

# FLORIDA FACTS



Florida Wing News Magazine | Spring 2003 Issue 1 Volume 8

<http://flwg.cap.gov>



## CAP SERVING

NASA, DoD &

HOMELAND SECURITY



## COMMANDER'S COMMENTS

As many of you have heard or will read in this issue of FLORIDA FACTS, the Florida Wing was tasked with a Homeland Security [HLS] Mission by NASA and the 45th Space Wing [Patrick Air Force Base] to provide an “eyes in the skies” around the Cape Canaveral shuttle launch facility. Many a volunteer came forward to be involved in this important mission, perhaps the most important one in years for the Florida Wing, to prove that we can perform with the utmost professionalism and with an eye toward safe and seamless interoperability with other agencies.

Based on the success of our first Department of Defense/NASA mission, Capt Maher recently was advised by them that our services are required in the near and long term. We have now become a member of the cohesive team that provides security for every DoD launch, and possibly for future commercial and NASA space launches. With this announcement, come some issues we must heed. First, as I stated previously, is our need to always perform in a professional, safe, and top level of readiness for these missions. Secondly, we must absolutely follow the directions provided by NASA, 45th SW and the CAP leadership team coordinating these missions. Thirdly, some assets, at the last minute, may be needed or moved for mission usage. Not all can be involved, so these missions will be “by invite” type events, but I am sure that many across the wing will be involved. As a side note, I am currently researching software that will allow our entire CAP air fleet to be scheduled on-line. This will make possible our planning teams to view all of our events, with instant, precise access as to what our personnel are doing and with what assets.

In addition to these missions, we are currently working with the United States Coast Guard in providing Coastal Patrol from Fort Pierce to Key West in

two separate legs. This mission is now in planning and will possibly be operative by the time you read this issue.



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

Many of you have asked, “How do we get involved?” The Cape Canaveral mission and the Eglin Air Force Fire Watch mission are based on the same things we are trained to do for Search and Rescue and Disaster Relief. We get into the sky, fly assigned grids looking for a target or item, communicate what we observe. Our mission base provides ground support and ground search team personnel are guided to the target. Currently, there is no advanced specialty training required, except for the digital photo work which

we practice during EPIC CD Training, DREX, and SAREX events. Each member should be very proficient in Emergency Services training as found in the CAP Regulations and be ready to respond to our nation’s needs.

Florida Wing continues to lead in assisting our country and state. Col George C. Vogt, USAF, Commander, Civil Air Patrol-USAF recently stated, “The relationship between the Air Force and its auxiliary has never been stronger. The Air Force is committed to a vision of working hand-in-hand with Civil Air Patrol as they mold the youth of America, while working diligently to preserve their future. More than 62,000 Civil Air Patrol patriots stand ready to serve their country, and the Air Force is proud to be a part of that team.”

**Finally, the following members of the Florida Wing team deserve to be recognized for their outstanding involvement in Operation Vigilant Partner: Captain Chip Maher, Captain John McWhorter, Lt Colonel David Lehtonen and State Director Jerry Angley.**

## **COLUMBIA SPACE SHUTTLE HEROES WE SHALL REMEMBER!**

**FLORIDA WING OFFICERS:**  
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**Col Matthew R. Sharkey**

*Vice Commander*  
**Lt Col Wes Hannah**  
*Vice Commander*  
**Maj Joseph J. Martin**

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**Capt Dan Thompson**

**FLORIDA FACTS** is published quarterly for members and friends of Florida Wing-Civil Air Patrol.

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

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

Deadlines for submission to FLORIDA FACTS:  
1 March, 1 June, 1 September, 1 December.  
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Commander Rick Husband, Pilot William McCool, Payload Commander Michael Anderson, Kalpana Chawla, David Brown, Laurel Clark, and Ilan Ramon, with the highest of expectations, boarded the Columbia Space Shuttle on 16 January, 2003.

This stalwart crew, as did all precedent crews, were off on an exploration, experimentation, and discovery mission for the benefit of mankind. The Columbia's crew completed 80 plus scientific research experiments during their time in orbit.

Security had been extremely tight for this 16 day scientific research mission because of the presence of Ilan Ramon, the first Israeli astronaut. Columbia had been aiming for a landing at 9:16 a.m. EST on Saturday, 1 February. In 42 years of U.S. human space flights, there had never been an accident during the descent to Earth or landing.

At an altitude of 207,000 feet over north-central Texas, at 9 a.m., traveling at 12,500 mph was when Mission Control lost contact and tracking data with Columbia. The mission had experienced a tragic disintegration.

NASA vowed to search for the cause, fix it, assure that it would never occur again and move on. NASA Administrator, Sean O'Keefe said, "When we look to the stars! We see heroes. We shall never forget their service to our nation." We of the U.S. Air Force Auxiliary/CAP join in that pledge.

# PROP WASH

Col Matt Sharkey advised the Florida Wing Staff and the Group Commanders that Florida Wing successfully completed 385 U.S. Air Force Search and Rescue missions and 2 Homeland Security deployments as of 31 December, 2002. Sharkey further advised the staff at his Wing Status 2003 meeting, "Due to the world situation, 2003 expects to be far more active in Homeland Security responses and, of course, for Search and Rescue missions which just seem to increase every year."

Richard L. Anderson, Col, U.S. Air Force sent a new years greeting to all. Regrettably, FLORIDA FACTS went to press prior to its arrival. But good wishes are always welcome. Col. Anderson said, "From the vantage point of the Pentagon, you are doing outstanding work for our country and the Air Force, and I feel blessed to work at your sides. General Bowling and all of our region and wing commanders are leading a quality organization, and we thank you for your service to America over the last year. Godspeed to all of you and your families in 2003!" Similarly, Southeast Region Commander, Col Tony Pineda sent his good wishes to all members of the wing. *And all of us in Florida Wing wish you,*

*Col Anderson and you, Col Pineda and yours the very best of years*

Warmest of welcomes to C/Lt Col Michael Tier who joins FLORIDA FACTS staff as Production/Circulation Manager. The demands of Florida Wing's magazine intensifies with each issue and Mike will be a major adjunct in our quest to have each issue superior to the one previous.

Air Force [Retired] Colonel Rogers Porter has assumed the responsibility of Operations Officer of Group One. Col Rogers has a 40 year aviation background, is an FAA Flight Examiner Designee and is a valued asset to CAP.

Max Macauley, a free lance writer, based in Sacramento, California wrote an extensive feature article entitled "Flying Minutemen" about the Civil Air Patrol for the Veterans of Foreign Wars magazine in January. CAP's sub chasing exploits of World War II through the current services of CAP to all our citizens, our nation, states, counties and communities and into our gearing-up to meeting the demands of the newly established Department of Homeland Security are described. The article closes with "CAP will add homeland de-

fense as another important mission. CAP will carry out airborne reconnaissance of isolated areas, borders, remote landing fields, coastal zones, power plants, ports and harbors, bridges, roads, and highways to identify suspicious activity."

"In addition, CAP members also will provide training in civil defense, first aid, terrorist threat indicators, and preparations for nuclear, biological and chemical threats."

Florida Wing Commander, Col Sharkey announced that Florida continues to lead the nation as the recipient of the largest number of AFJROTC \$250 Instructor Grants, CAP Instructor Grants of \$250 and Educator [Teacher] \$250 Grants. The grants are funded by the Air Force Association and Vice President of Aerospace Education Richard Ortega advised that Florida Wing Group 3, Stuart Cadet Squadron, Lake Composite Squadron and Patrick Composite Squadron were the selected recipients.

Academic and Aviation related CAP scholarships are available to deserving cadets and senior members who meet the eligibility requirements. More than \$180,000 is available. Check it further on the CAP Web page.

## SPACE SHUTTLE COLUMBIA MISSION SERVING NASA FROM PRE-LIFTOFF TO POST TRAGEDY

For many days prior to and during the launch of the space shuttle Columbia on 16 January, 2003, Civil Air Patrol units in the Cape Canaveral, Florida area flew aerial reconnaissance security looking for unauthorized vehicles, vessels, person or persons proximate to the launch pad area.

According to a NASA official, Florida Wing aircrews were used to fly the reconnaissance missions because they were able to provide NASA's security forces with real-time aerial pictures of the launch area. NASA was the lead federal agency for this operation and mission.

Security had been tight for the 16-day scientific research mission because of the presence of Ilan Ramon, the first Israeli astronaut. Ramon, a colonel in the Israeli Air Force and a former fighter pilot, became the first man from his country to fly in space, and his presence resulted in an increase in security, not only for Columbia's launch, but also for its planned landing. Space agency officials feared his presence might make the shuttle more of a terrorist target.

Following lift off, the seven astronauts proceeded to successfully complete more than 80 scientific research experiments and on 1 February, they prepared for their return to Earth.

One week earlier NASA observed the anniversary of its only two space tragedies - the Challenger explosion on take-off which killed all seven astronauts on board and the Apollo spacecraft fire that killed John Grissom and his two crewmen on 27 January, 1967.

Immediately following the first reports of the shuttle's destruction, CAP National Head-

quarters was in contact with national and regional operations centers for the Federal Emergency Management Agency [FEMA] and the Air Force Rescue Coordination Center [AFRCC].

Within fifteen minutes after NASA's Mission Control in Houston, Texas lost contact with Space Shuttle Columbia, AFRCC was directed to begin search and rescue efforts. Lt Col Scott Morgan, AFRCC Commander, explained that the center is responsible for coordinating federal support to inland search and rescue in the continental United States. The Department of Defense's Manned Space Flight Support Office contacted AFRCC, and the two agencies began initiating checklists and operation plans for the emergency.



One of many Civil Air Patrol planes from the Florida Wing is seen performing aerial reconnaissance as part of a security mission for the Space Shuttle Columbia, as requested by NASA and authorized by the U.S. Air Force.

A search zone was established and reports of falling debris coming in from Dallas to the Florida Panhandle were analyzed and the zone was narrowed. CAP aircraft and crews from Texas, Louisiana and Florida were launched. Search and rescue efforts continued until officials determined that all seven Columbia astronauts had died and a presidential disaster declaration was issued.

CAP units in the recovery area were immediately put on search and recovery alert and remained in that status while federal and state agencies evaluated and responded to the situation. During the Search Mission Planning Phase, CAP was in continuous contact with FEMA, AFRCC, Air Force National Security Emergency Preparedness Division [AFNSEP] and the deployed Emergency Preparedness Liaison Officer in charge of Air Force Operations.

In addition, staff members in CAP's National Operations Center [NOC] at Maxwell Air

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Force Base, Alabama, maintained continuous communication with all CAP Commanders in the mission areas.

Task Force Columbia was initiated by NASA and the US Air Force Auxiliary/Civil Air Patrol was tasked, through the AF Emergency Preparedness Liaison Officer [EPLO] with air-



Civil Air Patrol air crews are thoroughly briefed prior to being deployed on search and recovery sorties for Shuttle Columbia debris in Texas.

borne shuttle debris identification missions in Texas. All missions centered around rural areas south and west of Dallas/Fort Worth.

A staff member from the CAP National Operations Center was deployed to Barksdale Air Force Base, Louisiana, to work directly with all federal agencies assigned to the shuttle debris identification mission. A senior member joined the planning team at Barksdale AFB a day later. From 8 February to 22 February, Civil Air Patrol from the Texas Wing, Nevada Wing, Arizona Wing, and the Utah Wing used 38 aircraft, flew 146 sorties, logged 352.9 hours in the search efforts. 396 personnel served on air crews, as support personnel and ground teams which located 116 targets [suspected shuttle debris]. And the search continues.

Lt Col Bobbie Daniels of Alpine, Texas is the Incident Commander and Operations Section Chief is Maj Dietrich Whisennand.

Lt Col Michael Thompson, Emergency Services Officer of the Crusader Composite Squadron, Texas Wing served as Air Operations

Director at the Primary Base at Lancaster Airport, southeast of Dallas. Col Thompson stated that low overcast, cold winds, and icing in clouds frequently grounded flights. Parallel track searches were flown and digital pictures and map sketches were turned over to ground teams for field finds. The pictures and map sketches were also sent to the FEMA/NASA team at the U.S. Navy Joint Reserve Base in Fort Worth. Col Thompson concluded, "There is a lot of junk in rural America but the mission efforts have been extremely productive." A few high probability areas in Utah and Nevada were thoroughly searched by CAP ground teams under the direction of Maj Joe Curry from CAP HQ and Lt Jim Mackey of the Arizona Wing.

Many search aircraft are equipped with digital cameras, single frame Video Downlink Systems and High Resolution Cameras provided by the National Technology Center.

Possible shuttle aluminum scraps were recently found in a remote part of Nevada. Col Matt Wallace of the Nevada Wing said the pieces were several inches long and each looked like aluminum foil. Maj John Desmarais, Chief of Emergency Services at CAP HQ remained in close interaction with all wing's personnel.

NASA Shuttle Flight Director, Mr. Paul Dye, expressed his personal appreciation for CAP's participation in this gigantic search and recovery project. He believes that negative findings are nearly as valuable as positive ones in that they allow the flight and ground team searches to progress to other grids.



Civil Air Patrol Cadet performs flight line service and is seen releasing an aircraft for one of many sorties flown.

## A DAY AND NIGHT TO REMEMBER

1 February, 2003 was a day to remember. It was the day of the Columbia shuttle disaster and was also the night of the Florida Wing Group Six Awards Banquet. Many wondered if it was appropriate for a celebration to be held in view of the morning's tragedy. After considerable deliberation it was decided to continue with the planned night. The banquet chaplain took time to memorialize the seven hero astronauts who gave their lives for all of us. They will never be forgotten.

A record breaking attendance of nearly 300 shared in the deep sense of pride experienced by each of the award recipients. An award given to Boca Raton Squadron cadet Christina Zarrilli was one of the highlights of the evening. Cadet Airman Zarrilli was announced to be the Top Winner of a national essay contest for 6th, 7th, and 8th grade students conducted by the Council for Agricultural Science and Technology [CAST]. Christina's essay "Space Mash Potatoes, Anyone?" won first place in her 'school', Congressional district, State of Florida and the Nation. This incredible honor comes with a \$3,100 savings bond and an all expense trip to Washington, D.C. for her, her parents, and her science teacher. The trip coincides with National Agriculture Week and if schedules permit, her award will be presented by President George W. Bush.

