressed in WWII suntan uniforms set the remembrance tone for this gala evening.

With all guests seated at banquet tables, the block long museum vibrated with the singing

of "America The Beautiful" as sung by New York Policeman Daniel Rodriguez, who has become 'America's Tenor'. Following the presentation of the colors by the Virginia Wing's Langley Cadet Squadron, Police Officer Rodriguez' rendition of the "National Anthem" was a heartfelt statement of solidarity and determination that galvanized everyone, as his singing voice did at the recent World Series and Winter Olympic Games at Salt Lake City.

The assemblage was then welcomed by General John R. Dailey, U.S. Marine Corps [Ret.] and now Director of the National Air and Space Museum and by our National Commander, Brig Gen Richard L. Bowling who concluded with "Today, more than 60,000 volunteers continue the tradition of service and sacrifice, performing three congressionally chartered missions—emergency services, aerospace education and cadet programs. The same passion that guided the members of our Coastal Patrol, remains one of the organization's driving forces today."

The Keynote Address was stirringly presented by A. Scott Crossfield [See Page 9]. All eyes were then moist when the words of "God Bless America" were sung by Police Officer Rodriguez.

Retired USAF Chief Master Sergeant Roy Boudreaux recounted a brilliant history of the Civil Air Patrol which set the stage for Lt Gen Nicholas B. Kehoe and Brig Gen Richard Bowling to present 'SubChasers' Maury Betchen, Cliff Bowes, Glen Cook, Lt Col S. Buddy Harris, Luverne Kraemer, Lt Col Martin Miller, and Jack Robinson with yellow Stinson honorary trophies for their early service to our nation in time of homeland security need. The trophy plane was depictive of the yellow and red planes flown by the Coastal Patrol when they searched for Nazi submarines and wolf packs.

As the enchanted evening drew to a close, each guest was presented with a copy of "From Maine to Mexico", a 533 page story of CAP's "SubChasers" as written by Louis E. Keefer. The departing busses waited while each subchaser autographed most of the books until the wee hours of the morning.

See GALA-Page 9

CAP's National Director of Marketing and Public Relations, Mary Nell Crowe and members of her staff—Robin Hunt, Brandy Ratcliff, Diane Long and Linda Andrews worked diligently for months in planning, designing, scheduling, arranging, and implementing this memorable event, which truly was a gala. They are deserving of all our gratitude for making this occasion one that will definitely be inscribed in the annals of the Civil Air Patrol.

## A. Scott Crossfield

### KEYNOTE SPEAKER AT GALA

Famed aviator and X-15 test pilot, A. Scott Crossfield was the Keynote Speaker at the CAP Diamond Anniversary Gala in Washington, D. C. on 2 March, 2002.

Mr. Crossfield had his first flight at the age of six in an oil company plane and said he doesn't recall ever having desired any other career than aviation. He began flying lessons at the age of twelve, in return for delivering newspapers at the Wilmington Airport. By the time he graduated from high school, he had resolved to emulate such famous test pilots as Boeing's Eddie Allen and the Air Force's Jimmy Doolittle.

Mr. Crossfield's distinguished career in aviation really began in 1942 when he was a U.S. Navy fighter pilot and fighter gunnery instructor. From 1945 to 1950, he was the Chief Operator at the University of Washington's F. K. Kirsten Wind Tunnel, and from 1950 to 1955 he was an aeronautical research pilot for the National Advisory Committee on Aeronautics at Edwards High Speed Flight Station. Mr. Crossfield was the design specialist, X-15 project pilot and chief engineering test pilot for North American Aviation. He was involved in all phases of X-15 specification and design, cockpit and control systems, engine systems, and structures.

Following his closing remarks about his fascinating experiences as the pilot for the first thirty demonstration flights of the X-15, he paused and pointed overhead at the X-15 hanging from the ceiling and said, "And that was my plane."

## "ANDREW SISTERS"

### ENTERTAIN AT CAP GALA

Entertainment during the Civil Air Patrol's Anniversary Gala was provided by the U. S. Air Force Singing Sergeants impersonating the renowned singing trio of the 1940's era. Chief Master Sergeant Patricia Wolfe, Master Sergeant Robin Askew and Technical Sergeant Amy Dolan performed the music of the famed Andrews Sisters. Wearing the Army Air Corps 1940's uniform was as reminiscent as was their belting out "Don't Sit Under The Apple Tree", "Don't Fence Me In", and "I'll Be With You In Apple Blossom Time".

## AIR FORCE ASSOCIATION

### PROVIDES MASTER OF CEREMONIES

Members from 50 wings were entertained at the 60th Anniversary CAP Gala by the dulcet voice of Master of Ceremonies, Ray Boudreaux. When he learned that two of the 410 guests requested a vegetarian meal, he announced that the meaning of vegetarian is "rotten hunter". Ray is a retired U.S. Air Force Chief Master Sergeant residing in Venice, Florida. He entered the Air Force in July 1962, and served tours of duty in Taiwan, Vietnam, Germany, and the Azores.

Mr. Boudreaux is very active with the Air Force Association serving as a member of the national organization's Board of Directors, and the Executive and Resolutions Committees. He is a member of a three-member search team charged with the responsibility of identifying AFA's next Executive Director.

## 'GEMS' TO REMEMBER'

*Remarks overheard at the 60th Gala:*

"See that Brig. Gen. over there, he was formerly a cadet commander!" "Really, what's his name?" "Richard Bowling" "Wow, I served with him when I was a cadet. What's he doing now?" "He is our National Commander of the Civil Air Patrol."

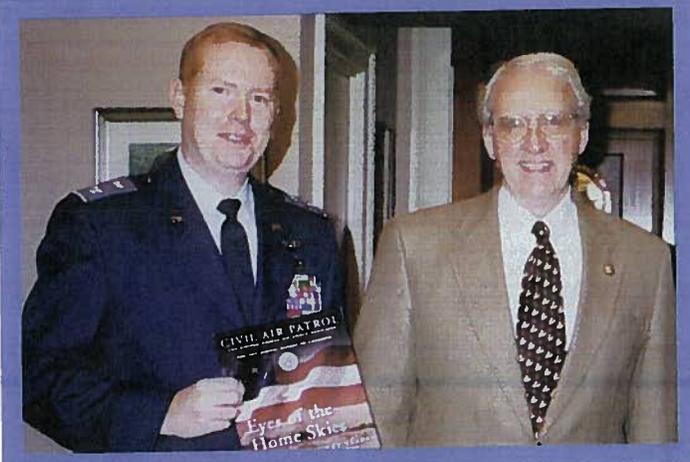
To a SubChaser: "For what you did, thanks. You made it possible for us to be here today."



### WORLD WAR II SUBCHASERS HONORED AT CAP 60TH ANNIVERSARY GALA



left to right-Lt. Col. Martin Miller, Cliff Bowes, Glen Cook, Maury Betchen, Lt. Col. S. Buddy Harris, Luverne Kraemer, and Jack Robinson following presentation to them of Stinson model trophies depicting the aircraft they flew while performing their sub chasing mission during World War II.



Florida Wing Col. Matt Sharkey visits U.S. Representative Daniel Miller (R)-13th District at the Capitol during Legislative Day in Washington, D. C. Chief of Staff Lt. Col. William Brockman was also at the meeting. Other congressman were visited as well by Sharkey and Brockman.



One up and three to go! Reconstruction of the Pentagon is well on its way to its former condition prior to the terrorist destruction on September 11th. A completion Ceremony is scheduled for September 11, 2002

Photo by Maj. Eileen Parker

**CIVIL AIR PATROL'S SERVICE TO OUR NATION  
IS HONORED AT ARLINGTON NATIONAL CEMETERY CEREMONY.**

Arlington National Cemetery on 3 March, 2002 was the site of a most moving ceremony—the laying of a Civil Air Patrol 60th Anniversary wreath at the CAP monument “Dedicated To The Memory of Civil Air Patrol Members Who Gave Their Lives In Service To This Nation So That Others May Live”. This monument was placed in celebration of CAP’s 50th Anniversary in December 1992.

The wreath was placed at the monument by Lt Gen Nicholas Kehoe and Brig Gen Richard Bowling following Presentation of the Colors and a Honor Guard parade. Taps was blown and echoed by two cadets and a cadet violin ensemble played military hymns. All participating cadets were from Washington, D.C., Virginia and Maryland Squadrons.

The seven SubChasers were in a place of honor and each felt a deep sense of emotion. One said, “The ceremony brought to mind memories of the guys and gals I flew with and the missions we performed. At the age of 16, I felt chasing subs and towing gunnery targets were truly heroic activities. I only wish there were many more of us here today.” Another Subchaser added, “I learned today there are two former unit commanders of sub chasing bases that are still alive, but too aged to have attended. One is 95 and the other is 97.”



**Middle East Region Cadet Honor Guard escort the memoriam wreath to the Civil Air Patrol monument site at the Arlington National Cemetery for the placement ceremony.**



**left to right—Former CAP National Commander Brig. Gen. Richard Anderson; Brig. Gen. Richard Bowling, CAP National Commander; former CAP National Commanders Brig. Gen. James Bobick and Brig. Gen. William Cass honor the CAP monument in Arlington Cemetery.**



**Seven Sub chasers salute at the playing of taps and echo play during the laying of the wreath ceremony at the CAP Monument.**

## BOARD OF GOVERNORS MEETS IN NATIONS CAPITAL

The Civil Air Patrol Board of Governors held a meeting in concert with the 2002 Winter National Board meeting and CAP's 60th Anniversary Gala.

Lt Gen Nicholas Kehoe, Chairman called the board to order and a full agenda was before each member. Principally, the 10 major points of Responsibilities of the Board of Governors were proposed, discussed, considered and acted upon. Numerous changes and modifications were enacted.

Operational issues which included the methodology for recruiting an Executive Director and the Executive Director's role

and responsibilities were determined.

In spite of the numerous agenda items to be addressed and the diversity of the board members representing interests of the U.S. Air Force, Civil Air Patrol, governmental agency, academics, and aviation industry, there was a level of harmony and mutuality of objectives that was quite apparent.