Christina was promoted to Cadet Airman 1st Class and as previously reported in FLORIDA FACTS her aspiration is to be an astronaut. Cadet Zarrilli stated that her "goal has not been dampened by today's tragic loss of the Space Shuttle Columbia and its crew. The first time potatoes were grown in

space was on the Columbia. I look forward to growing potatoes in space and someday making my fabulous mashed potatoes for my space colleagues. I learned a lot about the Biosphere project and growing food without gravity. The Civil Air Patrol's Aerospace Education Program is launching me toward my goals of becoming an astronaut and pilot."



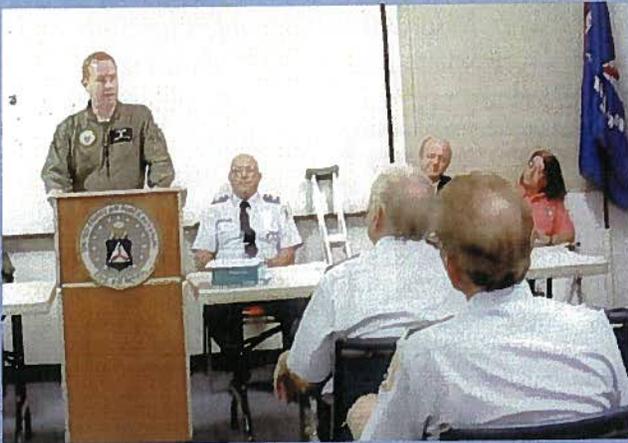
**NASA Astronaut Mike Foreman meets aspiring astronaut Cadet Airman 1st Class Christina Zarrilli of the Boca Raton Composite Squadron.**

Christina took her first powered flight and glider lessons recently. One of her most exciting experiences this year was a trip to Kennedy Space Center for the Space Shuttle Endeavor launch. While there she met NASA Administrator Sean O'Keefe and Astronaut Mike Foreman.

An equal highlight of the Awards Banquet was C/Lt Col Paul Cheval being honored as "Cadet of the Year" and receiving his award from Southeast Region Commander, Col Antonio Pineda. Cheval is from the Coral Springs Cadet Squadron and he has been accepted to the U.S. Military Academy at West Point. His acceptance of the award speech addressed issues of integrity, values, leadership and his goal of being a mentor to cadets.

Cadet Senior Master Sergeant Gary Darna of the Lantana Squadron has been appointed to the U.S. Naval Academy, the West Point Military Academy and is awaiting his acceptance at the U.S. Air Force Academy. Presenting additional well deserved awards were Florida Wing Commander, Col Matthew Sharkey, Vice Commanders Lt Col Wes Hannah and Maj Joseph Martin, Chief of Staff Lt Col William Brockman, and Group Six Commander, Lt. Col Bruce Smith.

**Submittals by  
Lt Col Harvey Bennett, Lt Col Herbert Miller, and  
Jackie Zarrilli**



Wing Commander Col Matt Sharkey visits the Naples Senior Squadron, one of 103 units he has scheduled to personally visit.



Capt Chip Maher, FLWG Emergency Services Director, briefs mission base officers during one of the many missions assigned.



Ft. Lauderdale Composite Squadron cadets prepare for flight line duty at Air Force Association Air Fair 2003, Pomona Air Park.



Homestead Air Reserve Base Encampment cadets listen attentively to military 'dining-in' dinner protocol read by Cadet Staff Officers.



Sizeable crowds continuously visited the Central Florida Composite Squadron recruiting booth at the Astronaut Sally Ride Festival.



Noncommissioned cadet officers at the Florida Wing Leadership Academy had the opportunity to interact with Cadet Officer Basic Course participants..



# LATE BREAKING NEWS



 Florida Wing is invited to serve on the State of Florida's **CFASPP** [Continuing Florida Aviation Systems Planning Process]. This important involvement results from many months of coordinative effort by Lt Col John Brennan, FLWG Director of Government Relations and Col Matt Sharkey .

**CFASPP** has the responsibility to prepare a 5 Year State-wide Aviation Plan for each of the 114 airports in the state of Florida. This plan encompasses the state's international airports such as Miami and Tampa to single runway airports like Marco Island Executive and Peter O'Night.

**CFASPP** is divided into nine Regions. All 114 airport administrators submit the improvement plans for their airports to their Regions. When approved, these plans are then submitted to the state **CFASPP**. The approval process continues to the Florida Department of Transportation, then the Legislature, the Governor, and finally to the Federal Aviation Administration in Washington, D.C. The FAA then provides 90% of the improvement costs in federal funds, the state provides 5% and the airports contribute 5% in cash or in-kind.

There is an imperative that FLCAP assures that our needs for such things as hangars, mission bases, billet with showers, tarmac space, existing facilities improvements, communication antennas, etc. are inclusions of each of these plans. Col Sharkey has selected the nine Region representatives. Lt Col Harvey Bennett will be the representative to the state **CFASPP** and program coordinator. The deadline for completion of the state-wide plan is July 2003.

 Col Matt Sharkey announced that the following cadets have been slotted and selected to participate in the International Aviation Cadet Exchange [IACE]:

**To Canada** - David Butler, Alyson Baird, Ben White, Marc Lawson. and John Kilpatrick.

**To United Kingdom** - Nathaniel Francis, and Joshua Nemser.

Col Sharkey congratulated each of these cadets and feels totally confident that they will conduct themselves in a manner that will generate admiration and regard for USAFA/CAP from our host countries.

 Southeast Region Chaplain, Lt. Col Ralph Rivers requests that every member of CAP join with him at 2100 each evening for a moment of quiet prayer that the Iraq conflict will end soon and peace will again come upon the land, not only in Iraq, but in all the nations in conflict with their neighbors. Also that our young men and women who do the fighting for us - they are our national treasures, sons and daughters, husbands and wives, mothers and fathers who face war's dangers - return to us safely and without harm.

 **AIR FORCE AUXILIARY ON HIGH ALERT**  
CAP ready to support  
**OPERATION LIBERTY SHIELD**  
National Headquarters-CAP's National Operations Center announced today that CAP, the official auxiliary of the U.S. Air Force, is fully prepared to support Operation Liberty Shield.

The CAP National Operations Center at Maxwell Air Force Base, Alabama and CAP members nationwide are ready to support the country in response to the federal government's "Orange" alert status. Selected CAP members from coast to coast who form Rapid Response Teams for both ground and air missions have been placed on 'High' alert by CAP in order to be immediately available when tasked.

All CAP resources, including emergency operations centers, aircraft and ground vehicles, have

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## HOMELAND SECURITY KEEPS NATIONAL HEADQUARTERS AND FLORIDA WING BUSY.

Major General Richard Bowling, National Commander of the U.S. Air Force Auxiliary/Civil Air Patrol, and members of his staff began an extremely demanding schedule for Homeland Security planning and technological testing which began in Washington, D.C. and concluded in Boca Raton, Florida.

NRL's mobile InfraLynx system which is rapidly deployable, interoperable communications infrastructure that provides high assurance telephony, network and radio connectivity. InfraLynx was used to restore communications in New York City in support of the World Trade Center catastrophe.



While in Washington, General Bowling and Col Drew Alexa, Coordinator of Advanced Technologies for CAP, provided an in-depth briefing to the Defense Intelligence Agency [DIA]. The meeting was arranged by Dr. John Kershenstein, Chief, Advanced Concepts Branch, NRL, and Co-Chair of DIA's MASINT Working Committee. Following the lengthy meeting, Dr. Kershenstein informed Gen Bowling and Col Alexa that the consensus of the MASINT Committee was that CAP's HSI initiative would position CAP as one of the primary national HSI assets.

Also, while in Washington, Gen Bowling, Col Larry Kauffman, Col Alexa, Major Jim Macko and Cliff Smith attended a briefing at the Naval Research Laboratory [NRL] to learn about their new state-of-the-art communications system, Software Defined Radio [SDR]. SDR can function as a stand-alone system or in conjunction with the

The CAP National Technology Center [NTC] headed by Col Drew Alexa is located on the grounds of the Defense Supply Center in Richmond, Virginia. The NTC supports the CAP Communications Program through a variety of activities including communication engineering and technical services; integration of new technologies; R&D into exploitation of the Internet in fixed and mobile environments; receives and processes new communication equipment for use by CAP Regions and Wings; and locates, acquires, processes, rehabs, and distributes previously used communications equipment obtained through federal excess property systems.

In Boca Raton, Florida the CAP's National Advanced Technical Group in conjunction with Raytheon Corporation's First Responder program conducted highly successful testing of streaming video range capability, Slow Scan modems in regular and high resolution modes, and

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Thermal Imaging from an airborne asset.

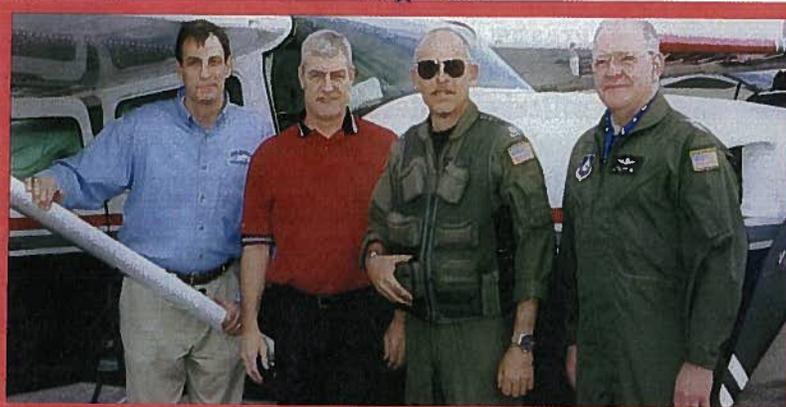
Gen Bowling; Southeast Region Commander, Col Antonio Pineda, and Florida Wing Commander, Col Mathew Sharkey worked tirelessly for days in arranging for these tests at the Boca Raton Airport. Gen Bowling stated, "What we are doing here today at Boca Raton has important significance nationwide. These tests demonstrate the capabilities of high tech communication and video/photography which are of key significance to the Homeland Security mission."

Florida Wing aircraft and air crews conducted the tests in concert with Raytheon's command and communication van. This mobile command center is designed for 'first-on-the-scene' Incident Commanders. The airborne equipment serves as 'Eyes in the Skies' for ground teams responding to possible terrorist attacks or natural disasters. Slow Scan video, Infrared photos and communication is transmitted in Real Time to the Communication Command Van. Time lags are avoided in transmission of aerial reconnaissance findings to ground receptors. All equipment was tested during daytime and nighttime scenarios. While certain of the high tech equipment surpassed expectations, some require additional fine tuning of design toward increased range effectiveness or sharpness of transmission.

CAP has received great praise from the Air Force and Department of Homeland Security for being the first to test this new air-to-ground surveillance transmission.

Col Drew Alexa, on behalf of Gen Bowling and the Advanced Technologies Group thanked the Southeast Region, Florida Wing, Group 6, and the Boca Raton Composite Squadron for the outstanding help and support which made ATG's flight tests with Raytheon a huge success. He continued, "The success of these important tests not only proved the value of the technology, but serves as a wonderful example of CAP volunteers, CAP corporate staff, and a large corporation working together to better serve our country."

The U.S. Air Force Auxiliary/CAP is considered to be a major contributor to our country's critical Homeland Security efforts. CAP's 62,000 members have excellent air/ground observation and communication assets at their disposal. CAP provides aerial reconnaissance, photography, radiological monitoring, disaster and damage assessment, search and rescue air/ground teams, and many other public services.



**l to r. two Raytheon Corporation technicians and Lt Col Russ Reichmann, FLWG DOVA, and CAP National Commander Maj Gen Richard Bowling immediately following the highly successful airborne asset testing.**

**Photo by Maj Russ Vizzi**

The all volunteer organization has 1,700 operational units located in 50 states plus Puerto Rico and District of Columbia. USAFA/CAP owns and operates 550 aircraft and 1,000 vehicles. The air strength is substantially augmented by member-owned aircraft. All units are linked by a network of 15,000 radios, and

have trained airborne photography and sensor imaging capabilities. CAP has more than 60 years experience in emergency management and rapid response for our nation.

A coast-to-coast multi-layered communication system is in daily use. To always be better prepared to assist our nation, CAP members are in continuous training mode to improve mission capabilities. These missions include aerial reconnaissance; airborne imagery of critical infrastructure which includes dams, pipelines, bridges, railroads, power plants, seaports, airports, etc.; counter drug and counter narco-terrorism; overland and over-water aerial reconnaissance; communications-relay platforms; radar evaluation and calibrations; disaster relief and damage assessment; crisis and consequence management; and 85% of all U.S. Air Force inland search and rescue missions.

**Editor's Note: Inputs for this article were provided by CAP National Headquarters, Advanced Technologies Group, Lt Col Harvey Bennett, Lt Col Karl Geng and Maj Russ Vizzi.**

# WINGS WIG-WAG

Maj Gen Richard Bowling has requested that all who serve as air crews and ground teams frequently recite the following 2003 Safety Pledge, "I pledge to do my part to *foster a safer environment* during all CAP activities, to *be a responsible steward* of CAP resources and to *fully prepare myself* for the challenging missions that serve America."

Believe it or not! Col Matt Sharkey has pledged to visit every unit in the state by 2005. *This Editor believes he is intending to outdo President George Washington in leaving behind plaques reading "Col Mathew Sharkey Slept Here."*

Wing Commander Sharkey recently appointed four Wing Staff members - Maj Ray Spengler, Information Technology Manager; Cpt Tom Carson, Deputy Wing Chaplain; Cpt Ricardo Shaw, Director of Professional Development; and 2Lt Rudy Korpas, Director of Logistics. We wish them luck and know they will lend their special skills and talents to the betterment of Florida Wing.

The newest chaplain in the wing is Chaplain Cpt Michael Staples, Lakeland Squadron. The Florida Wing goal of having a chaplain or MLO for every unit is rapidly becoming a reality.

As of 1 February, membership in Florida Wing has increased to 4,106. Group Five has 526 which is the largest membership of any Group. Group Six is a close second with 485 members. Recruiting is on the rise and of even greater significance, retention is on the rise as well. All recruiting officers are deserving of accolades for their efforts. Our national membership has exceeded 63,000. This is the highest increase of new members in any single year in more than 12 years.

The second "Operation Check-In" was successfully completed. An airborne repeater was flown from Lake City south to Alligator Alley [I-75N]. A second airborne repeater wasn't able to be flown. The flight was flown at 8,000 to 10,000 feet altitude. Net Control Stations kept check-in logs and they changed every 20 minutes as the flight progressed. Alabama and Georgia Wings were invited to participate. The numbers and the range of check-ins exceeded expectations.

A Homeland Security brochure which describes CAP's role is available at <[www.capnhq.gov/nhq/es/HS.html](http://www.capnhq.gov/nhq/es/HS.html)> Also on that page is a point paper on HLS and two briefings on CAP's resources and capabilities.

CAP NHQ's PR Specialist, Melanie LeMay advises that the book "Communicating In A Crisis" [Number SMA 02-3641] is available *free* from the U.S. Dept. of Health and Human Services. This is one of the best books on dealing with the media about critical incidents. To order write to SAMHSA, 5600 Fishers Lane, Rockville, MD 20857 or call 1-800-789-2647.

In May of 2002, Erik Lindbergh, grandson of Charles Lindbergh, successfully recreated his grandfather's flight from Farmington, NY to Paris, France in 17 hours, seven minutes.....75 years after.

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

The following official letter from the Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services dated February 22, 2003 was sent to Deputy Wing Commander Lt Col Wellesley Hannah:

*Re: Solicitation of Contributions*  
*Based on information received from your parent organization and pursuant to Chapter 496, your organization is not required to register with our Department because of its governmental status. Section 496 403, F.S., waives the applicability of the Solicitation of Contributions Act for such bona fide government entities.*

[signed] Sophie T. Campfield,  
Regulatory Consultant.

# MISSION MEMOS

Capt. Chip Maher, Director FLWG ES

## ANOTHER LIFE IS SAVED!

**Mission 03M0018A** - Napoleon Bonaparte once said that in war, "Timing is everything." That axiom certainly proved out for this mission. CAP Lt Col Gary Nelson was just preparing to take off from Jacksonville Airport when he picked up an Emergency Locator Transmitter [ELT] alarm on his radio. Cpt Chip Maher, FLWG Director of Emergency Services was advised and he told Nelson to standby while he checked with Air Force Rescue Coordination Center [AFRRC]. Maher received confirmation of an aircraft crash in Georgia with a survivor. When Air Force learned that we had a crew in the aircraft on standby ready for take-off they assigned the mission to FLWG.

Fifteen minutes from receiving the first advisory, our aircraft was airborne enroute to Brantley, GA. The Fernandina and Jacksonville squadrons were alerted to man their radios for relay communication. The downed aircraft was reported to be a red/white/blue Cessna 150 on a flight from St. Simon Island to Macon, GA. The CAP aircrew found the downed aircraft after only two sweeps with their Directional Finder. The coordinates were relayed to the GA Forestry helicopter and the Georgia Emergency Management Team with Police and Fire-Rescue brought the slightly wounded pilot to safety. A "find" and a "save" credited to the Georgia and Florida Wings. An interesting postscript! The pilot was a former CAP member and a former Georgia Wing Mission Coordinator. So we not only saved a life, we saved one of our own.

Col Matt Sharkey said, "This mission was a classic example of a dual-wing cross border operation and a primary example that emergencies have no borders. Cpt Maher performed in his usual professional manner as did all Florida and Georgia mission personnel. Well done to all."

## CAP PROVIDES SECURITY ASSIST TO AF

On 5 March FLWG Emergency Services was requested to provide mission support to the 45th Space Wing, USAF for the Delta IV launch scheduled for lift-off on

March 8. Capt Mike Cook, Incident Commander assembled aircraft and crews and the FLWG Forward Control Team [FCT] was alerted for communications and technical support.

The Patrick Composite Squadron was established as the CAP Command Post and a Military Support Authorization [MSA] was issued for providing billeting and mess throughout the mission at Patrick Air Force Base.

The mission was for the providing of Single Frame Video [SSTV] equipped aircraft to fly specific profiles over Cape Canaveral as part of the total security coverage. In addition, aircraft and crews were to be on ready alert during the actual launch to provide imaging support in the event of any contingency.

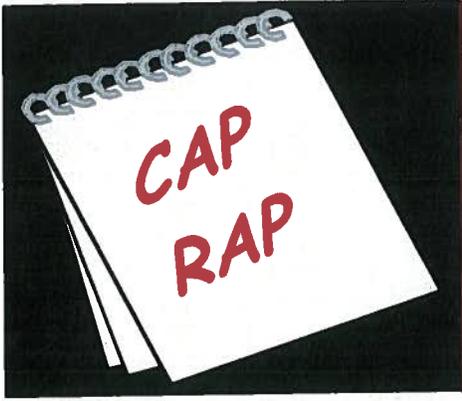
March 7th was a full day of mission briefing and formalization of procedures with the Range Operations Control Officer and all aircraft was moved into position. March 8th flight operations were completed with the required time over the target area without a single break in coverage. Unfortunately the Delta IV launch was scrubbed due to technical difficulties and the mission was to be repeated on

March 9. Operations were again running perfectly until a second launch scrub was announced and the mission was to go again the next day. All personnel were relieved for mess and billet bed-down.

On March 10, all flights and SSTV coverage went off without a hitch and the alert planes were all ready for instant take-off. Although delayed, the Delta IV was launched and lift-off was superb. The 45th Space Wing were very pleased with the mission support CAP provided and FLWG ES is already scheduled for future missions. Capt Chip Maher stated, "This was a great mission for Florida Wing and Civil Air Patrol. Our interaction with the Air Force was at peer level. We were part of the team and treated as such. On behalf of Col Matt Sharkey, all participants are thanked for giving so generously of their time and expertise toward making this mission so successful."

Homeland Security and Air Force missions for CAP are expanding rapidly and they are requiring higher levels of technical capability and experience. We are not just flying Search and Rescue missions and Disaster Relief missions. There is an emphatic need for all CAP members to keep up with their training and to expand their tasking capabilities.





 NASA is recruiting K-12 educators to join the astronaut corps. Teachers who are interested in joining the Educator Astronaut Program may apply using the Educator Astronaut website at <http://edspace.nasa.gov>. The teachers will be trained to perform all the functions and responsibilities that the agency's Mission Specialist Astronauts are qualified to perform. The application deadline is 30 April 2003.

 CMSgt Teresa Margarita Zambrano of the Tampa Cadet Squadron has been accepted in the West Point Military Academy, following her nomination from Senator Bill Nelson. Teresa reports to the academy in July 2003.

 Cpt Margarita Mesones has been appointed as commander of the Homestead Air Reserve Base Composite Squadron, replacing Maj Raymond Hatfield who has been placed on active duty with the Army Reserve. Cpt Adrian Casula has moved into the position of commander of the Miami One Squadron. FLWG Commander, Col Matt Sharkey made note that we have two outstanding officers replacing two equally excellent officers for two fine squadrons.

 Also accepted at West Point Academy is Cadet/Lt Col Paul Cheval. National Headquarters recently posted the EAKER #1163 Award as being approved for Cadet Cheval. This summer, Paul will be the Cadet Commander of the encampment.

 Col Sharkey announced the appointment of Cpt John McWhorter as Homeland Security Manager for Florida Wing. Cpt McWhorter is a former Air Force pilot and has worked diligently as HLS Air Ops Director.

 A mother and daughter team is very active in the Charlotte County Composite Squadron. 1Lt Nancy Mazzara has her daughter fully involved in the CAP program. Amanda is a C/2Lt with 6 years of service. She recently soloed and in August will apply for her private license. Soon thereafter she has scheduled herself for an instrument rating and then a commercial license. To say that 1Lt Mazzara is proud would be a gross understatement.

Lt Tom Ratliff, PAO

 The Ft. Lauderdale Composite Squadron considers itself 'extremely unique' with Mitchell Lazore serving as Cadet Commander. Mitchell is of Mohawk descent and is registered as a Native American. He is keenly aware of his wonderful ancestry and culture and has visited his father's homestead in upstate New York near the St. Lawrence River.

Cadet Lazore joined CAP in 1999 and has diligently come

through the ranks to become the Cadet Commander. Cadet Lazore says he has learned a great deal about leadership and, ideally, he is given many opportunities to practice what he has learned.

Lt Col Virginia Montalvo, Commander,  
Ft. Lauderdale Composite Squadron

 Under the Directorship of Lt Col Harvey Bennett, the Florida Wing Directorate of Marketing/Public Relations is reactivated. Its purpose is to promote CAP to the public, the media, government agencies, legislators, and all decision makers within our communities and country. Additionally, training and materials will be provided to the Public Affairs Officers of all units.

When asked what he perceived was the major challenge he has to confront, Bennett said, "During World War II, there was valid reason for keeping the existence of CAP a secret. There is no reason for the Civil Air Patrol to be a secret now. We know why we exist, we know our capabilities and dedication, and we know the services we provide to our communities and nation. The problem is, so many who should know, don't. We intend to change that."

"We need every member of FLWG to be a public affairs promoter. Everything we do to serve the public must be brought to the attention of the public. This is especially true now that we are deeply involved with Homeland Security. All CAP members must know who their PAO is. Feed stories to them. Don't worry about composition, spelling or grammar. Our PAO team members will assist. Let's get the CAP story out."

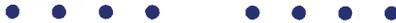


# From The MAILBAG

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

Wonderful job done in producing the FLORIDA FACTS. Without a doubt, the best I have seen!

**Major General Richard Bowling**  
USAFA/CAP National Commander



I received my issue of FLORIDA FACTS yesterday and I am highly impressed with the publication's professional appearance, journalistic quality, and attention to useful details for your members. I have read many CAP periodicals from regions, wings, and squadrons over the last 30+ years, and the Florida Wing news magazine is at the top of the quality tier!

I have shared my copy with Brig Gen David E. Clary [HQ USAF Director of Homeland Security] and other senior AF leaders here at the Pentagon.

My thanks to Col Sharkey and Col Pineda for their quality leadership.

**Richard L. Anderson, Col, USAF**  
Chief, Air Force Auxiliary/CAP Division  
Air Force Directorate of Homeland Security



Thank you for running the story of Timothy Medeiros in June. It's good that you let people know that the future of our country is a bit brighter if the cadets of CAP are allowed to shine. They are great kids and have fabulous mentors. Thanks for what the magazine does for our kids. Without that and all the senior members, it would be a very scary place for our youth.

**Debie Medeiros**



Each issue amazes me that it's better than the issues before.

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

It is a fantastically interesting, informative, and professional magazine.

**Lt Col Harry Jones**  
Southeast Region Director of Operations



Recently returned home from deployment and came across the article in the Fall issue about N736EL's "retirement". I want you to know how much I appreciated that article. As a 2Lt in the Green River Composite Squadron in Washington State I flew 'Echo Lima' when she was a new pup. In addition to the missions you recounted in Florida, she had many fine hours doing search and rescue in the Cascades and Olympics, to missions for the Air Force to verify their low level training routes were safe for fast movers to fly, I believe Echo Lima was the first aircraft allowed into the Mt. St. Helens restricted area to initiate SAR coordination. It is indeed gratifying to know that such a distinguished War Horse has been allowed to pasture in such a dignified manner.

**Ronald M. Hudspeth**  
Cpt CAP, Maj Florida Air National Guard



Thank you for FLORIDA FACTS. It is an inspiration and I wish New York Wing could have been as good. I was commander in 1972 to 1978.

**Paul Halstead**  
Founder-Civil Air Patrol



Receiving FLORIDA FACTS is the highlight of my day. The Winter Issue is especially interesting as it contains the article about Lt Col Evelyn Holden who was a member of the Ground Observer Corps. What memories that brought back of my service with them in Boston, Mass. Great days before the DEW line was in place.

**1Lt Cynthia Shaw, Treasure Coast Composite Squadron**



## CAP COLOR GUARD SEEN BY MILLIONS

The Inaugural Grand Prix of St. Petersburg proved to be an international stage for Florida Wing CAP and the Northside Cadet Squadron.



More than 400 local, national, and international reporters covered the event with an estimated 175

million viewers from 90 countries. The cadet color guard led by C/TSgt Mike Admire presented the colors during the televised national anthem for the opening of the Grand Prix. The next venue for the color guard will be several home games of the Major League Baseball Tampa Bay Devil Rays later this year.

1Lt Greg Crist, Group 8 PAO

Brandon Cadet Squadron bid farewell to Cpt Christine Ferry as commander of the squadron and welcomed Lt Charles Dion as the new senior leader. Lt Dion has vast experience in leadership and organization management working for the past 9 years with Florida Medical Quality Assurance. The Brandon Cadet Squadron also bid farewell to Cadet Commander David Butler. Lt Col Butler advances to the position of Group 3 Deputy Cadet Commander.

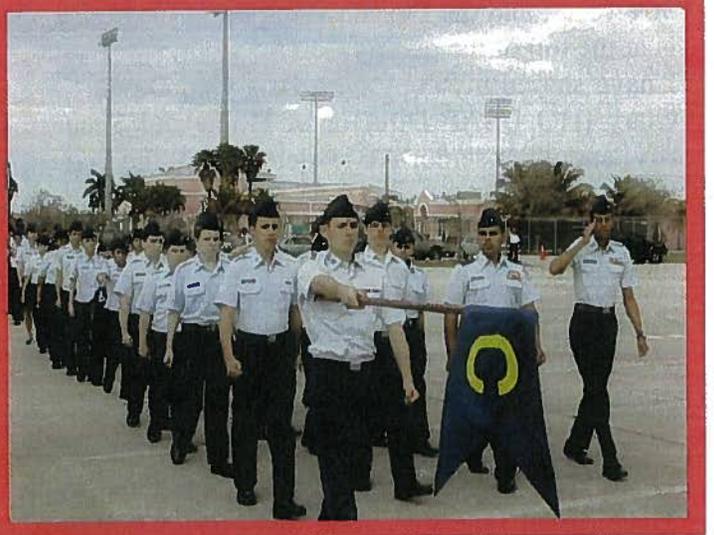
S/M Dave Cook, PAO

Clearwater Composite Squadron's C/CMSgt Sarah Vogt commands the color guard and positions them in front of such dignitaries as Governor Jeb Bush, senators, congressmen, mayors and many other prominent political and military figures at ceremonies that request their presence. The Wall of Fame hangs proudly inside her squadron where many pictures display her color guard at these events.

1Lt Greg Crist, Group 8 PAO

Group 8 Cadets attended the Winter Encampment held at the Homestead Sports Complex in Homestead, FL. Following check-in, the cadets headed to their rooms to catch up on some much needed sleep, while the staff officers attended a meeting to work out last-minute details and to discuss various ways to challenge the 'doolies' [first-timers].