The U.S. Air Force and its Auxiliary - the Civil Air Patrol will be the direct beneficiaries of these fundamental deliberations and the team interactions that will result will be of increasing benefit to our nation.



The Board of Governors in work session. Chairman Lt Gen Nicholas Kehoe, USAF [ret.] is at the head of the table. To his right, l. to r. is Lt Gen Charles Wald, USAF; Lt Gen Donald LaMontagne, USAF; Mr. Bruce Whitman, Flight Safety Intl, Inc. ; Col Michael Pannone, CAP and to Gen Kehoe's left, l. to r. is Brig Gen Richard Bowling, CAP; Col. Dwight W. Wheless, CAP; Mr. Bruce Baughman, FEMA; Col Robert Bess, CAP; and Col. J. Scott Hamilton, CAP. Dr. Benjamin Payton, President of Tuskegee University was not in attendance.

## CAP NATIONAL BOARD WINTER 2002 MEETING CONVENED IN WASHINGTON, D.C.

The CAP National Board conducted its Winter 2002 meeting under the chairmanship of National CAP Commander, Brig. Gen. Richard Bowling.

Other members of the Board include the eight region commanders and the 53 wing commanders. This body also includes an elected National Vice Commander, an appointed Chief of Staff, Legal

Officer, Finance Officer, Inspector General, General Chaplain and Controller. These officers plus the eight region commanders form the CAP Executive Committee.

One key position on the National Board that ties CAP to the USAF is the Senior Air Force Adviser.. Col Albert Allenback, USAF currently holds this position.



The National Board Meeting holds the attention of l. to r. Col Antonio Pineda, Southeast Region Commander; LTC Mark O'Brien, U.S. Air Force/SER Liaison Officer; Col Joseph Adams, Alabama Wing Commander; and Col Matthew Sharkey, Florida Wing Commander.

# MISSION MEMOS

Submitted by Captain Chip Maher,  
Director of Emergency Services

**Mission 01M 0085-14 January:** A Piper Comanche with two persons aboard was missing on a flight from Gainesville to Williston. Intelligence gathering narrowed the search area and elicited the fact that the plane was recently painted and was now white and blue. A large CAP mission personnel force was assembled and Federal Aviation Administration, Florida Department of Law, and the Marion County Sheriff's Department were activated. Sixteen minutes passed from the moment the inclement weather cleared until the crash site was located from the air. Unfortunately there were no survivors.

**Mission 02M 0176 - 30 January:** Tower radio contact was lost with a helicopter enroute from Pensacola to Panama City. The CAP Management Response Team and the CAP Communication Response Team were scrambled. Based on CAP Planning Chief's data it was determined that the LKP [last known position] was about 1 mile off shore. The U.S. Coast Guard was activated and a 41 foot rescue boat was launched. Searches of the pilot's home pad, airport ramps, and the pilot's van were fruitless. Based on the drift pattern, the Coast Guard dispatched an 82 foot cutter to the PIW [Person in Water] profile location. Since the search area was close to Alabama, that CAP Wing was then activated. Four county Sheriff's Offices were activated and they dispatched beach patrol teams. The Bay County Sheriff launched their helicopter to work at 500 feet altitude and CAP aircraft searched at 1000 feet. A Coast Guard Falcon provided high altitude support. The search effort was approaching 'high gear' when mission base was called and the pilot, who learned that he was the subject of a massive search, advised that he was safe. It seems that while flying home the weather turned nasty and he decided to land on the beach and wait it out. He slept over night in the craft's cockpit and flew home the next morning. A happy ending!

**Mission 02M 0188-1 February:** A T-41 called in a MAYDAY with engine failure approximately 30

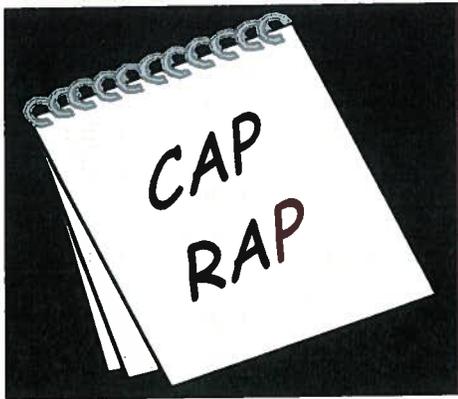
miles south of Patrick Air Force Base. Two CAP aircraft were scrambled and USAF units on a training mission were diverted. The student pilot who had survived the crash called 911 on a cellular phone to advise that he had walked 3 miles to the highway with a broken wrist and jaw. The crash site was found and his instructor, who was trapped in the wreckage, was extricated and transferred to the Orlando Medical Center. Another mission with a happy ending!

**Mission 02M 0193-2 February:** An alarm sounding EPIRB was located by a CAP Ground Team inside a large box at an UPS Shipping/Distribution Center. The unit was being shipped to Jacksonville and had a defective switch. The EPIRB was silenced and secured.

**Mission 02M 0281-16 February:** A helicopter was missing on a flight from Orlando to an airport near Daytona Beach. Mission Base was established and CAP personnel were assembled. The crash site was found from the air and unfortunately there were no survivors.

**Mission 02M 0113-24 February:** A Piper PA28 with two persons aboard dropped off the Radar near Vero Beach. Mission personnel were assembled, the crash site was located and the colors of the plane and partial N number were confirmed. When the medical team arrived they reported two fatalities. CAP's time from alert to find was less than three hours.

**Advisory to all:** FLWG Director of Emergency Services, Capt Chip Maher advises, "Search and Rescue [SAR] is an emergency and the readiness aspect can't be stressed enough. The time to get your gear together is now, not when you are called up. Some responders get disturbed when they report to a SAR and they sit around. The reality of a SAR or any major emergency response is "hurry up and wait". It is essential that the resources be at the mission base or the staging area ready to go when needed. Resources wait for tasking...not the other way around."



 The U.S. Naval Sea Cadet Corps, Naval Special Warfare—Trident Team, has invited four of our CAP Cadets to join them for a four day Field Training Exercise. The intensive training activities include Equipment Prep and Assembly, Safety Procedures, Radio Procedures, Hygiene and Subsistence, Physical Readiness, Water and Terrain Obstacle Negotiation, Waterborne Craft, Swim/Drown Proofing, Patrolling and Reporting, Leadership Interoperability. The cadets who participated were Cadets of the Year John Kilpatrick and Danielle Meyer, CAC Chairman Mark Lawson, and Summer Encampment Cadet Commander Michael Veltman. Capt Robert Sims, FLWG CAC Advisor and Capt Vickie Meyer, DCP were the senior officers in attendance. This Sea Cadet/CAP Cadet Field Exercise will be evaluated as to its training potential for the CAP Program.

 Captain George Barker is the newly appointed Commander of Group Three. North Tampa Cadet Squadron is the Unit of the Year, C/Capt Jerrod Baxley is Cadet of the Year and Capt Paul Siglock is the Senior of the Year. Col. Sharkey attended the Group 3 Annual Banquet and expressed pride and admiration to all the honorees in recognition of the intensive effort and dedication they extended toward fulfillment of the CAP mission.

 Capt Steve B. Schack, Tami-ami Composite Squadron was awarded the Certificate of Recognition for Lifesaving with Silver Star. Capt Schack attended to three victims of a two car head-on collision and possibly saved the life of one of the more seriously injured. Col. Matt Sharkey was pleased and proud to pin the Silver Star on Capt. Schack.

 Robin Hunt, NHQ Chief of Membership Development advises that CAP membership increased by 3321 new members since February 2001. The Year to Date renewals were 6494—224 more than February 2001. Our total membership is now 727 members more than January 2002. This is the highest membership CAP has had since March 2000. Forty-five wings showed an increase in members.

 Florida Wing will host the first annual Wing Challenge at the Florida Elks Youth Camp in Umatilla, FL. This weekend activity is scheduled for August 30 – September 1 and will include softball games, swimming, model rocketry contests, volleyball games, land navigation courses, and many more. For more information contact Director of Cadet Programs, Capt Vickie Meyer.

 Capt Ray Hayden, Director of Professional Development, Southeast Region saw a considerable amount of TV time given to the Civil Air Patrol flying tsunami alerts and clearing the beaches in the Hawaiian Islands. The show about tidal wave disasters was recently shown on the Discovery Channel.

 Are we proud! One of the original founders of the Civil Air Patrol in 1941 has recently rejoined CAP and has become a member of the SRQ Squadron. Peter Snell resides in St. Petersburg and FLORIDA FACTS is intending to

write a detailed story about his exploits in the next issue. As a CAP founder, Peter has experienced many firsts in his volunteer career.

 Florida Wing Commander, Col Matt Sharkey announces, "It is my distinct pleasure to advise that Florida Wing has been presented a Unit Citation for our efforts during Operation Vigilant Messenger/Attack on America and Tropical Storm Michelle, which occurred during the same week.

**If you were a member of the Florida Wing Civil Air Patrol between September 11 and September 17, 2001, you are now authorized to wear the Unit Citation ribbon. Congratulations and well deserved."**

 When the Winter Olympics began on February 8, more than 150 members of CAP joined federal, state and local authorities in ensuring the safety of the athletes, fans and facilities at the 2002 Winter Games in Salt Lake City that ran through February 24.

CAP provided air reconnaissance and aerial video support. These CAP air crews also flew observation flights over critical facilities as designated by security officials. On the ground, CAP members helped staff the Emergency Operations Center in Salt Lake City. Other CAP crews from the CAP Rocky Mountain Region were on standby to augment the Utah crews if needed. CAP has provided similar support for the Paralympics which was also held in Salt Lake City in March.

 Governor Jeb Bush issued a Proclamation which establishes the week of April 7 to 13 as **CIVIL AIR PATROL WEEK** in the state of Florida. This Proclamation was signed by the Governor in Tallahassee and hand delivered to Col. Matt Sharkey at MacDill Air Force Base. See Page 16.



# From The MAILBAG

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

Dear Colonel Sharkey,

Thank you for commending both Corporal Eugene Brower and Trooper David Rodriguez for the assistance they rendered to an Air Force recovery effort on February 2, 2002.