The next morning, doolies were awakened to the sound of complete chaos. Staff members banged on buckets while shouting "Hit the Walls." The doolies knew that the encampment had officially begun. The tour of Homestead Air Reserve Base was a memorable experience. Over the two weekends, the students worked with liquid nitrogen, static electric-



ity and many other educational experiments and activities. Aerospace Education classes were presented in an exciting way and the cadets looked forward to each class. Proper wearing of the uniform, room inspections, and close order drill kept all on their toes. Graduation ceremonies were the unforgettable climax of a memorable encampment.

Inputs by C/2Lt Sarah Vogt, 1Lt Greg Crist, Lt Col Virginia Montalvo and Lt Col Robert Masiker

"The Rogue" Team, coached by 1Lt David Leali took first place in Drill Team Competition and the Tamiami Composite Squadron coached by Cpt Stack took first place in Color Guard. Onward to SER!

Continued from Page 9

been inspected for readiness, and CAP radio networks are conducting regular communication tests.

CAP has more than 63,000 volunteer members nationwide. Its members are trained to perform aerial and ground missions for homeland security, disaster relief, and search and rescue. CAP owns some 550 single-engine aircraft, the largest privately-owned fleet in the nation, and also can use numerous other member-owned aircraft.

To perform security missions, CAP aircraft can be outfitted with advanced technology sensors and video imaging equipment. CAP aircraft can fly "low and slow", and offer a cost-effective alternative to other reconnaissance methods.

"We have members performing missions for our nation all over the country every day," said CAP Executive Director Al Allenback, who is a retired Air Force Colonel. "Their training and experience will be especially important now as our nation undertakes critical precautions to ensure homeland security. The commitment of these civilian CAP members represents the spirit of volunteerism at its finest. All of these men and women and our cadets are contributing their own time and resources to serve our country when we need it most."

Civil Air Patrol performs 95 percent of continental U.S. inland search and rescue missions, as tasked by the Air Force Rescue Coordination Center at Langley Air Force Base, Virginia. Its volunteers also perform missions at the request of the federal, state and local agencies. Most recently, CAP members flew security over the launch site of the space shuttle Columbia and later assisted in the Columbia shuttle recovery.

CAP also takes a leading role in aerospace education and serves as mentors to America's youth through CAP Cadet Programs.



#### **CAP OPERATIONAL PLAN FOR HOMELAND SECURITY SUPPORT**

##### **Types of Support CAP will Provide:**

- Airborne reconnaissance of isolated areas, border areas, remote landing areas, coastal areas, ports and harbors, and critical infrastructure to identify suspicious activity.
- Airborne transportation of personnel, blood and organs, etc.
- Disaster and damage assessment.

- Airborne single-frame and full motion video imaging.
- Manning state and local communications and emergency operation centers.
- Discrete communications support; qualified communications personnel. Fixed-base stations throughout the nation, mobile radios and communications vehicles, handheld transceivers and portable kits, phone patches - HF capability, and airborne communications relay platforms.
- Qualified emergency services mission/incident commanders.
- Radiological monitoring.
- Flight line supervisors and operations.
- Administrative support.
- Provide training to the civilian community in civil defense, first aid, terrorist threat indicators, and nuclear, biological, and chemical threat preparations.
- Augment civilian and military authorities in damage assessment, recovery teams and security.

##### **CAP Assets:**

- Over 62,000 volunteers in over 1,700 communities across the nation.
- Command and control structure that reaches to the local community and supports the Air Force Rescue Coordination Center and Air Force Emergency Preparedness Agency control centers.
- Air and ground search and rescue experts.
- 550 corporate aircraft and hundreds of member-owned aircraft.
- 3,000 mission pilots.
- 2,055 mission pilots and 1,495 support personnel screened by DEA and U.S. Customs Service.
- 933 ground search and rescue teams trained to survive in variety of conditions.
- 647 chaplains, 170 Moral Leadership Officers and a nationwide JAG Corps.
- 5,500 fixed-land radio stations and over 10,000 mobile radios.
- Nearly 1,000 ground vehicles.
- CAP can launch an aircraft in less than 2 hours at an average cost of \$90 per hour.

## E-MAIL EXTRACTS



The Delta IV Launch 08 - 10 March AAR Mission was AWESOME! I can't adequately express my admiration for you all and the pride felt in being even remotely associated with this mission. Thanks Florida!

Al Allenback, CAP Executive Director

Congratulations! Great work and good mission report. Thanks to all your folks for their good work.

Bruce Marshall, Air Force Association

I am extremely proud of my people and the efforts they have given to participate on one of the most important missions we have been involved with over the last 30 years. This mission, and the many more that will follow, is a true testament to the nature of our organization..

Col Mathew Sharkey, FLWG Commander

I saw a note from Ben Bass to the Editor of FLORIDA FACTS complementing him on its quality. You might remember the editor, Buddy Harris, is one of our CAP Coastal Patrol pilots. If you read it closely, you will see that he has been recognized by the SE Region as the Public Affairs Officer of the year. He is not only the editor, but photographer and award recipient all in one. I also saw an article in FLORIDA FACTS about Col Bass being recognized for 50 or more years of CAP service and he has been made an Honorary Member, waiving membership fee. This new policy results from Florida Wing's Col Sharkey's proposal to the National Executive Committee. Many of you now will be receiving this waiver and even plaques in recognition of your faithful service.

Perry Snell

Editor's Note: Perry Snell is a Founder of the Civil Air Patrol and a former Submarine Patrol/Coastal Patrol pilot.

The CAP Honor Guard from Northside Squadron

was seen by over 175-million viewers in 90 countries while they were presenting the colors at the Grand Prix of

St. Petersburg. Over 400 Press Credentials were issued for the event. What an exciting event for the cadets with over 60,000 in attendance at the race. As St. Petersburg Mayor Rick Baker said, "You can't buy this kind of publicity."

Greg Crist, PAO, Group 8

Effective immediately, Lt Col Mike Brown will resume the duties of Chief of Emergency Services Administration [DOSA]. We thank Lt Col Virginia Cullity for her hard work and performance as the DOSA for the past 20 months.

Congressman Adam Putnam presented C/2Lt Christopher Catello with the General Billy Mitchell Award . Chris is with the Polk County Composite Squadron.

Many of you are aware that FLWG has been involved in a number of special missions and some of you have heard "strange rumor mill things". Security controls of these missions prevented us from generally informing the members and even briefing personnel over the phone or by e-mail. Several of the participants did not even know what the mission was about until they arrived at mission base. On one of the missions, even Col Sharkey was in the dark for two days while in Washington, until his return for a 'face to face' briefing. These missions can be totally real world with very serious implications and it is hoped that the members understand why details cannot be released as to where we flew or how much we flew. Suffice it to say we flew a lot and in some spectacular places.

Capt Chip Maher, Director, FLWG ES

**UNITED STATES AIR FORCE AUXILIARY  
FLORIDA WING CIVIL AIR PATROL  
2002 YEAR IN REVIEW**



**TO SERVE FLORIDA BY DEVELOPING OUR  
STATE'S YOUTH; PERFORMING LOCAL AND  
STATE EMERGENCY AND HUMANITARIAN  
MISSIONS; AND EDUCATING OUR CITIZENS  
ON THE IMPACT OF AVIATION AND SPACE.**



# Training Tomorrow's

# Cadet Programs

[www.flcadet.com](http://www.flcadet.com)



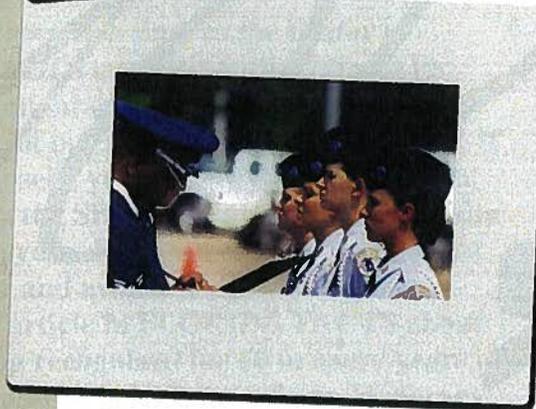
## Cadet Leader Training

Enhanced leadership training is offered on a yearly basis for cadet officers. More advanced cadets are eligible to attend the Cadet Officer Basic Course where they are educated in areas such as time management, effective management of peers, problem solving, and more. Less advanced, junior cadets, are eligible to attend the Florida Leadership Academy which teaches citizenship, patriotism, followership and basic cadet leadership principles.



## Activities

An important part of the Civil Air Patrol cadet program includes a program that is designed to place youth into the cockpit of small general aviation aircraft. Nationally, the Civil Air Patrol flew 16,318 hours of powered aircraft flights, and 6,724 sorties of glider flights during the year.

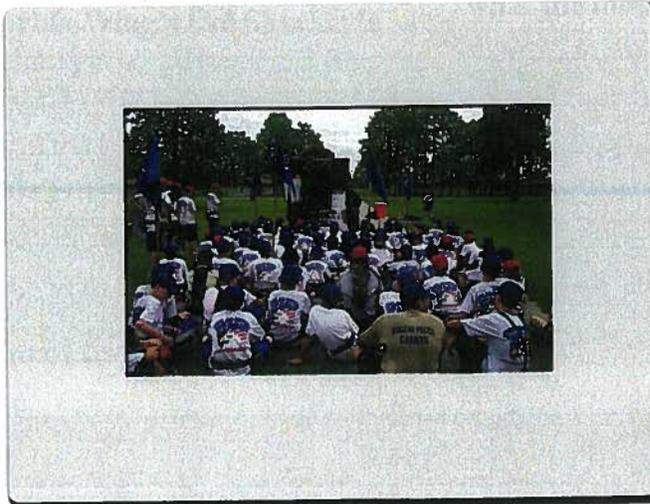


## Special Activities Selection Board

The Florida Wing Special Activities Selection Board brought 127 cadets to compete for the coveted slots at the summer national activities. Some of these activities include International Air Cadet Exchange, National Flight Encampments, Space Command Familiarization Course, Cadet Officer School, and USAF Pararescue Orientation, among many more. The Florida Wing Cadet of the Year is also determined at this event, where the top cadets from each phase compete in front of the selection boards to determine which cadet is better suited to represent the wing in the field of academics, athletics, and citizenship.

## Cadet Competition

Teams from all over the state of Florida come together to compete in both the cadet drill team and color guard competitions. The Florida Wing 2002 Drill Team advanced to Regional competition in February of 2002. The Florida Wing all-female Color Guard team won the national title held at the Air Force Academy last summer, placing first in all seven events of the competition.



## Cadet Encampment

All cadets are required to attend a weeklong Civil Air Patrol cadet encampment prior to becoming an officer. The Florida Wing has a tradition of excellence at Wing encampments. These prestigious events are staffed by a carefully selected staff of cadet leadership cadre and focus on one primary mission: training.

## Physical Fitness

Physical Fitness is intertwined into all aspects of the cadet program. Cadets participating in cadet competition, special activities selection board, encampments, as well as progressing through the program's sixteen achievement levels, compete against each other in various physical fitness events.

# Leaders Today



# Middle School Initiative

## Middle School Initiative

Colonel Matt Sharkey, Commander of Florida Wing, Civil Air Patrol announced in June 2002 at the annual Florida Wing Conference in Sarasota, the formation of a new group headquarters, Florida Schools Group 800, to continue the growth of the in-school programs for cadets within the State of Florida. He has selected Lt. Col. David L. Mikelson, the 2001 National Senior Member of the Year and former president of Southwest Florida College as commander.

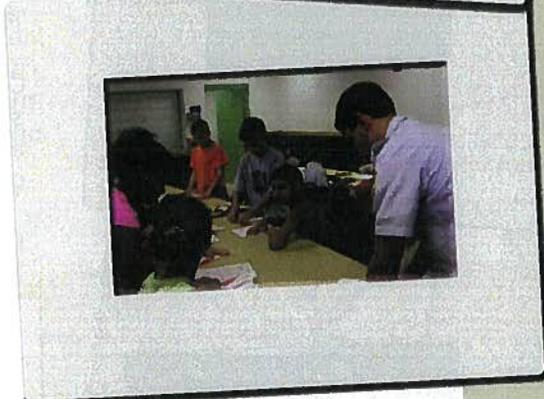
## The Vision

The Florida Schools Group 800 continues to develop cadet programs with school officials throughout Florida to provide youth in the 6th through 12th grades the opportunity to participate in the aerospace education and leadership program provided by the Civil Air Patrol (Auxiliary of the United States Air Force).

## Initiative Growth

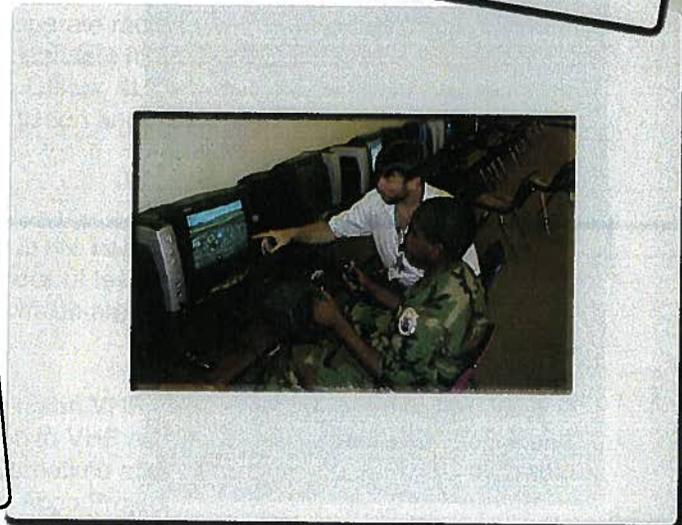
Squadrons have been established this year in

- Callahan
- DeFuniak Springs
- Homestead
- Miami Shores
- Miramar
- Pompano
- Sarasota
- Tampa



## Aerospace Education

A strong aspect of the program includes the education of Florida's youth regarding aerospace. Examples of flight are captured by aerospace laboratory activities. One recent aerospace laboratory activity was used to educate students at a middle school in Tampa, Florida. This type of education, through positive reinforcement, has helped Florida's youth throughout the state.





# Service to Our Communities

# Emergency Services



## State Support

Civil Air Patrol is an identified supporting agency for emergency support functions 1, 2, 5, 8, and 9 in the State Comprehensive Emergency Management Plan.

The Forward Control Team (FCT) responds with or in lieu of the State Department of Emergency Management (DEM) A-Team. Civil Air Patrol members trained along side Florida Army Guard and Florida Department of Transportation officials at the State F College to provide ground reconnaissance (RECON) teams for impact assessment state wide.

Florida members also trained as DEM Rapid Impact Assesmer Teams (RIAT) at U.S. Army's Camp Blanding.

Civil Air Patrol personnel trained to work in the ESF 5 office at tl state Emergency Operations Center (EOC) to provide air operations coordination between the EOC and deployed State Emergency Response Teams.

Our Wing members also participated in Hurricane Wilma exercis (pre and post landfall) as well as special RECON/FCT exercises Tallahassee to train with DEM personnel.

Well trained, Florida members were on standby for numerous trical weather situations during 2002 but fortunately no deployme were needed.

## United States Air Force (USAF) search and rescue mission:

A recap of Florida's 389 Air Force assigned search and rescue missions for 2002 included 10 missing aircraft searches with 10 successful finds and 2 lives saved.

Other USAF missions included 1 missing person search to assi Volusia County with a missing skydiver with 1 successful find ar 378 successful distress beacon missions (ELT and EPIRB).

## Comments from the Air Force on Florida Wing Training

*"My team and I were very impressed with what we saw during your exercise. Your event was one of the best planned and most professionally run that we've seen to date...the job done by Florida Wing was inspiring.. It's obvious that CAP Florida Wing stands ready to support the people of their state in any eventuality"*

D. Frank Billard, Lt. Col. USAF  
Director of Operations  
SER CAP-USAF



# Looking to the Future...

## Communications

Our fundamental purpose in communications is to provide the commanders at each level of the organization with a failsafe means of passing essential communications between units and personnel. Key messages form an integral component of the commanders' ability to lead and control units throughout the state.

Florida Wing experiences good interoperability with other organizations such as the Federal Emergency Management Agency, the State EOC, the U.S. Coast Guard, local law enforcement agencies, and more.

The communications and emergency services missions are closely integrated in Florida. The Wing utilizes assets such as the Wing Communications Van and airborne repeater equipment to enhance communications capabilities during life critical emergency services missions. The communications van is a platform equipped with radios capable of communicating on VHF, HF and airband frequencies.

## Communications Mission

The communications mission is to organize and maintain a reliable, nationwide, point-to-point, air-to-ground, and ground mobile radio capability in support of all missions our Wing is tasked to accomplish.

## Available Communications Equipment

Available equipment throughout the state is comprised of 60% corporate issued radios and 40% member owned. There are 18 VHF fixed base repeaters in the state located from Key Largo to Jacksonville and west to Pensacola. An additional repeater unit has been modified to be placed within one of Florida Wing's aircraft as an airborne repeater unit.

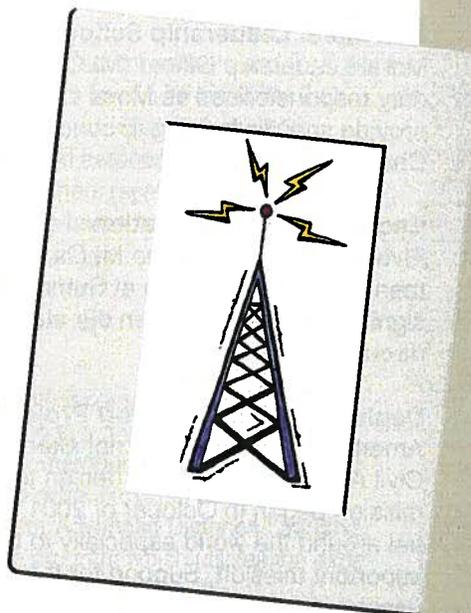
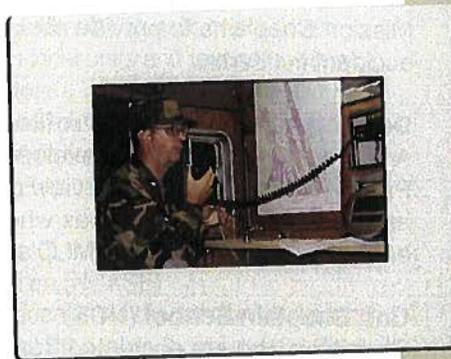
Florida Wing is currently assigned 21 powered aircraft and one glider. Twelve (12) of the 21 powered aircraft are equipped with narrowband compliant radios. Plans are being made to have compliant radios installed in the other 9 aircraft. In the mean time, handheld radios are currently being used to fill the gap.

Our system of keeping track of those qualified to operate radios and the issuing of Radio Station Authorizations (Licenses) has been fully automated. Our Florida Wing Licensing Officer, 1Lt. Bob Colbert, has worked on the design, implementation and maintenance of this system.

## Future of Florida's Communications

The Wing will be going through another transition in the near future. Communications personnel are in the process of testing various newly assigned frequencies to determine which are best suited for our Wing.

The communications system is presently functioning on VHF wideband. The target date for complete conversion to VHF narrowband capability is between 2006 and 2008. Sometime after this, the Wing will be moving into compliance with Apco Project 25. Florida Wing has made great strides forward in the realm of communications and compliance with new mandated standards.



# Communications



# Chaplain Service

# Moral Leadership

The Florida Wing Chaplain Service is comprised of 78 Chaplains and Moral Leadership Officers, serves the spiritual and moral needs of the USAF Auxiliary program for the Wing. From counseling to providing Moral Leadership Seminars they provide a host of services to support the units. Chaplains serve as Mission Chaplains to provide assistance, moral support and liaison with families of those involved in accident incidents.

## Development of a Matrix Profile

A Matrix Profile has been developed for all Chaplains and MLOs attached to the Florida Wing. The Profile provides a collective view of the current professional training and achievements of each Chaplain and MLO. It also shows areas where training or achievement is lacking so action can be taken to enhance each Chaplain or MLO's membership experience.

## Unit Chaplain School (UCS)

Chaplains who are appointed from pastoral positions are provided with a view of the military experience through Florida Wing's Unit Chaplain School. The UCS has been developed as a course to provide basic and advanced training so that new and existing Chaplains may better serve their units throughout the state.

## Unit Moral Leadership School (UMLS)

Moral Leadership Officer (MLO) personnel are provided with training necessary to establish them in their duty responsibilities as Moral Leadership Officers. The UMLS has been developed as a course to provide specific training in conducting Moral Leadership Sessions and service as assistants to the Unit Chaplains.

## Encampment Participation

Five Chaplains and three MLOs signed on to serve during the 2002 Florida Wing Encampment. Nineteen were in attendance at Summer Wing Encampment at Camp Blanding. This medium has provided a significant bridge between our state's youth and the moral guidance needed for successful development through their teen years.

## Deployed Military Support Project

America under attack did not alter the determination of Florida Wing members of the USAF Auxiliary, Civil Air Patrol. A mission design to help support troops who are serving in deployed areas began. The mission began in October of 2001 and continues today with ongoing support to deployed military personnel around the world especially to those in Harm's Way. Units of the Florida Wing volunteered for a most important mission, Support for the Troops. Members representing 34 Florida Wing Units joined by various members of the Southeast Region amassed enough cookies, crackers, snacks and other gift items to fill some boxes of cookies and goodies to support over 11,000 troops around the world. Over 2000 cards and letters were sent.



Some of the comments from various commands that were receiving the boxes, were:

*" Sir, I would like to thank you on behalf of all of the soldiers in my company. Everyone really appreciates the cookies and letters. I have distributed one package to each section. I am told that personnel will be writing thank-yous and responses to the letters soon. It is a big morale boost to everyone but especially to the troops who don't receive much mail. Once again thank you very much from all of the soldiers of Headquarter Company, 1st Battalion 155th Infantry Regiment, MS Army National Guard."*

PFC Zachary Bradley, HHC, 1- 155IN, Task Force Rifles, Operation Joint Forge - Camp Comanche.

# Training



# Education & Safety



## Aerospace Education

Florida Wing's Aerospace Education Program is dedicated to enhancing knowledge of aerospace through partnerships between local units and teachers within the local school systems throughout the state. Florida Wing is extensively involved with several aspects of the promotion of aerospace education such as a deep commitment to supporting the National Congress on Aviation and Space Education (NCASE) and our national Aerospace Education Excellence (AEX) Award Program.

### National Congress on Aviation and Space Education (NCASE)

The National Congress on Aviation and Space Education is the premier aerospace education conference in the nation. It is a National Standards-focused educational event that encourages the use of aviation and space themes to help inspire students to excel in science, math, technology, language arts, social studies, and other subjects. Florida Wing members are regularly involved in the conference where partnerships between educators and our members are formed.

Aerospace Education Excellence (AEX) Award Program for schools and CAP units Florida Wing participates in the very popular program free to its members that involves doing hands-on aviation and space-related activities with students. Florida Wing units receive educational materials and aerospace activity guides which are then implemented at the unit level. Teachers receive an 80 page, full-color book that features over 20 national standards-based aerospace hands-on



## Professional Development

Florida Wing also provides our adult members with a comprehensive professional development program. Specialized training in a myriad of different specialty areas provides development of skills to our members. A significant part of this development also includes a series of coursework provided by the United States Air Force through the Air Force Institute for Advanced Distance Learning. Our members are also placed into a mentorship program which utilizes the experience and guidance of longer serving members.



## Inspector General

The purpose of the Florida Wing Inspector General program is to create a responsive, independent and objective system that resolves problems and creates trust amongst members. A secondary function of the Wing's Inspector General program is to ensure standardization throughout the Wing via unit inspections. These inspections identify key areas needed for successful operation of Civil Air Patrol units. Feedback related to these inspections is provided to units and commanders as a tool to better serve the State of Florida and the Nation.



# Eyes of the Home Skies



All Civil Air Patrol Pilots must undergo an annual check flight with a CAP Check Pilot in addition to meeting FAA standards. CAP Mission Pilots also undergo mission skill check rides every two years to ensure compliance with CAP & USAF standard.

### Minimum requirement for CAP Pilots

Cadet Orientation - 200 Hours Pilot in Command, AFROTC – 300 Pilot in Command, SAR/DR Mission Pilot - 200 Hours Pilot in Command and may hold additional FAA ratings as required for missions.

All CAP Check Pilots and Mission Check Pilots are required to attend mandatory schooling every two years and undergo refresher training every year. This ensures standardization of testing and evaluation.

### National Check Pilot Standardization

Courses are held every year at the FAA Safety Center, Lakeland, Florida. Florida Wing has sponsored two courses in 2002 for Puerto Rico and Florida.

**Florida Wing has 21 aircraft assigned.** The aircraft all equipped with GPS, direction finding equipment, IFR capable. Some aircraft are outfitted for Slow Scan TV capability and auxiliary mission radio.

### Aircraft Maintenance

Florida Wing's aircraft maintenance program provides for maximum safety and reliability through regularly scheduled maintenance of the entire fleet.

Standardization of all aspects related to the operation of each aircraft ensures low risk of mishaps. Items such as standardized aircraft information binders, notification procedures, water survival kits are the foundation for clear awareness for all CAP qualified pilots who utilize Florida Wing air assets.

A comprehensive aircraft refit of Florida Wings aircraft is near completion. Refit included new paint and interior, radio and avionics upgrades, as well as overhaul or replacement of long term items.

### Counter Drug Operations

- Civil Air Patrol Counter-Drug missions include:
- Support to local and state law enforcement for reconnaissance
  - Transportation of personnel and equipment
  - Radio relay
  - Search missions
  - JTF6
  - Support for the United States Air Force
  - Support for the United States Customs Service
  - Support for the Coast Guard
  - Support for the National Guard



### Personnel Background Checks

Clearance for all Counter-Drug Mission participants is required through United States Customs Service and the Drug Enforcement Administration as well as FBI fingerprint checks.

Flight Operations

# A CHALLENGE FOR CADETS

By State Director Jerry Angley

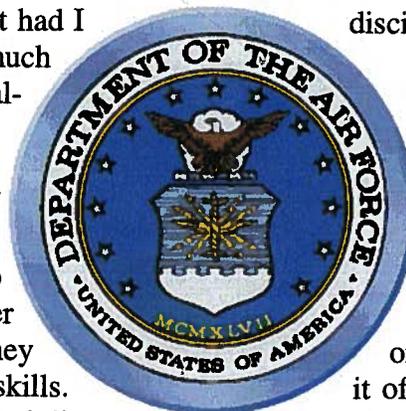
After watching our cadets compete at the wing's drill team and color guard competition I found myself reflecting back on my experience in the military and realized just how much that impacted my life. I was not a CAP Cadet so I missed out on the tremendous opportunities that the cadet program offers. I am convinced that had I been in CAP I would have been much better prepared for many of the challenges that lie ahead.

Our cadet program is one of the finest youth organizations in the world. The program has so much to offer. As CAP Cadets work to master the different achievement levels they learn some of life's most valuable skills. Setting goals and having the self-discipline to achieve these goals is how success is defined.

Self-discipline is extremely valuable. I remember my first day in the Air Force. I was fresh out of college and not at all familiar with how to march, much less how to lead a flight. My very first assignment was to march the flight from the barracks to the dining hall. Needless to say my command of the flight was not impressive but I was determined to get better. After several hours of practice I began to improve. My movements became sharp and precise. My commands were crisp and clear. By the end of the second week I was confident I could lead a formation as well as any seasoned drill sergeant. As I look back, knowing the right commands and movements was not nearly as important as the self-discipline and confidence I gained from the experience.

Self-discipline is key to succeeding no matter what your endeavors. Six years ago my son called me to say that he was quitting his job and going into business for himself. I was quite surprised to hear the news. He was doing well at his current

job and I worried about his chances at starting a new company. The first year was very tough. The company barely made enough to stay in business but my son stuck with it. Now his business has over 200 employees scattered throughout six states. He had established goals and maintained the self-discipline required to achieve these goals.



Self-discipline is not all that is important. Routine physical exercise is just as essential. Most of us are getting only a fraction of the exercise our body requires. It's so easy to come up with excuses. There's a great show on TV that I would like to watch or I need to check my e-mail. Don't put it off any longer. Start exercising now and make it a habit.