Your commendation letter and Certificate of Appreciation will be placed in their personnel file.

Again, the Florida Highway Patrol appreciates the recognition and will always be available to assist the Civil Air Patrol.

Major Cyrus R. Brown  
Troop D-Orlando  
Florida Highway Patrol



Dear Colonel Sharkey,

I want to express my deepest appreciation for your extreme generosity during the recent holiday season. It is a great motivator for the Navy and Marine Corps team onboard the USS Shreveport to know that there are people like you supporting our efforts in ENDURING FREEDOM.

The morale is high here on the North Arabian Sea, where we continue to train and prepare for whatever challenges are put before us. I have never worked with a better crew and have the utmost confidence in their expertise and professionalism. Rest assured we will fulfill the expectations of

CAP and America as a whole.

Capt W.D. Valentine, Jr., U.S. Navy  
Commanding Officer-USS Shreveport

*COMMANDER'S NOTE: I am extremely proud of the program in Florida of sending packages to our deployed troops around the world and I am grateful to FLWG Chaplain Painter for taking the organizational lead and providing the inspiration.. This letter from Capt. Valentine of the USS Shreveport is one of many I have received. My thanks to all of you who participated in this Florida Wing program.*

Col Matthew Sharkey  
Florida Wing Commander



Is with pleasure that I write to commend you on your wing magazine "Florida Facts". I find the cover pleasing to the eye and the contents informative and well written. Kudos for your fine product and interesting articles.

Col. Kenneth J. Herman,  
Commander-New Hampshire Wing



Keep up the good work.

1Lt. Christopher A. Meyers



I do hope that FLORIDA FACTS is in some sort of contest for News Publications. It is such a beautiful magazine. If it does not win it is sure to come in a close second. I am always so proud to show it to new and prospective members. Thank you so much for all your

work.

Major Virginia Montalvo, Commander  
Ft. Lauderdale Composite Squadron



As usual you have done an outstanding job on the wing's publication.

Lt. Col. Howard Gelbman



Thanks to Florida Wing for our new bird N922CP. An orientation by the Wing Standards/Evaluation Officer and his staff was held at our squadron for the pilots who will be flying this Cessna 172S. A feature article and photos of the new plane appeared in our local paper. Keep up the great work and great job with the FLORIDA FACTS.

Capt. Tom Kuznar, Dep. Comm.  
Naples Senior Squadron



Hearty congratulations to Capt Chip Maher for his diligence, dedication, passion, talent, and experience in leading the FLWG Emergency Services team. God forbid if any of us should ever go down, but we'll be thankful to have Chip and the many other dedicated ES personnel making the right decisions for a quick, safe, efficient, and very welcomed Search and Rescue. I for one, am proud to be a part of this team in an effort to make a difference. "That Others May Live".

Maj Gary W. Owen  
FLWG Inspector General



JEB BUSH  
GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF FLORIDA  
***Civil Air Patrol Week***

**WHEREAS, Civil Air Patrol, a civilian auxiliary of the United States Air Force, is dedicated to volunteer public service in the interest of the community, the state and the national welfare; and**

**WHEREAS, the members of the Florida Wing, Civil Air Patrol, are prepared to give of their time and resources for the benefit of their fellow Floridians through aerial and ground search and rescue missions, through humanitarian and mercy flights, and through many other unselfish acts in the time of human emergency; and**

**WHEREAS, this organization of volunteers is helping conduct an effective national program of aerospace education and training for both its members and for the people of the state of Florida; and**

**WHEREAS, this patriotic organization offers and outstanding program of leadership training and development and career motivation to its teenage cadet members;**

**NOW, THEREFORE, I, Jeb Bush, Governor of the state of Florida, do hereby extend greetings and best wishes to all observing *Civil Air Patrol Week*, April 7-13, 2002.**



**IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I  
have hereunto set my hand  
and caused the Great Seal of  
the state of Florida to be affixed  
at Tallahassee, the Capital, this  
18<sup>th</sup> day of February in the year  
of our Lord two thousand two.**

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
**GOVERNOR**

## MEET YOUR TEAMMATES

Meet James F. Tynan, the managing editor of your CIVIL AIR PATROL NEWS - the newspaper that every CAP member receives monthly. This award winning publication covers news from all levels of command and coast to coast. It is CAP's communication asset for keeping the membership informed as to its activities, accomplishments, plans and programs.



Jim was a former major in the USAF and has worked as a chief, an instructor, and a director of Public Affairs at numerous stateside Air Force Bases. He also served as chief Public Affairs Officer at Shaikh Isa Air Base in Bahrain during Operation Desert Shield and Desert Storm.

In spite of the severe daily pressures of his job, Jim maintains a 'professional calm' and is always responsive to CAP members - their information needs, their public affairs guidance needs and their news submissions. Jim Tynan is one of our teammates which is what makes Civil Air Patrol the greatest professional volunteer organization in the world.

Captain Kathy E. Paine, CAP has joined the staff of FLORIDA FACTS as Assistant Editor. Kathy is presently the Public Affairs Specialist to the 482nd Fighter Wing at Homestead Air Reserve Base.



Kathy writes feature stories and news articles, edits the unit newspaper, designs and lays out the base newspaper, interacts with the news media and, as the 482nd Fighter Wing Web Master, she updates the Homestead Air Reserve Base web page.

Captain Paine has been active with the Civil Air Patrol and has served as a Cadet Squadron Commander in Group 7. This issue of FLORIDA FACTS is the first in which Kathy has provided journalistic input. We are sincerely appreciative of her volunteering her capabilities.



Meet Lt. Col. William Brockman, your new Florida Wing Chief of Staff.

On graduation from Texas Christian University he reported for active duty as an Army 2Lt. He served with the 101st Airborne Division in Vietnam and was awarded numerous combat decorations.

After active duty, Col. Brockman became a hospital administrator and held that position for twenty years. He is now on his third career serving as a middle school teacher. The middle school initiative was his introduction to CAP. He was the first Deputy Commander for Cadets of SRQ Composite Squadron and then Squadron Commander, followed by serving as Deputy Director of Cadet Programs for Florida Wing. Col. Brockman was the 2000 Florida Wing 'Squadron Commander of Distinction'.

Since Col Matt Sharkey had served as Chief of Staff before assuming command of Florida Wing, he was, without hesitation, able to recognize Brockman's capabilities for that position.

Meet Jayne Daly, the new Administrative Assistant at Florida Wing Headquarters at MacDill Air Force Base. Ms Daly has served as a CAP Cadet and as Wing Commander of the West Orange Air Force JROTC.



Jayne is on flex time in her assignment so that she is able to continue her class schedule and pre-med academic requirements at Clearwater Christian College.

Ms. Daly's role of responsibility at headquarters is relatively simple....she does nothing less than everything for the good of wing. Jayne manages the Aircraft Maintenance and Operations Accounts, routes all mail, cuts the checks for O'Rides and all Form 200 reimbursements, handles ordering of supplies, dispatches Fax and E-mail communications for the Commander, is present at all wing staff meetings and keeps the headquarters office running smoothly on a day-to-day basis.

# WING'S WORDS OF WISDOM

Spatz Award recipient #290, Ted F. Bowlds, who received his award in 1974 as a member of the Civil Air Patrol's Mississippi Wing, pinned on stars of an Air Force Brigadier General recently. Another example of leadership and citizenship skills our Cadet Program offers our youngsters.

Our National General Counsel has submitted a request to renew CAP's exemption to Federal Aviation Regulations Part 91, Subpart F. Our current exemption expires 31 July, 2002. The exemption allows CAP to operate small, single engine aircraft and to carry passengers and property on CAP aircraft when the carriage is incidental to the business of CAP and CAP may receive reimbursement for certain costs of the flight.

Major General Chuck Link, USAF [Ret.] and Lt. Col. Jennifer Graham from the Developing Aerospace Leaders [DAL] program office at the Pentagon visited CAP/NHQ to get an in-depth briefing of CAP's Cadet Leadership Programs, Aerospace Education Programs, and Professional Development Programs to ascertain how those programs might be linked under the USAF objectives of DAL. Partnering opportunities between CAP and DAL appears to have great potential.

Thanks to the efforts of Lt. Col. David Mikelson, 20 cadets will receive an encampment scholarship of \$100 each. The funds have been arranged for from the USAFLO.

## ATTN-Squadron Commanders:

The Air Force Association Recognition Program provides for a Silver Medal to be presented to each Squadron's Cadet of the Year. Each year the Squadron Commanders should select the Cadet of the Year [COY] of their squadron. The Squadron Commander should then prepare a brief letter requesting the medal for the COY. The letter should include the complete name of the COY and the squadron unit name and should be forwarded to Mr. Dana Steinhauer, Programs and Events Director, Air Force Association, 1501 Lee Highway, Arlington, VA 22209. The cut off date is NLT 15 May.

The AFA issues the medal and a mutually convenient date is arranged with the president of the local AFA Chapter and the squadron commander for presentation of the coveted medal to the Cadet of the Year.

Group 4 has scheduled Cadet Phase One Training and Cadet School for 7 to 9 June, 2002 at Patrick Air Force Base in the Patrick Composite Squadron Headquarters Building. New cadet members will be introduced to the ideals of Civil Air Patrol, and will be provided with the basic knowledge and testing needed to complete the Curry Achievement and will receive guidance for advancement to Cadet Airman and Airman 1st Class to complete Phase 1 of the CAP Cadet Program.

Florida Wing Cadets have been awarded 98 Primary slots by National Headquarters for this summer's National Cadet Special Activities Program. Thirty-one applications for the Hawk Mountain Ranger Program have been submitted for consideration. Sixteen cadets have been slotted as activity alternates.

The new Aerospace Education Program requires senior members to use the new textbook, "Aerospace: The Journey of Flight" for the Yeager Award. With the change to the new text, new tests and procedures have been implemented. Each unit should have received two copies of each test along with the answer keys for their use. The tests and the answer keys are controlled items, and must be safeguarded like any other CAP controlled item. Test Control Officers are authorized to locally reproduce copies of the exam. All copies must be controlled in the same manner as the originals. Senior members may either take an open book exam or closed book test. Squadron Aerospace Education Officers should conduct study sessions for appropriate senior members in their unit. Senior members may purchase the new Text, "Aerospace: The Journey of Flight" from the CAP Bookstore for \$17.50.