Each day life in our society appears to be going at a faster and faster pace. Often we are left with only a few moments in the day that we can call our own. Competition is much fiercer now. Many of you are taking courses in high school that were only available at the college level a few years ago. All of this adds stress to our lives. Routine aerobic exercise helps to relieve this stress. With less stress and anxiety you will be able to concentrate better. You'll stay focused on your goals and vastly improve the odds of achieving these goals.

Some of you will remain in CAP moving into the senior program. Many of you will turn your attention to furthering your education, starting a career or raising a family. Some of you will elect to join the military. No matter which direction you choose I hope you take the time to reflect back on your days as a cadet and continue to apply the many skills you acquired. Self-discipline and routine physical exercise are two of these skills that can definitely make life a more rewarding experience.

## TAKE THE SURVEY!

Recently I received a request from the Military Chaplains Association to complete a survey as an opportunity for me to participate in the future direction of the MCA. As I completed the survey, the thought came to my mind how it would benefit each of us from time to time to take a survey of our own lives. By surveying the accomplishments and yes, even the failures of the past, we can correct our course and maintain our bearings.

In this fast paced world we live in today, it is easy to become so busy we sometimes lose sight of our goals and objectives. I remember when I was a lad, my dad would often say, "It was hard to remember your original objective was to drain the swamp when you were up to your hip in alligators." I am sure he heard that from others but it was meaningful to me. Sometimes we do become so engrossed in the things we are doing that we lose sight of our goals.

For some the "alligators" are those things that hinder their creativity and alter their course. When they begin to focus on the future and apply the lessons they have learned from the past then they can overcome those "alligators" and complete their objectives. This does not come easy. It requires not only examination of their past but also regaining their focus on the present and a vision for their future.

There are two ways to learn things in life. One is by personal experience and the other is by learning from the experience of others. Experience is a hard taskmaster demanding much of us. Learning from the experience of others helps us to achieve success without the harsh task of self experience. Sounds simple and it is! However, the truth is that many do not apply this and insist on learning through their own experiences. We have all at-



Major Dewey E. Painter,  
Florida Wing Chaplain

tempted to re-invent the wheel sometime in our lives only to find that those who have tried and been successful before us were providing a lesson in life which, had we followed their example, we could have done more with less and achieved an even better accomplishment.

Training programs developed through application of prior knowledge and experience are developed to help us learn the most effective way to 'drain the swamp' and succeed as a team.

Regardless if the training is to fly a plane, conduct a field search, communicate using a radio, or even a field Chapel Service, it is based on the experience of others, collected into a curriculum to prepare us to perform the tasks needed and to perform them with quality.

There is no step or level where we get off the training program. All of life has a need for us to continue to learn. This was brought home to me recently when I had to attend several training sessions on how to count carbohydrates and use an insulin pump. To tell the truth, I cruised over the materials and the training thinking that I know computers so a little insulin pump should not be a challenge. How wrong I was and it was only after a lot of trial and error [experience] that I finally began to master the art of insulin pump management. Had I been receptive to the training and learned from the experiences that were being shared with me I could have avoided the stressful trials I went through.

What is the moral of this? Learn from the experience of others and then apply that knowledge by application to your life and then you will find true wisdom.

Yes, take a personal survey of your life. Include all areas, Spiritual, Physical, and Mental. Refresh your goals in life and correct your course to regain true bearing.

## NEWS FLASH

FAA requests that pilots avoid overflying the Disney attraction areas below 3000AGL. This includes Magic Kingdom, Downtown Disney, EPCOT, MGM Studios, Animal Kingdom, Wide World of Sports and adjacent environmental amenities.

Transportation Security Administration [TSA] has directed that all pilots are not to loiter or circle in the vicinity of nuclear power plants. Pilots who fly suspiciously around these nuclear facilities can expect to be interviewed by law enforcement officers.

SER Commander, Col Antonio Pineda announced the 8049th Composite Squadron and the Tallahassee Composite Squadron were awarded the Air Force Association Winter Grant of \$250 each.

Ms. Pam Hamilton, Manager, General Aviation Security Policy, Transportation Security Administration, informed HQ/CAP/DOH that the Aircraft Owners and Pilots Association [AOPA] has agreed in concept to CAP participating in general aviation security.

CAP has received two Awards for Excellence from the American Society of Association Executives [ASAE]. The awards are for CAP's response to the 9/11 and our overall Operations initiatives.

E.F.Johnson, vendor for our new VHF/FM radios, has updated their software. The new version is available for downloading on the COMM Website. Each Wing's Director of Communication has access to this secure site. FLWG is downloading this new software version and all radios will be updated ASAP.

Articles on CAP have recently been published in the Military Chaplains Magazine-March '03, Flying magazine-January '03, Homeland Defense Journal—December '02, and online at [www.aero-news.net](http://www.aero-news.net). Additionally, Present Tense [training newsletter for PAO's] written by Melanie LeMay has been reinstated.

The implementation date for the new CAPR 52-16, Cadet Program Management is April 1, 2003.

312 Computer Systems have been purchased by CAP/NHQ. The systems consist of a notebook, all-in-one fax/printer/scanner/copier, MS Office, and accessories. Col Sharkey will be assigning the units to receive these computer systems.

The Federal Bureau of Investigation has approved and funded a secure T-1 phone line for processing finger print cards electronically. When coupled with a finger print scanner, the FBI states finger print processing will take from 24 to 48 hours, instead of the present 30 to 45 days.

The National Executive Committee approved an extension for the wearing of the light blue jump-suit from December 31, 2002 to December 31, 2003.

Capt Ed Martin, commander, Miramar High School Cadet Squadron has learned that the City of Miramar will fund \$10,000 for the squadron's after school program.

Capt Kathy Foy, Commander, Crystal Lake Magnet School Cadet Squadron has received 3 more computers for their flight simulator programs.

Capt Richard Crawford, Commander, Middleton Magnet School Cadet Squadron is installing a \$29,000 flight simulator for their aerospace education program.

CAP will have a display booth at the Florida Parent Educators convention to be held at the Gaylord Palms Resort.

Capt Linda Trimpey anticipates the establishment of a new squadron A.J. Farrel Middle School in Tampa as a feeder program to the Middleton High School.

## MEET YOUR TEAMMATES



Lt Col Bruce Smith; back row-Group 7, Maj Robert Sims; and Group 8, Lt Col Robert Ashman.

Not in the photo are Group 1, Lt Col Doug Kelley; Group 4, Maj Walter Lane and Group 9, Lt Col Leroy Barnett.

These leaders are in command of 84 units, their individual group headquarters staff and all squadrons in their individual groups. They each report directly to the Florida Wing Commander, Col Matthew Sharkey.

Here are your Group Commanders. L to r front row-Group 2, Maj Jean duBois, Jr.; Group 3, Cpt George Barker; Group 5, Maj Frances Gloeckler; Group 6,

Lt Col Harvey Bennett is the newly appointed Director of the FLWG Marketing and Public Relations Directorate. He joined the CAP in 1942 and



flew coastal and submarine patrols. He was a member of the West Broward Senior Squadron and served as a Deputy Commander, Safety Officer, Aerospace Education Instructor, and squadron Public Affairs Officer. Bennett was promoted to Group 9 as PAO and earned his Master PAO rating. He has graduated from S.E. Regional Staff School, National Staff College, and Florida Wing Officer's Course. Col Bennett is a licensed pilot.



Cpt Ernie Manzano is the newly appointed FLWG Director of Safety. He previously served as Safety Officer for Group 7 and was the Commander of the 355th

Squadron. From 1999 to 2001, Cpt Manzano served as one of three FLWG Maintenance Coordinators. Cpt Manzano holds a Master Rating in Safety and Maintenance, and holds a 101 card as Transport Pilot. He is also a certified Scanner, Mission Safety Officer, Radio Operator, Flight Line Marshall, and General Emergency Services. Ernie also is a rated "O"-Ride Pilot, Flight Release Officer, Aviation Safety Counselor and holds an Air Frame and Power Plant License.

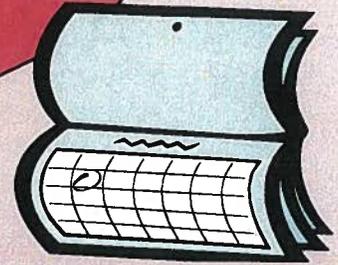
C/Lt Col Michael Tier is doing double duty...he has joined the FLORIDA FACTS staff as Production / Circulation Manager and additionally,



serves as FLWG Protocol Officer. Col Tier began his CAP career in 1996. He rose through the ranks to be the Cadet Commander of the Central Florida Composite Squadron. He also served as Group 4 Cadet Advisory Council Chairman and then became the Group 4 Cadet Programs Development Officer. Tier has attended eight FLWG encampments and the SER Cadet Leadership School, and Cadet Officer School. Col Tier directs the Cadet Officer's Basic Course in Florida.



**MARK YOUR CALENDARS NOW!**



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

#### APRIL

- 1-8 Sun-N-Fun, Lakeland
- 4-5 Unit Chaplain School, TBA
- 4-6 SER Cadet Competition, Tyndall AFB, FL
- 12 Wing Staff Meeting, Daytona Beach
- 12 Operations Training Seminar, Boca Raton
- 17-24 Passover
- 18 Good Friday
- 20 Easter
- 26 Group 2 Inspection, TBA
- 27 CD Training, TBA
- 28 - May 1 SER Chaplains School, TBA

#### MAY

- 9 Water Survival School, Pensacola
- 10 Operations Training Seminar, Ocala
- 11 Mother's Day
- 12-16 State Hurricane Exercise, TBA
- 26 Memorial Day
- 30-June 1 Florida Wing Conference, Daytona Beach

#### JUNE

- 1 FLORIDA FACTS Deadline
- 7 Group 3 Inspection, TBA
- 7 Operations Training Seminar, Vandenberg AFB
- 15 Father's Day
- 20 Water Survival School, Pensacola
- 21 Wing Staff Meeting, MacDill AFB
- 21-29 Summer Encampment, Camp Blanding

#### JULY

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

#### AUGUST

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

#### SEPTEMBER

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

#### OCTOBER

- 11 Operations Training Seminar, TBA
- 13 Columbus Day
- 18 Wing Staff Meeting, MacDill AFB
- 19 Group 4 Inspection, TBA
- 24-26 Check Pilot School, Lakeland

#### NOVEMBER

- 1 AEO Workshop, TBA
- 2 Unit Finance Report due
- 4 Election Day
- 8 Operation Training Seminar, TBA
- 11 Veteran's Day
- 15 Wing Staff Meeting
- 15 Busch Series Racing, Homestead
- 22 Group 8 Inspection, TBA
- 27 Thanksgiving

#### DECEMBER

- 1 CAP's 62nd Anniversary
- 1 FLORIDA FACTS Deadline
- 13 TIGER DAY, Statewide
- 17 100th Anniversary of powered flight
- 20 Wing Staff Meeting, MacDill AFB
- 20-27 Hanukah
- 25 Christmas



# AROUND THE REGION



Southeast Region Commander, Col Antonio Pineda has appointed Lt Col David Mitchell as the new SER Logistics Officer. Mitchell previously was Florida Wing's Group 2 Commander. Pineda additionally reports that the National Board of Governors made several key decisions at their March meeting in Washington, D.C. Retired U.S. Air Force Col Robert C. Bess was elected Chairman of the board, and retired U.S. Air Force Lt Gen Nicholas Kehoe was elected Vice-Chairman. Col Bess, a member of CAP since 1955, also serves as the CAP National Director of Homeland Security, coordinating CAP's Advanced Technologies Group, Rapid Response Teams, emergency management liaison officers, Narco-Terrorism efforts and radiological monitoring capabilities.



**COL. ANTONIO PINEDA**  
Commander, Southeast Region



Tennessee Wing has implemented a mandatory sterile cockpit concept. **There will be no conversations between crewmembers and/or passengers that are not necessary to the safe conduct of the flight from engine startup to reaching cruising altitude. The same procedure applies from descent to touchdown and engine shutdown. There will be no use of cell phones in the aircraft after engine startup and until engine shutdown, with two exceptions. Cell phones will be allowed in an emergency when radio communication is not available. Cell phone use will be permitted by the PIC to pick up an IFR clearance at a remote airport where a radio communication outlet is not available, but only after the PIC has secured the aircraft in a safe parking spot and ensured that the plane will not roll while the pilot's attention is diverted. Failure to comply could result in the grounding of the entire flight crew. Worthy of consideration by other wings.**



Col Pineda advises that CAP has been named a partner in Aviation Week magazine's "Next Century of Flight". This partnership is at no cost to CAP and will give CAP weekly publicity throughout 2003 in America's premier aerospace publication. This coverage was precipitated by McGraw Hill Publications, Inc. as prompted by Florida Wing with intensive follow-up by Exec. Dir. Al Allenback.



Effective 1 May 2003, the minimum age for cadets to join the program will be 12 years. Cadets currently under 12 will remain in the program. The MSI program will be allowed to have cadets under the age of 12 in the program.



Florida Wing Chief of Staff, Lt Col William Brockman announced the appointment of the following to wing staff: Maj Ray Spengler, Information Technology Manager; Capt Ricardo Shaw, Director of Professional Development; Capt Tom Carson, Deputy Wing Chaplain; and 2Lt Rudy Korpas, Director of Logistics.



Col Pineda joins Col Sharkey in inviting all Florida Wing and Southeast Region members to attend the Florida Wing Conference to be held on 30 May to 1 June at the Adams Mark Hotel on the beach in Daytona Beach, Florida. Outstanding seminars and workshops are scheduled for all conference days with presentation by CAP's most notable experts from CAP NHQ, Southeast Region, and Florida.



## FINAL FLIGHT

**Lt Colonel James Webster**  
Florida Wing Staff

**Major John Tuszl**  
Florida Wing Staff

**Captain Tom Hinds**  
Fernandina Beach Senior Squadron

**Captain Frank Karayianes**  
Bayside Bridge Composite Squadron

**S/M Elizabeth Castaner**  
Weston Cadet Squadron

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

Colonel Matthew R. Sharkey  
Florida Wing Commander

Please close your eyes and picture in your mind the soldier at Valley Forge, as he holds his musket in his bloody hands. He stands barefoot in the snow, starved from lack of food, wounded from months in battle, emotionally scarred from the eternity away from his family, surrounded by nothing but death and carnage of war.

He stands tough, with fire in his eyes and victory on his breath. He looks at us now in anger and disgust and tells us this.....

I gave you a birthright of freedom born in the Constitution and now your children graduate too illiterate to read it.