**Major John J. Lynn**  
FLWG/DAE

# SAFETY FIRST— ALWAYS

Safety is something the Air Force and Civil Air Patrol are always stressing and rightfully so. Protecting our people should always be our first priority. Most of us take safety seriously and have developed good attitudes and behavior to help reduce risks. But, we have to constantly be on guard. It's easy to get caught up in the moment and modify or ignore good safety practices. How many of us don't buckle our seat belts because we only have a few blocks to drive. Where do you make the cut-off? How long will it take for a few blocks to turn into a few miles?

Most of us feel nothing bad is going to happen to us. If we felt otherwise we would probably never get into an automobile much less an airplane. It's very easy to let this attitude alter our judgment. You never want to go so far as to think, "it can never happen to me!" It always scares me when I hear a pilot say, "I've flown in worse conditions," or "I've been flying over #- years and never had a mishap." Overconfidence is a dangerous way to approach any situation. Everyone has limitations. Choosing to ignore them is a disaster waiting to happen.

Be careful not to develop "get-there-itis." This is another attitude that can be deadly if not controlled. It applies to both driving and flying. Sure you might save money by driving the van full of cadets 13 hours from the encampment back to the squadron, but is it smart? A tired driver is putting everyone at risk. How many pilots have you known who took off into rapidly deteriorating weather just so they could get home that day? Many have tried and not succeeded.

Don't be in a hurry. It's good to have a sense of urgency particularly when it comes to REDCAP missions, but not to the point that you take shortcuts like not following your checklist.

I remember having to fly an Air Force mission out of Thule, Greenland, one cold winter morning. After the briefing I overheard one of the pilots comment that because it was so cold outside, his preflight was going to be "Kick the tires and light the fires." Unfortunately, because he didn't take the time to do a proper preflight, he failed to remove the nose gear pin prior to takeoff and had to abort the mission. No one was injured, but there was a lot of explaining to do to the Director of Operations.

Plan ahead. Take the time to prepare for each activity. Planning is a great way to identify hazards and reduce or eliminate risks. Schedule a meeting with the staff and try to anticipate what hazards might be encountered. Be careful.

It's easy to come up with excuses to avoid planning, excuses like we have used this airport in the past or I know these cadets are safety conscious. Don't take things for granted. The pilot who doesn't bother to check NOTAMS prior to takeoff may be in for an unpleasant surprise when he discovers the runway is closed at his destination airport.

Take care of your resources. If you're not properly maintaining your aircraft and vehicles you're flirting with death. Routinely accomplish aircraft and vehicle inspections to ensure you are not overlooking something. We are very fortunate to have one of the best aircraft and vehicle maintenance teams in CAP. But they are only able to repair what they know is broken. As a minimum, schedule a thorough inspection of your vehicle or aircraft at least once a month. It's a good way to prevent major problems down the road.

Don't ever think that safety is complicated or time consuming. It's really not that difficult. For the most part safety is just using good common sense. Take the time to examine what you are about to accomplish and consider the risks. If it's dumb or dangerous don't do it.



**Col. Jerry Angley**  
**USAF/CAP Liaison Officer**



# LET US PRAY.....

*We have just passed the six month mark since suicide terrorists horrified our nation and the world with death and destruction. We have all felt deep sorrow for those who have experienced the loss of their loved ones, anger at the perverse action taken in the name of religion, gratitude to the heroes who both gave and risk their lives, a revitalized spirit of patriotism, and pride in the members of our armed forces. We, of the Civil Air Patrol have responded and remain at the ready to respond to all additional homeland defense missions.*

*If we can only remember that we are all human and strive for a better world together, then together we all become better.*

*I asked Chaplain Painter for the following prayer for 2002.*

**Colonel Matthew Sharkey  
Florida Wing Commander**



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

We pray for our Wing Commander and staff, Group Commanders and staff, and Squadron Commanders and staff as they endeavor to lead us in fulfillment of the many missions that we will be called upon to perform.

We pray for our Cadet Program and the leaders of tomorrow that we are preparing today. Most of all we pray for the individuals that make up the Florida Wing as we need your guidance and blessings on a daily, and even hourly basis.

Gracious Lord,

**A**s we look forward to the remainder of this year, we are reminded of how you have blessed us in the past year. When the times got rough, you were there; when we seemed to stumble and fall, you were there. For this we are so grateful. Our Nation is blessed among all the nations of the world and for this we are grateful. We pray for those in leadership as we continue to face the challenges of evil, terror, and ugliness that would creep up and harm us. We pray for our President and those in the Senate and House of Representatives as they weigh our needs for security and protection of our way of life.

We pray for those in leadership within the Civil Air Patrol - Headquarters, Regions, and Wings as they guide us into the future.

We pray for the health of everyone, for the necessities of life for our families, for good friends, and for success in all that we do.

Help us to live this day and every day in knowing your presence is upon us and that your Spirit is ever before us.

We are reminded of the saying that "little is much if God is in it".

Let our joy be in serving and our success in knowing the reward of our efforts will be in seeing others blessed.

In Your Gracious and Precious Name we ask these things. Amen.



Florida Wing should have the newly purchased Maule aircraft for towing our cadet flight orientation glider by the time you read this.

SAFETY article for this magazine in spite of his new responsibilities.



CAP's support for the Winter Olympics and the Paralympics in Salt Lake City has been outstanding. The Utah Wing flew 140 sorties and over 430 mission hours using over 150 personnel. They provided 1,850 digital pictures through a secure link over the web WMIRS. The Nevada Wing flew 84 sorties for over 190 hours feeding back traffic congestion information. State and federal agencies all indicate that CAP performed its Olympic Homeland Security mission "superbly".



The Civil Air Patrol display and major exhibit at the Sun 'n' Fun 2002 recently held at Lakeland drew thousands of the attendees and was manned by cadets and senior members from various squadrons throughout the state.



NHQ reports that it is making excellent progress in selection of a digital FM radio for replacement in our aircraft fleet. The aircraft FM upgrade program should be able to meet the National Executive Committee's two year extension deadline.



"Congratulations to the Lantana-Lake Worth Cadet Squadron's Color Guard Team for placing first at the Southeast Region Competition. Their dedication and hard work have made them one of the best Color Guard Teams in the nation. Now it's on to the National Cadet Color Guard Competition at the Air Force Academy", said Florida Wing Commander, Colonel Matt Sharkey. He continued, "Also, our former Florida Wing Chief of Staff has been promoted to the Grade of Colonel. Congratulations and best wishes to Valerie Brown, newly appointed as Southeast Region Vice Commander."



Colonel Matt Sharkey announced the appointment of Major Tek Konkol as the new Florida Wing Director of Safety. Maj Konkol has agreed to continue writing the



*The following is a letter to Lt. Gen. Nicholas Kehoe, Chairman, National Board of Governors dated 11 March, 2002:*

**Dear General Kehoe**

**We are interested in the prospects of employing the Air Force**

**Auxiliary in homeland security missions. Their performance in the aftermath of 11 September has demonstrated the potential contributions that the citizen volunteers of our Auxiliary can make in meeting this new challenge. To prepare for these potential missions, it is essential that the Auxiliary develop a concept of operations [CONOPS] that we can work from as quickly as possible.**

**At the earliest opportunity we would like the Auxiliary to present their CONOPS, and what Air Force resources are needed to accomplish this. This is an opportunity to shape the future and begin the planning necessary to ensure the Auxiliary has the means to meet the demands of this dynamic, evolving mission.**

**The Auxiliary has a proud heritage of service to our great country and we consider them a full partner on the Air Force team. Working together, we can define the Auxiliary's future role in homeland security in a way that will guarantee our continued success. If there is anything further we can do to facilitate this presentation, please contact...."**

*[signed]*

**John J. Jumper, General, USAF Chief of Staff  
James G. Roche, Secretary of the Air Force**



# CADET CAP'ERS



## A LESSON TO BE LEARNED - BY ALL

The following incident was noted at a Group Annual Banquet where a cadet was called to present himself to the commander to receive his very first award since joining the cadets just a short time before. The cadet received his award, stepped back and saluted - with his **left hand**. Without hesitation and before hundreds of guests and members, the Group Commander returned the salute with his **left hand**.

What a wonderfully sensitive lesson for each of us to learn.

## OFF AND RUNNING IN 2002

*Provided by Capt. Vickie Meyer  
FLWG Director of Cadet Programs*

The calendar for Cadet Programs is completed for the next four years. I would like to extend my sincere appreciation to all the members of the Florida Wing for their outstanding contributions.

Starting off with an awesome Special Activities Selection Board with Major Joseph Martin, Jr. and 1st Lt David Leali as project officers, 142 cadets graduated from the largest Special Activities Selection Board in Florida in many years.

The Florida Wing Drill Team won 2nd place in the February South East Region Drill Competition. Many thanks to all the parents and senior members who supported this team.

Under the direction of Lt. Col. Robert Masiker, 52 cadets successfully completed the required training needed to graduate from the Florida Wing Winter Encampment 2002, held at the Homestead Sports Complex. Congratulations to all the graduates.

## CADET HONOR SOCIETY

*Provided by Capt. Deborah Merrick  
Florida Wing Honor Society*

The purpose of the Honor Society is to help cadets gain academic recognition and credit for educational and scholarship purposes. It is a great achievement to be recorded on a high school or college resume. The following is the criteria for the Honor Society: 90 percent or above per achievement, which will be the average of both Aerospace and Leadership. The Curry achievement with its single test will stand by itself, as well as

all cadet officer achievements and tests. The average will be passing scores.

A cadet must maintain this average over a three achievement span, with no time frame. The following information is required: Cadet's name, CAP ID/CAP SN, unit charter number and achievements covered. A letter or recommendation from the squadron commander. Mail or e-mail this information to: Capt. Deborah Merrick, 13606 5th Ave. NE Bradenton, Fla. 34212. E-mail: debmerrick@aol.com.

Cadets who earn this honor, will be eligible to wear a blue/yellow shoulder cord, once listed on the personnel authorization.

## GLIDER PROGRAM TAKES-OFF

*Provided by Maj Howard Chipman*

A new glider operation program has started at Zephyr Hills Airport in cooperation with the Tampa Bay Soaring Society. Cadet and senior members of the Pasco Cadet Squadron are supplying the pilots and ground personnel. Maj Howard Chipman, program coordinator and president of Tampa Bay Soaring is inviting all squadrons to participate with them. All cadets are entitled to five glider and power flights under the new guidelines. Major Mario Bartoletti, Pasco Cadet Squadron Commander hopes to have three power aircraft available soon for orientation flights. Three I-13 Blaniks and one Grob103 are available for soaring, enabling 10-20 flights in a morning. Contact Maj Howard Chipman to schedule your flights at (813) 854-1428.

## BASIC CADET CAMP CONDUCTED

*Provided by Lt Col James K. Spleth  
Emergency Services Officer*

Lee County Cadet Squadron and Dolphin Flight conducted a basic cadet boot camp and emergency services training weekend at the sports fields of Gulf Middle School in Cape Coral.

A total of 33 members took part in this training weekend and at the conclusion 15 cadets were promoted from cadet basic to airman. Congratulations to all.



**MARK YOUR CALENDARS NOW!**



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

**4-7 April** NCASE, Washington, D.C.  
**6-13 April** Sun 'N' Fun, Lakeland  
**12-13 April** DREX, Ormond Beach  
**20 April** Wing Commander's Call, Sarasota  
**27 April** ES Training Groups 1&2, Tallahassee  
**27 April** Group 3 IG Inspection

**4-5 May** CD Training, TBA  
**17-18 May** SAREVAL, TBA  
**18 May** Group 8 IG Inspection  
**31 May** Florida Wing Annual Conference, Sarasota

**1-2 June** Florida Wing Annual Conference, Sarasota  
**1 June** FLORIDA FACTS Deadline  
**4-7 June** State Hurricane Conference, TBA  
**16-23 June** Summer Encampment, Camp Blanding  
**22 June** Group 6 IG Inspection

**13 July** Wing Commander's Call, MacDill AFB  
**20 July** Group 2 IG Inspection

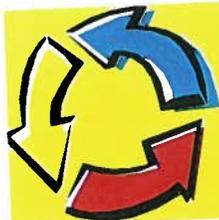
**10-11 August** CD Training, TBA  
**15-17 August** National Board Annual Conf., Philadelphia  
**17-18 August** ES Training Groups 5,6&7, TBA  
**30 August** FLWG Challenge, Fl. Elks Youth Camp

**1 September** FLWG Challenge, Fl. Elks Youth Camp  
**1 September** FLORIDA FACTS Deadline  
**7-8 September** Professional Development Weekend, TBA  
**12 September** Counterdrug Orientation  
**14 September** Wing Staff Meeting, MacDill AFB  
**21 September** CD Orientation, TBA  
**21 September** Group 1 IG Inspection

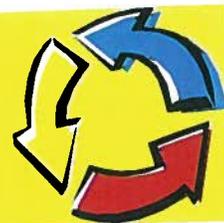
**12 October** Directional Finding Challenge, Leesburg  
**18-20 October** Drill/Color Guard Teams Competition  
**20 October** Wing Commander's Call, MacDill AFB

**1-2 November** Aerospace Education Workshop, TBA  
**9 November** Emergency Services Conf., Daytona Beach  
**16-17 November** Counterdrug Training, TBA  
**23 November** Wing Staff Meeting, MacDill AFB  
**29 November** Cadet Conference, Fl. Elks Youth Camp

**1 December** Cadet Conference, Fl. Elks Youth Camp  
**14 December** Wing Staff Meeting, MacDill AFB  
**27 December** Leadership Academy, Fl. Elks Youth Camp



# AROUND THE REGION



 Congratulations to the Coral Springs Cadet Squadron on being selected the Southeast Region Squadron of Merit for Florida Wing. SER Commander, Col. Antonio Pineda will issue a Certificate and Streamer to each of the six units in the region that have been so distinguished.

 Lt. Col. Ernest Bilotto, SER Director of CounterDrugs urges all wings to step up their training programs in counterdrugs. John J. Kittle, NHQ Chief of Counterdrugs and Homeland Security reported that the National Board of Directors has expressed its recognition of the need and has provided programs for additional training of CAP members in airborne reconnaissance, use of video downlink systems, digital cameras for airborne photography, marijuana spotting, and other counterdrug skills. Col. Antonio Pineda advises that Homeland Security programs will be instituted in the very near future. Every unit should make maximum use of these training opportunities.

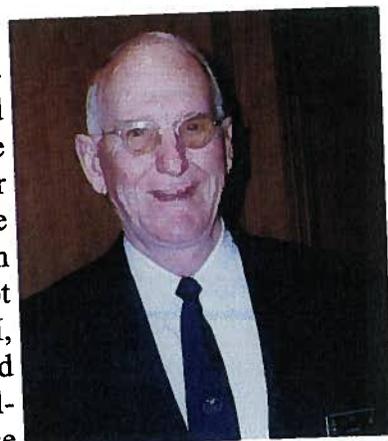
 The Southeast Region [SER] Search and Rescue Exercise [SAREX] is scheduled for 17-18 May. The SER Staff will play the role of AFRCC [Air Force Rescue Coordination Center], witnesses and family contacts. The simulation center will be in Daytona Beach but each wing in other states will establish their own mission base. The Simulation Center will have HF, VHF, FM, landline and internet access. A series of phone numbers will be given for the SAREX and an e-mail address will be used for the exercise to pass traffic in chat form and regular e-mail. Each wing will operate within the scope of their Communications Plan and each wing's Incident Commander will maintain communications within this equipment envelope. The SAREX objective is to assess the response of each wing and to note their coordination of missions with other wings in the South East Region.

 Florida Wing Capt. Vickie Meyer reminds all SER Wing Commanders that airlifts are possible to be arranged if at least 20 CAP members are committed. Unless the plane is going there on other business, it is not possible to book an airlift for fewer than 20 persons. It is important to remember that a C-130 costs \$5,000 per flying hour and \$15,000 per flying hour for a C-141.

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

 The Puerto Rico Drill Team placed first in the Southeast Region Drill Team Competition. The Lantana, Florida unit took first place in the Color Guard Competition. SER Commander Col. Antonio Pineda said, "The teams competing from all six states of the region are getting so skilled in their abilities that it is more and more difficult to pick winners. All in the region are proud of all the contestants and particularly the winners."

 Col Glen Atwell, new SER Director of Homeland Security retired from the USAF as a Lt. Col. after 30 years of service. He has logged more than 7000 hours as a pilot and is currently a CFI, CAP Check Pilot and Mission Pilot. Col. Valerie Brown, SER Vice Commander said, "We are delighted to have his expertise for the ongoing missions in support of our nation."





## FINAL FLIGHT

**Capt. Donald T. Hasty**  
Hillsborough One Senior Squadron

**Capt. Russ Blaser & Lt. Carol Blaser**  
Gainesville Composite Squadron

**2 Lt. Ruth Brinski**  
Charlotte County Composite Squadron

**Lt. Col. Frederick B. Uzzle**  
Herlong Composite Squadron

**Lt. Col. George Apostle**  
Southeast Region Headquarters Staff

**S/M Lois Bigger**  
Key Largo Composite Squadron

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

Colonel Matthew R. Sharkey  
Florida Wing Commander

## LOIS BIGGER WAS BIGGER THAN LIFE

Senior Member Lois Bigger was viewed by those who knew her in her 54 years as 'bigger than life'. Lois died from an embolism that apparently resulted from a fracture of her leg which occurred in a sky diving accident.

Lois was always seen to be a free spirit. Bigger was born in Bloomington, Indiana and arrived in the Florida Keys in 1984. It was said that she had no thoughts for herself only for the kids-hers and all others. Her gift was helping others to reach their full potential. Recently she, and her pilot friend Glen Thompson flew around Florida delivering 88 college applications for local students. This earned her the name "Sky Counselor".

Among the programs that Lois was active with were the Drug Free Home, Girl Scouts, Civil Air Patrol, Post-Hurricane Andrew Youth, Challenge Day, DARE, United Nations, SWAT, and Giraffes-a student-to-student program of value teaching mentorship. She was committed to challenging students to think out of the box in terms of their own limited expectations.

Following the collapse of the Soviet Union, she went to Azerbaijan as part of a cultural exchange. While there she learned about life in refugee camps and promised to show the world what she saw. While in Costa Rica she helped women in distress—physically and financially and worked aggressively to awaken the social conscience. On a mission to the Amazon she handed out medicine and vitamins to the natives.

Being the free spirit that she was, it is not surprising that she loved sky-diving and would float to earth every spare opportunity that was presented.

CAP Lt. Col. Howard Gelbman recalled, "I first met Lois when it was decided to form a Cadet Squadron in Key Largo. As a result of our recruiting promotions she joined CAP and became a Leadership Officer. She refused to accept a grade although she was more than qualified to be considered for one. She was instrumental in recruiting cadets through her position as Guidance Counselor at the local high school. Lois Bigger was that rare person who through her dedication to aviation and education of our youth went far beyond the call of duty to her country."

## PLANE CRASH TAKES LIFE OF CAP OFFICER

Lt. Col. George Apostle enroute to Ormond Beach, Florida fatally crashed his personal Aztec aircraft in a remote area of Brevard County south of his destination.

Recovery efforts for the aircraft were extremely difficult. The crash site was in the heart of a remote swamp. Alligators, snakes and other swamp wildlife are profuse throughout this area.

Lt. Col. Apostle joined the Civil Air Patrol in 1970 and became a member of the New Jersey Wing. He served as Operations Director for Middle East Region and as a member of the National Operations Committee. He then moved to Boca Raton and served as Assistant DO for Southeast Region. His total flying time exceeded 12,000 hours with over 5,000 multi-engine hours. He was always dedicated to the education of pilots.