I fought in the snow barefoot to give you the freedom to vote and you stay at home because it rains.

I left my family destitute to give you the freedom of speech and you remain silent on critical issues because it might be bad for business or your job,

I orphaned my children to give you a government to serve you and it has eased some of that democracy from the people.

It's the soldier not the reporter who gives you the freedom of the press.

It's the soldier not the poet who gives you the freedom of speech.

It's the soldier not the campus organizer who allows you to demonstrate.

It's the soldier who salutes the flag, serves the flag, whose coffin is draped with the flag that allows the protester to burn the flag.

"Lord, hold our troops in your loving hands. Protect them as they protect us. Bless them and their families for the selfless acts they perform for us in this, our time of need."

**C**aptain Tom Hinds of the Fernandina Beach Senior Squadron died when the Cessna 0-2A he was piloting on a whale watching research flight crashed into the sea about eight miles off Amelia Island.

Three researchers from the New England Aquarium of Boston also died in the tragic crash. Hinds was flying the twin-engine aircraft for Environmental Aviation Services of Fernandina Beach which has provided aircraft and pilots for Right Whale research for over ten years.

Hinds, 40, obtained his private pilot license in 1999 and joined the Fernandina Beach Senior Squadron that same year. He built up air hours to become a Mission Pilot and Cadet Orientation Pilot. He attended flight school full time and earned multi-engine, instrument, and CFII ratings and became a CAP Check Pilot after completing the National Check Pilot School in 2001.

Tom formed his own flying business, Noble Air, offering flight instruction and other aviation services and flew in air shows across the country.

Initially he served as Deputy Director for Operations and Plans with his squadron and then served as Squadron Commander.

Hinds has been a regular pilot on the whale watch research flights. The researchers come to the area every year for calving season between December and March to track and photograph the whales and warn ships of their movements. The Right Whale is an endangered species. Scientists believe there are only 300 to 350 remaining.

In the evening of the final flight, the owner of Environmental Aviation Services reported the plane overdue. Lt Col Jerry Kawecky and Lt Col Frank Reidinger launched and picked up a strong distress signal off Amelia Island. They located a floating EPIRB and communicated the coordinates to the U.S. Coast Guard. The CAP aircraft remained on station for communications relay until Coast Guard helicopters arrived. Aircraft debris was discovered and the USCG Rescue Swimmer was dropped and recovered the EPIRB which was confirmed to be from the missing aircraft. *We lost one of our own and it hurts!*



# COMMUNICATIONS

Maj. Paul Blystone  
FLWG Director of Communications

At the request of our commander, Col Matt Sharkey, we held an exercise with the airborne repeater to check the effectiveness of having a VHF repeater at an altitude of 9,000 feet. Our first exercise labeled "Operation Check-in" was held last November. We flew down the central part of the state from Lake City south to Pahokee. The exercise was a success but we did learn from it and conducted an even better exercise in March.

We had planned for two aircraft in the air, one going from Lake City south to Alligator Alley [I-75N], and the other flying from Crestview [Western Panhandle] east to the Greenville VOR [20 miles east of Tallahassee]. This flight was scrubbed. We would have been able to cover the entire state that way. However, contacts were made from the Atlantic Ocean to the Gulf of Mexico and the entire length of the Florida Peninsula. This confirms that our VHF communications will be vastly enhanced following a disaster.

**CAP SUPPLY DEPOT:** The Supply Depot is now closed and radio equipment has to be obtained through the CAP Book Store or NTC.

**CEAR [S-8] [Communications Equipment Accountability Report]:** A trial run of these reports was sent out in October. This was intended to find any discrepancies and correct them. The actual annual CEAR [S-8] went out in January and they are beginning to be returned as signed by their respective Communications Officers. The deadline for submission from all units is the first week of April as the Final Report is required by end of April.

**REPEATERS:** Effective as of now, all of our 18 repeaters are operational. We have a few minor problems to overcome such as antenna change, fine tuning, etc. on a few of the repeaters. Our airborne repeaters are operational as well.

**ROA's & RSA's:** Your requests for ROA [Radio Operator Authorization] Form 76 require a Form 22 indicating the applicant has received proper training. A Form 21 indicating you have received your Advanced Radio training and own or have been issued a corporate radio are required when requesting a radio call sign. These are to be sent to our Wing DCL, 1Lt Bob Colbert, for processing. Also, please check the website <http://roa.communimatics.com> page that Lt Colbert developed. This site has all the information you need for your ROA. There is a current list showing dates of your ROA Basic and Advanced, your ROA card number, call signs, list of radio equipment, etc.

**COMMUNICATIONS STAFF:** We owe a show of appreciation to all the members of the Florida Wing Communications Staff for making Florida stand out in Communications. They are dedicated, experienced, capable, knowledgeable and anxious to assist the wing members in their communication needs.

#### Your Communications Staff:

Maj Paul Blystone	Director of Communications
1Lt Tom Farmer	Dep. Dir. Of Communications
1Lt Bob Colbert	FLWG Licensing Officer
Cpt Bob Bayless	CEMS Manager
LtC Herman Slapo	SHARES Coordinator
LtC Gordon Nelson	Net Manager
2Lt James Fairhurst	Frequency Manager
Cpt Russ Loomis	Communications Engineer
Maj Jim LaFollette	Asst. Communications Engineer
LtC George Metz	Technical Adviser



## EMERGENCY SERVICES



### FLORIDA WING ADDS CAPE CANAVERAL SUPPORT TO ITS ONGOING MISSIONS

On 03 January, Florida Wing was asked to participate as part of the security package surrounding the launch of the space shuttle Columbia, STS-107. The mission base would need to open on 08 January.

Capt Chip Maher, FLWG Director of Emergency Services, Capt John McWhorter, FLWG HLS Manager, and Capt Mike Cook, ES Deputy Director for Operations began the planning cycle for **Operation Vigilant Partner**. The US Air Force wanted a specific number of sorties per day for a minimum number of days, with the option to continue if the launch was delayed. There were constraints from the USAF that impacted most of the decisions made during planning, including communications, equipment, and personnel.

Col Matt Sharkey, FLWG Commander, gave his full approval and directed that all wing resources were to be placed at the disposal of the planning team to make the mission successful. Many requests went out freezing aircraft hours, or moving them to other locations, requesting vehicles and equipment and gathering schedules of personnel, all without a real good explanation as to why.

1Lt Brett Goldston, FLWG Special Operations Team Commander was notified and placed the Forward Control Team [FCT] on alert for movement to Cape Canaveral. The FCT is a self-contained C3i platform with a crew of specially trained CAP members who respond on virtually all Search and Rescue/Disaster Resource/Homeland Security missions. Mission base was established at the Central Brevard Senior Squadron and additional communications gear was set up.

Preliminary flights were conducted by Capt McWhorter and a power point presentation was put together to brief all aircrews flying the patrol profiles. The actual patrol routes called for precision flying around and over the Cape, and

the importance of the detailed briefings became clear to the crews as they entered the routes.

Details of the operation can not be released but FLWG personnel expended 1,564 man hours and flew over 100 hours in support of this mission. Each aircraft was equipped with a single frame video system, C-Map EKB-111 C-Pro electronic kneeboards for the pilots, and Fraser-Volpe Mark 25 gyro-stabilized binoculars. Sorties during hours of darkness used the Mark 25 binoculars with night-vision eyepieces to allow for counter-surveillance at night. This equipment gave the flight crews the ability to identify all targets of interest and transmit high resolution pictures to Cape Canaveral Air Force Station security personnel for evaluation within seconds. As the mission began to wind into the last day, the commander of the 45th Space Wing, Brig Gen Gregory Pavlovich, met with Capt Maher and Lt Goldston. He had nothing but praise for Florida Wing and the Civil Air Patrol. He is enthusiastic about this becoming an ongoing mission for CAP. Gen Pavlovich then invited members of the team to watch the launch from the roof of the Atlas/Titan Operations and Maintenance Building [ATOMB] approximately five miles from the launch pad on 16 January.

During the final out-brief with our project officer, he stated that whenever they add to the security package there is inevitably some sort of operational friction that requires intervention. "The exceptional professionalism, training, and energy prevented this from being the case with the CAP/FLWG. The spirit shown by the participants of this mission is what lies at the heart of every CAP volunteer and what has made it such an incredible organization for the last 61 years." The Project Officer was very impressed with the way CAP/FLWG executed the mission perfectly and exceeded all expectations from all agencies involved with the mission.

The total force concept of Active Duty, Reserve, Guard and Auxiliary is evident and FLWG is at the ready to "Prevent, Protect, and Respond."

Capt Chip Maher, FLWG Director of Emergency Services

# SAFETY SENTRY

CAPT. ERNIE MANZANO  
Florida Wing Safety Officer

**VISION:** We must strive to develop a pattern in which all personnel routinely apply risk management principles to prevent mishaps in their private lives, and during their service in Civil Air Patrol.

**MISSION:** To enhance effectiveness of Operational Risk Management [ORM].

## **OPERATIONAL RISK MANAGEMENT GOALS:**

1. Enhance mission effectiveness at all levels while preserving CAP assets, safeguarding the health and welfare of CAP members, and the general public.
2. Integrate ORM into mission processes, ensure decisions are based on assessments of risk integral to the activity and the mission.
3. Create an environment in which every leader and member is trained and motivated to identify and manage the risks around them at all times.
4. Identify opportunities to increase CAP's effectiveness in satisfying the requirements of our three missions; aerospace education, cadet programs, and emergency services.

**OBJECTIVES IN ORM:** All leaders in CAP should strive to follow these basic concepts for integrating Operational Risk Management in all activities:

1. Provide members the knowledge to implement, apply, and integrate ORM.
2. Disseminate ORM information in support of the CAP mission.
3. Exhibit ORM knowledge and application by example.
4. Integrate ORM into CAP policy and guidance, where appropriate.
5. Communicate up and down the chain of command, and across mission activities. In other words, identify a hazard, know how to avoid a problem, and communicate the information to all concerned.

## **GUIDELINES IN IMPLEMENTATION OF ORM:**

The following are a few ideas to meet the need to implement ORM in CAP at all levels and in all activities.

1. Stay focused in identifying hazards and ways to reduce risk.
2. Target the unique environments that are found in CAP.
3. Use tools to encourage others to use ORM, such as signs, posters, briefings, and directives.
4. Incorporate a systematic decision-making tool, utilizing at least the following steps:
  - [a] identify the hazards
  - [b] assess the level of risk
  - [c] analyze risk control measures
  - [d] make control decisions
  - [e] implement risk controls
  - [f] supervise and review in order to keep risks at a minimum and acceptable level.
5. Document your efforts at controlling risks.

## **SAFETY OFFICER RESPONSIBILITIES:**

Each squadron is to have a Safety Officer who is designated in writing by the Commander.

Every member has a responsibility to assist in all aspects of Safety, and especially in managing risk. Be aware that our environments do not remain static. People become fatigued, complacent, and careless. Others are in activities for which they have little or no training. In order to assist all of us in CAP, take the attitude that you are the only one who sees a risk, and report it promptly, and fix it if you are capable. For example:

1. Look for loose items that can trip people and/or damage property.
2. Ensure there is no source of fire or spark around refueling operations.
3. Ensure adequate lighting for the activity.
4. Ensure safe practices around electrical devices.
5. Minimize horseplay and unnecessary noise.
6. Remove, mark and/or barricade hazards.
7. Protect against unauthorized people, vehicles, and foreign objects.



# CADET CAP'ERS



Thanks to Col Al Allenback, National CAP Executive Director, and FLWG Col Matt Sharkey, the following photo op will become a part of the wing archives.



C/Lt Col Michael Tier and C/Cpt Hamada with Lt Gen Ronald E. Keys, Deputy Chief of Staff for Air and Space Operations, Headquarters, U.S. Air Force, Washington, D.C. Gen Keys is responsible to the Secretary of the Air Force and the Chief of Staff for formulating policy supporting air, space, intelligence, nuclear, counter-proliferation, homeland security, weather and information operations. As the Air Force Operations Deputy to the Joint Chiefs of Staff, Gen Keys determines operational requirements, support of national security objectives and military strategy.

Lt Col Moseley and C/Maj Calbrese, CAP, U. S. Air Force Gen Hal M. Hornburg, Commander, Air Combat Command and Gen Lance W. Lord, Commander, Air Force Space Command.

## CAP CLEANS UP WOMEN'S CLUB

Fifteen cadets and four seniors of the Fort Lauderdale Composite Squadron gave a helping hand in the cleanup of the Wilton Manors Women's Club building. 1Lt Patricia Lovaco coordinated the activity by assigning cadets to tasks including washing windows, cleaning bathrooms, painting roof overhangs and parking stops, spreading mulch under the bushes, and raking the front lawn.

President Gwen Thompson, Women's Club and CAP Associate Member said, "Everything inside and outside just sparkles. Our club members have not been able to do heavy cleaning. We had a need and the cadets went far beyond the call of duty."

Lt Col Virginia Montalvo, Commander

127 Cadets completed the Florida Wing Special Activities Selection Boards weekend. Twenty-four senior members, two U.S. Air Force officers, and the Florida State Director convened for the selection boards while six senior members worked administrative/logistical roles. C/Lt Col Paul Cheval placed first in Written Exam, First Place in Phase IV, and was selected as Florida Wing Cadet of the Year. Col Cheval was presented with a \$1,000 Scholarship and he moves up to the Southeast Region competition.

Cadet Ryan Nicolay of the Lantana Squadron attended the Congressional Student Leadership Conference in Washington, D.C. He also met Congressional Representatives, attended a Homeland Security Legislation briefing and a series of Leadership Workshops.

## CHAPLAIN PAINTER RECEIVES COVETED AWARD

Col. Matt Sharkey congratulated Chaplain, Major Dewey Painter and presented to him the Military Chaplains Association's Distinguished Service Award for 2003. This award is given yearly to one chaplain from each of the armed services, CAP and the Department of Veterans Affairs who has demonstrated leadership and outstanding performance.

America under attack did not alter the determination of Florida Wing members of the U.S. Air Force Auxiliary. They began a mission to help support troops who are serving in deployed areas during this war on terrorism and in Iraq. The mission began in October of 2001 and continues today with ongoing support to deployed military personnel around the world.

The Anthrax attack soon after the World Trade Center and the Pentagon bombing caused many organizations to cancel their sending holiday season greeting cards and packages. Even the popular Ann Landers, who traditionally encouraged people to write service personnel, cancelled her promotion.