# COMMUNICATIONS

Maj. Paul Blystone  
FLWG Director Communications

**Communications update:** The Sunset date of Dec. 31, 2001 has come and gone. There were those who predicted gloom and doom and thought with the loss of compliant radios we would surely die as far as communication goes. I am glad to report that we are still alive and communicating. We continue to have record numbers of ELT missions with a larger than ever number of Redcap missions. We average more than one mission per day in Florid Wing. We have responded to all ELT and Redcap missions, finding and shutting off all ELTs. We may be somewhat handicapped with the loss of a number of radio stations, but we have dedicated people who know how to make things happen.

**Repeater update:** Three years ago Florida Wing had 15 repeaters and only ten were operational. We now have 18 repeaters, 17 are operational and the 18th should be in operation well before this article is printed. We have had a lot of work to do, repairing some, replacing some with the new Quantars, installing new antennas etc. I especially want to thank our two wing communications engineers, 1st Lts. Russ Loomis and Jim LaFollette for their expertise and persistence in getting several of these repeaters up and running. Also, my thanks to those in Group-5 and Group-7 who have worked diligently on the repeaters in their groups to get them operational. In addition to the fixed repeater stations we have one airborne repeater.

**Ocala repeater:** The Ocala Repeater is a GE Master III and came equipped with provision for one tone only. We were working on the 100 Hz roam tone. Now, thanks again to 1st Lts. Loomis and LaFollette who installed an additional tone board, we are working the 110.9 Hz published discrete tone as well as the 100 Hz roam tone.

**Web page:** Our wing licensing officer 1st Lt. Bob Colbert has created the web site; <http://roa.communimatics.com>, which lists all persons with

ROA cards, radio call signs and registered compliant radio equipment. This provides a means for us to know our resources as well as a tool for all individuals with call signs to check their list of equipment and keep it updated.

**Inter Squad Radios:** We have an order in to ICOM American Inc. for 21 of the ISRs for some of our members. These can be purchased for \$85 and are 14-channel, short range radios, used for flight line, parking areas, encampments, bivouacs, etc.

**Compliant VHF Radios:** In Florida Wing we have 142 new corporate compliant VHF/FM radios. In addition to these we have 35 of the old Neutec radios that are wideband and can be used for several years yet and six of them are Motorola Spectras. This gives us 183 compliant VHF/FM radios plus about 35 member owned base/mobile compliant VHF radios and about 55 member owned VHF handheld compliant radios.

**Compliant HF Radios:** We have 36 Micom-2 HF NTIA compliant HF radios in the wing as well as approximately 30 member owned NTIA compliant HF Radios.

**Member owned radios:** The most popular VHF radios that members are buying are the Tait T2020s, which can be purchased from CAP Supply Depot for \$389, and the Vertex VX150 handheld, which can be purchased from Amateur Electronic Supply for \$130. The Vertex VX400s can be purchased from the Supply Depot for \$339.95. The ICOM F30GT, a 256 channel VHF handheld can be purchased from ICOM America Inc. for \$485.76. Also the ISR radio, the IC4008M can be purchased from ICOM America Inc. for \$85.

**Non-compliant Radios:** The old corporate non-compliant radios should all be turned back to Logistics. This also applies to HF and VHF. These radio should be sent to Maj. Ray Spengler, Director of Logistics, Civil Air Patrol Headquarters, 2700 Eagle Staff Ct., MacDill AFB, Fla., 32061-5208.

# "UP ON THE HILL"

Submitted by Lt. Col. John Brennan  
State Legislative Commander

This session of the State Legislature has been overwhelmed with such major issues as shortfalls in budget, redistricting, tax reform, educational accountability, health care issues, etc. In the background, safety and homeland security are all topics that have been on every legislature's mind. Adding to the legislative burden, the Senate and House leaders can't seem to gain consensus on many major issues. In fact, no piece of legislation has passed both chambers in this session as of March.

Within this environment I have the assigned task to meet with senators and representatives to update them on the services, accomplishments, and needs of the Florida Wing Civil Air Patrol. Some of the legislators welcome me and express a great interest in the Civil Air Patrol. Chances are they know their local group and squadron members to your involvements. For this, measure of thanks for calling upon your local representatives and developing an informative relationship with them

For the other group I am trying to influence support for seem to find the time to meet After all, there really are old people and children being abused in this state, children coming to

selves from fellow student-criminals, sex offenders weaseling their way into teaching environments, immigrants being unfairly treated, and the tobacco industry targeting minority youth.

It is an imperative that every CAP member recognize that our legislative education cannot be non-existent, nor can it be limited to the three month session. It is a project that each of us must pursue for the entire year, every year. Each of you needs to maintain contact with the members of the legislature that represent you. Every squadron should consider appointing at least one delegate to call on their senator and representative at their home office. As a constituent they are interested in you and you are Civil Air Patrol. Keep them updated as to what you do. Tell them stories about your Emergency Services missions and training, aerospace education for cadets and younger persons, disaster assistance, counterdrug and drug reduction programs, sun-down patrols, etc....all right here in their districts!

We have a story to tell and we need you to tell it. When you do, more office doors open and I am welcomed in to inform your elected officials of the increasing physical and fiscal needs of the Civil Air Patrol.

## U.S. CONGRESSIONAL RESOLUTION ADOPTED

HR -311 as written by Congressman Alcee L. Hastings, D-FL, 23rd District was adopted when introduced on the floor of the House of Representatives. The Resolution text follows:

### HONOR THE CIVIL AIR PATROL FOR SIXTY YEARS OF SERVICE TO THE NATION.

"After the German surrender, one of Hitler's ranking naval officers was asked why the Nazi U-boats had been withdrawn from U.S. coastal waters early in World War II. The answer was exploded in a curt, guttural "It was because of those damned little red and yellow planes."

Dear Colleague; those 'damned little red and yellow planes' were the trademark of the Civil Air Patrol [CAP], a volunteer civilian defense program founded on December 1, 1941. Over

the course of the war, CAP volunteers logged more than 500,000 flying hours performing coastal patrols to search for enemy submarines and saboteurs, search and rescue missions, and cargo and courier flights for military personnel. As is evident from the statement quoted above, they were extremely effective.

With the end of hostilities, CAP's responsibilities only grew. In 1946, CAP was incorporated as a benevolent, non-profit organization. Two years later, CAP became an auxiliary of the newly created U.S. Air Force. For the next fifty-four years, CAP would mobilize its resources to fulfill the Congressionally mandated mission of providing aerospace education, cadet programs, and emergency services to the American public. Over the course of the past sixty years, the CAP Cadet Program has trained more than 750,000 youths in leadership and life saving skills. During

See PAGE 29 - Resolution



just another dedicated enthusiast, some worthy cause, that they can't with...and perhaps rightfully so. ple and children being abused in school with guns to protect them-

selfes from fellow student-criminals, sex offenders weaseling their way into teaching environments, immigrants being unfairly treated, and the tobacco industry targeting minority youth.

It is an imperative that every CAP member recognize that our legislative education cannot be non-existent, nor can it be limited to the three month session. It is a project that each of us must pursue for the entire year, every year. Each of you needs to maintain contact with the members of the legislature that represent you. Every squadron should consider appointing at least one delegate to call on their senator and representative at their home office. As a constituent they are interested in you and you are Civil Air Patrol. Keep them updated as to what you do. Tell them stories about your Emergency Services missions and training, aerospace education for cadets and younger persons, disaster assistance, counterdrug and drug reduction programs, sun-down patrols, etc....all right here in their districts!

We have a story to tell and we need you to tell it. When you do, more office doors open and I am welcomed in to inform your elected officials of the increasing physical and fiscal needs of the Civil Air Patrol.

# SAFETY FIRST

Maj. Tek Konkol, Florida Wing Safety Officer

**T**he Florida Wing Commander, Col. Matt Sharkey made it known that his not so secret agenda for the Florida Wing during his tenure is safety. This was demonstrated by his declaring a safety week, which included a safety down day for all corporate aircraft and vehicles. This was a great opportunity for all commanders and safety officers, at all levels, to take a fresh look at their safety programs and identify strategies to improve upon them.

One strategy to improve our Wing's Safety Program is to train, test and certify the position of Mission Safety Officer for 101 cards. The new emergency services regulations utilizing the Incident Command System structure, which provides guidelines for this training, demonstration and certification for this position. The initial training for this 101 specialty will be conducted during the Wing Conference in May. The classroom training will be followed by a safety skill demonstration to be held in the field at a later time and place to be determined. Please plan to attend.

Of the reportable aircraft incidents and accidents in 2001, only one reported injury associated with the incident. This statistic indicates the severity of incidents is not high in cost regarding lost time or injury. It does not indicate the severity in the terms of dollar amount to repair aircraft damage. That was significant by any standard. Remembers, statistically, most aircraft incidents and accidents can be attributed to pilot or ground handling error.

Checklists, when used properly, can make the difference between a successful flight and one that ends other than as planned. All pilots are trained to use checklists prior to start-up, in flight, in landing preparation and after landing up to and including engine shut-down. Most of us know someone, or at the very least, have heard stories of what happens when checklists are ignored or forgotten once, it will be forgotten the next time. The second or third time it is forgotten may be the time that is positively has to be checked.

Checklists are meant to be used at all stages of a safe flight. Relying on memory is an accident

waiting to happen. If you are not using printed or written checklists, do so the next time you fly and see if you have been neglecting something that if not checked could result in a less than happy flight.

In Civil Air Patrol we have developed checklists to be utilized by ground teams prior to dispatch. Are your ground teams using them? Every time? Most ground team vehicles used in CAP ground searches are member owned and operated. The tendency is to jump in the vehicle and head out to the assigned area without a thought about the condition and overall safety of the vehicle. Again, an accident waiting to happen. Of course, it's a good idea to do a 'go-around' of your vehicle regularly whether on a CAP mission or not. Cadets are often part of a ground team and we must ensure the safety of our young people as well as ourselves.

Florida Wing is dedicated to developing an awareness of safety in every aspect of our operations, including flight, ground and unit meeting facilities and grounds. If your unit does not have a safety officer, appoint one immediately.

**Safety Briefing:** Florida Wing Commander Col. Matt Sharkey declared the week of Feb. 24—Mar. 2, as safety awareness week. This was an opportunity for all to focus on safety for a week. Some of the suggested topics for the past safety week were: Aircraft; flight operations, ground handling, safe taxiing, crosswind operations and use of checklists. Vehicles; maintenance, defensive driving, use of spotters when backing, and use of checklists. Personnel; dehydration causes (hint: think caffeine and alcohol), suicide prevention, ant and insect bites, avoidance and treatment, horseplay, sleep deprivation and nutrition. Building and offices; hazards identified and marked, computer cabling and wires, extension cords, antenna guy wires and electrical deficiencies.

For those who want to develop a strong safety program, I recommend the CAP Guide to Operational Risk Management, which can be downloaded from the National web site along with many other safety oriented materials.

*Remember; Think safety, act safety and be safe.*

From PAGE 27-Resolution

that same period, CAP air crews have flown over one million hours on search and rescue missions, saving several thousand lives. In 1951, CAP initiated its aerospace education program which has since trained more than 300,000 teachers in math and science, as they relate to aviation. These teachers have, in turn, taught over 18 million students. Since 1986, CAP has cooperated with the U.S. Air Force, the U.S. Customs Service, the Drug Enforcement Administration and the U.S. Forest Service to stem the flow of illegal drugs into the country. Together with these agencies, it has assisted in the confiscation or eradication of billions of dollars in illegal drugs. Today, CAP boasts a membership of more than 60,000 and a fleet of over 500 planes. I humbly urge my colleagues to join with me in honoring the Civil Air Patrol on this, their sixtieth anniversary.

### ASSIGNED MISSIONS EXCEED 2001

From 1 January to 31 March, Florida Wing has been assigned 95 Search and Rescue missions of which seven were Distress/REDCAP missions. This exceeds the number of missions assigned by the U.S. Air Force Rescue Coordination Center to Florida Wing for the same period in 2001.

### HOMELAND SECURITY MANAGERS APPOINTED

Florida Wing Commander Col. Matt Sharkey has appointed 2Lt. Ed Kessler as the FLWG Homeland Security Manager. Reporting directly to Lt. Kessler is Capt. John McWhorter who will serve as HMS/AIR. These new appointees will work closely with Col. Glen Atwell, Southeast Region Homeland Security Director.

### CRASH FINDS CAP!



As FLWG Medical Officer, Capt. Edward Kasper and FLWG Maintenance Officer, Capt. Steve Drew

were securing their plane following a flight when they heard a thud! Looking across the grassy area they spotted a helicopter on its side with a badly bent main rotor blade and a severed tail section. When both CAP members reached the crash scene they noted that the pilot was unable to loosen his seat belt and climb to the ground. Capt. Drew unfastened the belt and extricated the pilot who was bleeding profusely from a scalp laceration. With fuel escaping from the craft, they quickly removed the pilot to a safe distance and provided first aid until the Fire, Medical and Sheriff's teams arrived. *All part of a day's voluntary effort.*

### GROUP SIX GIVES 25 YEAR AWARDS



Among the many awards presented at the Group Six Annual Banquet were "25 year awards" for continuous membership in and service to the Civil Air Patrol. Front row l to r Lt. Col. Herb Miller, Lt. Col. Robert Masiker, Lt. Col. Antony Patrillo, Lt. Col. Seymour Orgel, Major Douglas Ebby, and Lt. Col. Samuel Berkowitz. Second row l to r Lt. Col. David Mikelson, Lt. Col. Robert Croft and Lt. Col. Mark McKirchey.

### ENCAMPMENT VIDEO AVAILABLE

Following months of titling and editing, 1Lt. Patrick O'Key and his cadet son have completed an extremely professional video tape of the 2001 Cadet Summer Encampment.

Every cadet and senior staff member who participated should have a video of this memorably successful event. The highlight events of each day are vividly covered. Particularly noteworthy is the transition of the cadets from a delayed, confused, and uncertain demeanor to a sharp, instantaneous, and military response over the five day encampment.

Limited numbers of the video are available for purchase. For further information contact 1Lt Patrick O'Key at 941-745-2863 or e-mail [patokey@tampabay.com](mailto:patokey@tampabay.com).

# A story in women's history

By Capt. Kathy E. Paine  
Assistant Editor

*excerpts taken from assorted web pages and references*

As recently as the 1970's, women's history was virtually an unknown topic in the general public consciousness. The Education Task Force of the Sonoma County California Commission on the Status of Women initiated a "Women's History Week" celebration of 1978. Mar. 8, was chosen the week of the International Women's Day.

As the word spread rapidly across the nation, state departments of education encouraged celebrations of National Women's History week as an effective means to achieving equity goals within classrooms.

In 1987, the National Women's History Project petitioned Congress to expand the national celebration to the entire month of March. Since then, the National Women's History Month Resolution has been approved with bipartisan support in both the House and Senate.

In celebration of National Women's History Month I'd like to introduce Amelia Mary Earhart. She is known to all as the first woman to fly across the Atlantic.

Earhart was born in Atchison, Kansas Jul. 24, 1897, six years before the Wright Brothers had their first historic flight in Kitty Hawk North Carolina. Moving around a lot as a child, she was able to complete her high school education in 1916. One year later, she volunteered as a nurse at Spadina Military Convalescent Hospital in Toronto.

This hospital provided care primarily for the wounded soldiers of World War I. In 1919, Earhart attempted college, first at Columbia University in New York City, then in 1920 moved in with her parents in Los Angeles where she attended the University of Southern California for a brief period. Earhart learned to fly in California and the next year she purchased a Kinner Canary, her first plane.

Earhart sold her plane in 1924, and with that money she bought a car, in which she drove her mother from Southern California to Massachusetts where they lived with her younger sister Muriel.

In 1927, Earhart became interested in forming a club for women pilots. Her first inspiring feat happened in 1928, when George Putnam selected Earhart to be aboard a trans-Atlantic flight as a passenger and standby pilot. The flight took place on June 17th and 18th, making Amelia the first woman to fly across the Atlantic. Her only regret was that she did not actually fly the plane.

In 1930, 99 women aviators formed the first flying club exclusively for women, Amelia was the "99 Club's" first president. In July of that year, she set the woman's flying speed record of approximately 180 miles per hours. In February 1931, George Putnam and Amelia Earhart wed. Two months later, Amelia sets another world record, for the highest altitude in an auto-gyro by a woman, 18,400 feet. Two months after this, she set out to complete her first solo transcontinental flight in the same auto-gyro, she was sponsored by the Beechnut Company.

In 1932, in addition to being the vice president of Ludington Airlines, Inc., Amelia was also able to find time to fly across the Atlantic ocean in a record 14 hours 56 minutes. For this incredible triumph she was awarded:

- The Army Air Corps Distinguished Flying Cross
- Honorary Membership in the British Guild of Air Pilots and Navigators
- Gold Medal of the National Geographic Society, Presented by president Herbert Hoover
- Harman Trophy as America's Outstanding Air Woman

In 1933, Amelia breaks her own previous North American

Transcontinental record with a time of 17 hours, 7 minutes and 30 seconds. She also won the Harman Trophy for the next two years, making her the recipient of the Harman Trophy three consecutive years. In January of 1935, she makes a solo flight from Honolulu Hawaii to Oakland California in just over 17 hours, becoming the first person to fly solo across the Pacific. By the year 1936, it seemed that all she had left to do was fly around the world, so she plane to do so.

After several attempts in 1937, on what seems to be here most successful attempt she loses radio contact in the central Pacific flying from New Guinea to Howland Island. She was never heard from again.

In a previous letter to her husband, she wrote: "Women must try to do things as men have tried. When they fail, their failure must be but a challenge to others."

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## ES Encampment

By C/Capt. Noel Trew, Public Affairs Officer,  
Treasure Coast Composite Squadron

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Members of both the Stuart Cadet squadron and the Treasure Coast Composite Squadron recently participated in a joint Emergency Services Encampment and Field Training Exercise.

The Squadron's ES encampment was commanded by Lt. Chris Myers of FL-078.

The encampment was set up in order to help increase the number of 101 qualified personnel in the Florida Wing and thus meet the quota set by Wing Headquarters.

After a batter of classes and examinations, the cadets participated in two practice ELT/SAR missions, one of which included a simulated evacuation of the pilot and passenger.

All those who took part in the encampment were able to earn a GES 101 card, BCUT card and practical experience in Litter Baring, communication and command truck "CAPCOMM-4" setup, radio operations and field cooking.

# CHALLENGE AIR FLY DAY

Submitted by **DOUG EBY**

## *From the eyes of the wheelchair bound*

I woke up and it was still dark out. Mom helped me with washing up and getting dressed. I was so excited! I'm really going to go on an airplane ride. Finally we finished breakfast, loaded up into the van and departed for the airport. After Dad missed the sign, we got turned around and approached the airport security gate.

We were greeted by a teenager in Military Field Dress, who gave us a pass, which let Dade drive on the airplane ramp. We were directed to parking. Finally, I got into the hangar and my day started. There were

Red, White and Blue balloons and banners on the ceiling and different airplanes along one wall. While Mom handled the

paperwork, I wheeled up to the table with rolls and cookies, got a handful then wheeled over and had a lady paint my face like a tiger. After a while I sat in what they called a "ground school." A man in a wheelchair assisted by

Air Force uniform explained how airplanes fly. We were next to a high wing plane. I even got my picture taken with Mom and Dad of course in front of this plane.

Finally my flight number was called. We wheeled out on to an area that was lined on both sides with planes. Two had their engines running so our escort, another teenager in military cloths, had us standby until it was safe to pass. They helped me into the plane. Mom sat in the back and I got to sit next to the pilot. The engine started, the guys wearing orange vests waved us on, the pilot talked into the headset he was wearing and we taxied to the end of the runway and took off. (All these

terms and names, I learned at the "ground school.") The take off was amazing, You're really pushed back into the seat, the plane races down the runway and then just jumps into the air.

We went up to about 3,000 feet and leveled off. I could see the beach line and the ocean. Boy, it was big. It seemed like I could see forever. I never thought it would be like this—Wonderful!

We leaned over to the side, which turned the plane around to go in the other direction towards the Everglades. The Everglades were funny looking. It's not like this on the Discovery Channel. Everything is different in the air. The airport looked small as we approached it. The runway

looked a lot bigger when we took off. We landed with only one little bounce and taxied back. They helped me into my wheelchair. I got my wings and "Little Eagle" certificate. Here



Members of the Florida Wing and the Ft. Lauderdale Squadron who assisted and/or flew 105 handicapped children with friends and family in 124 sorties and 17 aircraft. This was the 5th Annual Fly Day conducted by the squadron.

Mom, hold these; I've got to hurry—they are serving hot dogs and I'm starving. While I ate, a fire truck spurted water high into the air and made a rainbow. I wheeled around the hangar, met other kids in wheelchairs and even played beanbag toss.

Too soon it was time to go home. Into the van, I waved at the teenager in military clothes, I found out their organization was called "Civil Air Patrol," and I can join, wheelchair and all, when I'm twelve years old or passed sixth grade. Next year when I come back, I will be a pro. The pilot said I'd be able to touch the controls.

What a day! I had a dream about my flight that night."

# the gala WAS gala!



Photo left-One of twenty 'umbrella squad' Cadet greeters who, in a continuous line, escorts arriving guests from curbside to the museum entry.



Photo right-Mid East Region cadets welcome the 410 invited guests from 50 states, Puerto Rico, and District of Columbia through the portal of the Smithsonian National Air and Space museum.



The Gala Banquet area seen directly under historic planes hanging from ceiling. Clockwise: Charles Lindberg's "Spirit of St. Louis", America's first jet aircraft P-59; Boeing X-15; Apollo Space Capsule; and Wright Brothers plane.



Photo left-Cadets from D.C., Maryland and Virginia Squadrons provide guide services to guests throughout the museum.



Photo right-Subchaser Lt. Col. Martin Miller autographs "From Maine to Mexico", a book about the CAP Subchasers.

## **WING COMMANDER'S PROPOSAL ADOPTED**

Appearing for the very first time as a member of the CAP National Board of Directors, Florida Wing Commander Col. Matt Sharkey proposed that members of the Civil Air Patrol with 50 years of continuous membership shall be considered Lifetime Members with no further dues requirement for membership renewals. This proposal was adopted unanimously with a round of applause. One board member commented, "Outstanding recommendation, long overdue."

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## **ACTIVITY LEVEL REACHES NEW HIGH**

As a result of continuous activity buildup and mission increase, Florida Wing has been in a stepped-up response mode since the first of the year. For example in just one day, five missions were assigned to Florida Wing by the Air Force Rescue Coordination Center [AFRCC]. This operations level was further impacted by such activities as Fun 'n' Sun, Disaster Response missions/training and state-wide Sundown Patrols.

So keep alert for Col. Sharkey's establishment of a **No-Activity Weekend** for all CAP members. Obviously, this will be exclusive of Search and Rescue Missions. The announcement will be well deserved by the membership and much appreciated.

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## **MAJOR TECHNOLOGICAL ADVANCE**

In the very near future, Florida Wing will be connected to a Satellite Internet Connection Service. This will make possible the transmitting of our slow-scan photography and e-mail to any reception point via satellite. This technology will also provide a major improvement in the aerial platforms we maintain to monitor such incidents as natural disasters and traffic congestions.

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## **NEW YORK WING SQUADRON HONES SAR SKILLS**

A New York City Squadron has developed an excellent training exercise to hone the Search and Rescue capabilities of its cadet ground team members.

Many of the squadron cadets have advanced skills for performance of search and rescue missions. The most experienced can serve as scanners on air crews while others serve as members of a ground search team. Ground teams are required to know how to track an Emergency Locator Transmitter [ELT] with a Directional Finding Unit {DFU}.

In the United States, all commercial aircraft and marine vessels are required to carry an ELT. Most General Aviation aircraft also carry them as do many private boats. In the event of a collision, these instruments emit an alarm that can be electronically tracked with a DFU.

To develop and train cadets in DFU capabilities, the squadron has developed a novel, but extremely effective, training exercise. The cadets are arranged in a wide circle and one cadet is entrusted with an activated ELT. Another cadet with a DFU is placed in the middle of the circle with eyes closed. When told to open the eyes, the trainee sees a circle of fellow cadets standing with hands behind their backs and trying desperately not to stare at the cadet transmitting the alarm.

After a few such attempts the cadets are able to pinpoint the cadet holding the ELT. In the field, such capability is more than adequate to triangulate the location of a downed aircraft. This training instills in the cadets experience, a sense of duty, and the essentials of leadership.

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## **WING LIAISON OFFICE CHANGES**

The Florida Wing Liaison Office currently is in the process of implementing numerous organization changes. Col. Angley will now be addressed as Mr. Angley and his title shall be State Director of the CAP Liaison Office. Master Sergeants Ray Rodriguez and Randy Whitesell now carry the title of Deputy State Director. All three members of the Liaison Office are no longer affiliated with the Air Force but are now Government Service Personnel. They will wear civilian dress rather than Air Force uniforms. Other changes are in the formulation stage and have not been finalized.

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*Editor's Note:* Due to the significance of the CAP 60th Anniversary, its GALA and the Wreath Laying Ceremony at Arlington National Cemetery, numerous submitted stories and photos could not be included in this issue. For those news materials where time is not of the essence to the content, every effort will be extended to incorporate them in the Summer Issue. Thanks for your understanding and keep sending your great stories.

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**CIVIL AIR PATROL**  
**FLORIDA WING CONFERENCE 2002**  
**Friday, May 31 - Sunday, June 2**

**HYATT SARASOTA**  
1000 Boulevard of the Arts, Sarasota, Florida 34236

*If you attended the last two Wing conferences, you know how successful the combination of a terrific hotel, central location, great city, and an extensive and informative program can be. Not surprisingly, this year's attendance is expected to top Orlando's, so don't miss Florida Wing Conference 2002 Sarasota!*

**CONFERENCE SITE**

On Sarasota Bay adjacent to the science museum and performing arts center in downtown Sarasota, the 12-story Hyatt Sarasota hotel and conference center will be home to Florida Wing Conference 2002. This landmark hotel has added a state-of-the-art conference center and Florida Wing will have exclusive use of the entire center as well as several additional meeting rooms. This convenient central location off I-75 is easily reached from all corners of Florida, with Tampa International Airport just 50 minutes away and Sarasota/Bradenton Airport 5 minutes from the hotel.

Be sure to bring your family and plan extra time Friday or Sunday afternoon for

- swimming in the Gulf of Mexico on beautiful Lido Beach,
- watching the dramatic sunsets on Siesta Key,
- a tour of the beautiful Selby Botanical Gardens,
- visiting the shops and restaurants on St. Armand's Circle,
- strolling downtown to one of the many art galleries and bistros, and
- casual dockside dining at the Boathouse on the grounds of the Hyatt.

***Reserve now! At \$79, these luxury rooms will go fast.***

The Hyatt hotel reservation deadline is May 1 but these luxury rooms at this special conference rate of only \$79.00 (single or double) are limited and the block will fill up before May, so call the Hyatt Sarasota at 800-233-1234 now to reserve your room.

**CONFERENCE SCHEDULE**

Check-in begins Friday at 2 pm and continues until 9 pm. Plan on attending the first general session at 8 am Saturday morning and then fill your morning and afternoon agenda with seminars and workshops covering a wide variety of topics for both seniors and cadets. There are more than 18 unique seminars planned to fill 75-minute concurrent sessions, as well as the CAP bookstore, two half-day workshops, the DDR theater with short videos shown throughout the day, and the Cadet Academic Competition. In addition, a Friday Aerospace Education Workshop for teachers, CAP aerospace education officers, and interested CAP members is planned by SER.

## BANQUET

Join National Commander, Brig. Gen. Richard Bowling; National Vice Commander, Col. Dwight Wheless; Southeast Region Commander, Col. Antonio Pineda, Jr.; and Florida Wing Commander, Col. Matthew Sharkey; as well as Wing staff officers and instructors; and many of your CAP colleagues for the formal banquet in the Hyatt ballroom Saturday evening at 7 pm. Your guests are most welcome to attend.

## REGISTRATION

**Registration savings** will be in effect until May 30 so send in your check and registration now. For seniors, it is \$35 for conference registration only and \$65 combined conference and banquet. At the door, the fees go up to \$42 for conference registration and \$75 combined.

**Banquet fees** for cadets, seniors, and guests are \$45 from April 1 to May 30 and \$55 at the door.

**Cadets have a special rate** of only \$20 from April 1 to May 30, and \$25 at the door. Their combination conference and banquet fees are \$55 through May 30 and \$65 at the door. Cadets taking part in the Wing Academic Competition will have conference registration fees waived but must preregister.

**Squadron commanders will receive a 10% discount** if they pay before May 30 with a single check for a group of 10 or more from their unit.

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## REGISTRATION FORM

Register on the website [www.flwg.cap.gov](http://www.flwg.cap.gov) and send your check with this form to Civil Air Patrol, Florida Wing, 2700 Eagle Staff Court, MacDill Air Force Base, FL 33621

Last Name \_\_\_\_\_ First Name \_\_\_\_\_

Sr/Cadet \_\_\_\_\_ Rank \_\_\_\_\_ UNIT (SER-FL-XXX) \_\_\_\_\_ Group \_\_\_\_\_

Day Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Eve Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Conference (only) \_\_\_\_\_ Conference & Banquet \_\_\_\_\_ Banquet (only) \_\_\_\_\_

Date of payment \_\_\_\_\_ Total for this registration \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Questions? Email me at [CAPSharonTaylor@aol.com](mailto:CAPSharonTaylor@aol.com)

Captain Sharon Taylor, Conference Coordinator

**See you at Florida Wing Conference 2002!**

# FLORIDA WING

## CIVIL AIR PATROL

Where  
*imagination*  
takes FLIGHT



<http://flwg.cap.gov>

### Civil Air Patrol Florida Wing

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