An organization called **OPMALE** [Operation Make A Life Enriched] refused to give up. Patricia Dwigans and Chaplain Painter set about to make a difference and took over direction of OPMALE. The issue was simple. To have all shipped items clear through the military mail system, they needed a method to insure that all letters, cards, and packages were inspected and sealed, assured to be safe, and sent to an authorized representative.

Col Sharkey approved the project and suggested that each unit join the program by sending cards, letters and care packages. Since the inception of the program, 34 units volunteered to provide Support For The Troops and they were joined by members of the

Southeast Region and four units of the Puerto Rico Wing. These volunteers amassed enough cookies, crackers, snacks, care packages and other gift items to support over 9,000 troops around the world. Is it appreciated? Here are excerpts from



l to r Chaplain, Major Dewey Painter, Sr. and Florida Wing Commander, Col Matt Sharkey making presentation of award.

military personnel around the world:

**BOSNIA...***It's hard being away from home during the holidays, but people like you do make a tremendous difference in brightening them. Your kindness is deeply appreciated.*

**BOSNIA...***Thank you for the gift bag. It really means a lot to know that the folks at home really care about us.*

**KUWAIT....***Thank you on behalf of all the soldiers in my company. Everyone really appreciated the cookies and letters. It's a big morale boost to everyone but particularly to the troops who don't receive much*

*mail.*

**OFF TURKEY...***A small gift from home whether it be a CD, a video, a snack pack, a card, a letter, an e-mail, or a photograph means more than you know. It makes the difference between a sailor who can give a little more for the ninth consecutive day and a sailor who cannot. We could not do the job without the unflagging support of our family, friends and the American people. You all have my gratitude.*

In addition to the hundreds of mailings to support the troops, Chaplain Painter found the 345th Combat Hospital Unit planning to have a party for the children of members of their unit that were deployed. Three wing units joined Chaplain Painter in providing enough gift packages of toys, books and snack items for over three hundred children at Camp Blanding. Their effort made a difference in comforting those who sacrifice so their loved one can serve their country overseas in times of need.

Based on the success of this initial start, Col Matt Sharkey authorized the wing chaplain to make this an all-year project. He stated the troops need our support every month, not just at holiday time.



**THE SUN IS SETTING ON YOUR OPPORTUNITY  
TO ATTEND THE  
FLORIDA WING CONFERENCE 2003  
FRIDAY, MAY 30 to SUNDAY, JUNE 1**

**One of the best hotels in Florida, on a beautiful beach by the Atlantic Ocean, informative program with renowned instructors/presenters...yes, our conference planning team has done it again!. This one is a "Must Attend!"**

**The conference is at the ADAM'S MARK DAYTONA BEACH RESORT located oceanfront in Daytona Beach. A \$53 million expansion has just been completed, 700 guest rooms, numerous cafes and restaurants, indoor/outdoor pools, fitness center, and beachfront location on Daytona's only traffic-free beach. A perfect place for you and the family.**

**Join National Commander, Major General Richard Bowling; Southeast Region Commander, Col. Antonio Pineda; CAP Executive Director Al Allenback; Florida Wing Commander, Col. Matt Sharkey; honored guests; wing staff officers; national, regional, and wing instructors; and 400 of your colleagues from around the state. The formal banquet is on Saturday evening and your guests are most welcome to join with you. General Assembly, workshops and seminars covering a wide range of topics for cadets and senior members, CAP Bookstore and Cadet Academic Competition will fill Friday and Saturday.**

**SENIOR REGISTRATION SAVER:** seniors conference registration fee is only \$40 and \$65 for conference and banquet and the last week of May, they go up to \$60 and \$85.

**BANQUET FEE:** for guests, cadets, chaplains, and instructors are \$40 from April 1 to May 23, and \$50 thereafter.

**CADETS, CHAPLAINS, INSTRUCTORS SPECIAL REGISTRATION RATE:** Only \$20 from April 1 to May 23, and \$25 from May 24 on and at the door. Cadets taking part in the Cadet Academic Competition will have conference registration [not banquet] fees waived [but must pre-register].

**SQUADRON COMMANDERS:** receive a special 10% discount if they pay with a single check for a group of 10 or more from their unit.

**Questions? Contact Major Sharon Taylor, Conference Coordinator: [FLWGConference@aol.com](mailto:FLWGConference@aol.com)**

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# CAP ALERTING SYSTEM

## Communications Actions

The purpose of the CAP Command and Control Communications (C3) System is to provide commanders a survivable communications capability in a stressed communications environment. This document directs specific preparedness steps to ensure this capability is available. The communications staff at each HQ will implement the following actions when notified of changes to the CAP Alerting System.

### **RED (Severe) Severe risk of terrorist attack or disaster operations**

Significantly increased possibility of CAP disaster response operations. CAP may need to react immediately to a developing situation. Our communications networks must be extremely responsive under this level of alert.

- **Key Action:** Confidence checks of communications networks will be conducted at least once every six hours during CAP Alert Level Red. See Notes.

### **ORANGE (HIGH) High risk of terrorist attack or disaster operations**

Increased possibility of CAP disaster operations. CAP may need to react rapidly to a developing situation. Our communications networks must be very responsive under this level.

- **Key Action:** Confidence checks of communications networks will be conducted at least once daily during CAP Alert Level Orange. See Notes.

### **(ELEVATED) Significant risk of terrorist attacks or disaster operations**

Distinct possibility of CAP disaster response operations. CAP may need to react quickly to a developing situation. Our communications networks must be at a ready state under this level.

- **Key Action:** Confidence checks of communications networks will be conducted at least weekly during CAP Alert Level Yellow. See Notes.

### **BLUE (GUARDED) General risk of terrorist attacks or disaster operations**

Increased possibility of CAP disaster response operations. CAP may need to react promptly to a developing situation. Our communications networks should be at a routine state under this level.

- **Key Action:** Review procedures and requirements for elevated threat levels. Check to ensure confidence in communications links with emergency response teams. See Notes.

### **GREEN (LOW) Low risk of terrorist attacks or disaster operations**

A normal possibility of CAP disaster response operations. As always, CAP may need to react to a developing situation. Our communications networks should be at a routine state under this level of alert.

- **Key Action:** Refine plans for emergency operations. Train on emergency plans and capabilities. Maintain resources. Meet regularly with external organizations to present CAP support capabilities and to develop MOU's and operational implementation plans. See Notes.

## Notes:

### Under CAP Alert Level Green:

- All units should conduct routine radio operations and training per their established plans.

### Under CAP Alert Level Blue:

- Region HQ and Wing HQ should review the necessary communications actions called for in this plan and their respective emergency communications plans and ensure they are prepared to implement as needed.
- Conduct increased radio operations and organized training to ensure that communications systems are available to support response teams. This should be exercised at the discretion of the respective headquarters.
- National HQ will conduct monthly confidence checks on the National ALE Net between the NOC and key communications points within CAP and externally to partner agencies as required.

### Under CAP Alert Levels Yellow, Orange and Red:

- National HQ will conduct the National Command Net on the national HF-SSB frequencies or on the National ALE Net (if available) to satisfy contingency communications requirements between the region HQ's and National HQ. Each region should appoint a minimum of one primary and one alternate station to participate in this net. This assignment may rotate between multiple stations as needed. The National Operations Center (NOC) (Headcap 22) and the National Technology Center (NTC) (Headcap 33) will enter this net. The NTC will serve as comm backup to the NOC. Confidence checks should be performed by all stations at the interval required according to the CAP Alerting System Level to ensure the networks are operating properly. Only stations appointed by their respective HQ may participate in this net.
- Each region HQ will conduct a network on their assigned HF-SSB frequency to satisfy contingency communications requirements within the region. Each region and wing should appoint a minimum of one primary and one alternate station to participate in this net. This assignment may rotate between multiple stations as needed. Confidence checks should be performed by all stations and between each station and their respective command staff at the interval called for according to the CAP Alerting System Level. Other stations may participate in these networks as required to support region comm plans.
- Each wing HQ will conduct a network on their region HF-SSB frequency (as coordinated with their region HQ) and on their VHF repeaters as necessary to satisfy contingency communications requirements within the wing. Each unit should appoint a minimum of one station to participate in this net. This assignment may rotate between stations as needed. Confidence checks should be performed by all stations and between each station and their respective command staff at the interval specified according to the CAP Alerting System Level. All stations may participate in these networks in support of wing comm plans.
- The primary purpose of these nets is to ensure critical command and control capability is survivable in the event of the loss or impairment of public telecommunications networks. As such, the designated stations should maintain direct contact with their respective command staff by CAP radio networks (HF or VHF) to the maximum extent possible. Back-up telephone, pager and internet-based systems should be tested frequently. All stations should maintain a listening watch on assigned frequencies to the maximum extent possible.
- Where available VHF/FM may be used to satisfy any communications requirement listed but only if these communications *do not* rely on infrastructure (repeaters) which lacks emergency backup power. Where infrastructure emergency power is not available, HF-SSB should be considered the primary communications resource.
- Primary stations designated in each network should be equipped with an alternate power source capable of powering the station for at least 8 hours. In addition, it is strongly encouraged that all participating stations be equipped with similar backup power facilities.

# CRASHED PLANE LOCATED

## AIR CREW AND GROUND SEARCH AND RESCUE TEAM FIND OVERDUE AIRCRAFT.

A Search and Rescue mission was assigned to Florida Wing Emergency Services by the Air Force Rescue Coordination Center [AFRCC] at Langley Air Force Base in Virginia. This mission was precipitated when the pilot's family expressed concern for the pilot and aircraft overdue on a flight from Sanford to New Smyrna Beach and return. The pilot was due back the previous evening but had not yet returned. AFRCC was receiving an ELT alarm signal and mission planning plotted the flight path directly over the ELT coordinates. It was decided that they were related and CAP assets were called up.

An Urban Directional Finder Team was assigned to do ramp checks after the Seminole County Sheriff's Office checked the Sanford Airport and reported the pilot's truck was still there but the aircraft was not. CAP Intelligence Officers conducted interviews with the pilot's family and friends. The Forward Control Team [FCT] was scrambled and the Seminole County Alert 1 Helicopter was added to the search. Mission Base was established at the 8049th Squadron headquarters.

CAP aircrew aboard CPF 840 and the Air 1 crew

were on air search sorties and both pinpointed the crash site in a wooded area. The GSAR [Ground Search and Rescue] Team with the Sheriff's Office and Volusia County Fire Paramedics, as guided by the air teams, worked their way through the woods and made it to the crash site. Unfortunately, the pilot did not survive the crash. The Emergency Locator Transmitter [ELT] was silenced and the fire crew, the CAP GSAR, and CPF 840 were requested to RTB [Return to Base].

Though the 'find' was successful and the 'save' was not, this mission underscores the essentiality of treating every ELT mission as a 'life and death' condition.

Col Sharkey was in Washington attending a National Board Meeting during this mission, as were Deputy Commanders Lt Col Wes Hannah and Maj Joseph Martin. The complement of other state wing commanders in proximity to them were truly impressed when each of the

Florida Wing Nextel radios went off simultaneously as the E-Lert call went out. Col Sharkey remained in continuous contact with the Incident Commander and expressed his appreciation to all participants for a job well done.



Plane and crash site as spotted by the CAP Search and Rescue crew. The plane was in a wooded area and the ground crew unfortunately discovered that the pilot didn't survive the crash.

### MACDILL AFB COMMANDER RECEIVES AWARD

Col David M. Snyder, USAF, new Commander of the 6th Air Mobility Wing, MacDill AFB is presented an award by Lt Col Robert Ashman, Group 8 Commander. The award was signed by Maj Gen Richard Bowling, CAP National Commander in recognition of Col Snyder's outstanding support of the Civil Air Patrol. The MacDill Honor Guard also devotes many hours to train CAP color guard teams. In turn, the MacDill Base Honor Guard presented a plaque to Group 8 for helping them with major events.



Col Snyder, on left, receives Group award from Lt Col Ashman at the Group 8 Annual Banquet.



A memorial plaque honoring the memory of the seven Columbia Space Shuttle Astronauts was designed and placed by the members of the Daytona Beach Composite Squadron. Mourners place fresh flowers and personal notes at the site on a daily basis.

# Grandma Couldn't Do It!

There is little doubt that Orville and Wilbur Wright wouldn't mind sharing the "Century of Flight" with four airmen who just completed the very first air refueling mission with an all-female crew. Occurring more frequently as global war on terrorism continues is the assignment of female fliers on combat missions.

Capt Heather and Capt Waynetta were the two pilots, 1Lt Alison was navigator and Senior Airman Lyndi was the boom operator on the KC-135 that flew into Afghanistan from Ganci AFB in Norway. [Last names withheld for operational security reasons]. The women are all assigned to the 99th Air Refueling Squadron at Robins Air Force Base, GA.

"The fact that we had four women on this deployment and the fact that we made up a full crew is amazing", said Lt Alison. "We've lived with each other in a tent for almost two months and we were eager to fly on the same mission," stated Capt Waynetta.

Once inside the tanker, the women began their pre-flight and take-off duties with an ease borne of lots of experience and skill. Nearly all of them had been deployed before to places like Saudi Arabia, Qatar, Iceland, and Thailand. Between the four of them, they total almost 4,000 flying hours in a KC-135.

Their flight path and refueling rendezvous area in Afghanistan were in combat territory and dangerous. Just a few days before, coalition forces on the ground in that area encountered the heaviest fighting since Operation Anaconda. Norwegian F-16's from Ganci dropped munitions in support from the air.

Once over Afghanistan, the crew got down to the business at hand—refueling F-16's from the European participating air forces of Denmark, the Netherlands, and Norway. The crew performed

with precision and excelled when the boom operator connected with an F-16 on a night with only one percent moon illumination.

"It's awesome knowing that I'm having a direct impact on this mission," said Lyndi on her 17th combat mission over Afghanistan. "The fighters couldn't put bombs on target without gas, and I'm the one who gets it to them," she said.

More than 50,000 combat missions have been flown in support of Operation Enduring Freedom. In all, Lyndi refueled 10 European F-16's during the flight, off-loading 63,000 pounds of fuel.

"I'm accomplishing something with my Air Force career," said Alison.

According to the Public Affairs Office at Central Air Forces, the air component of U. S. Central Command, more than 1,800 women are serving as direct support in the Operation Enduring Freedom.

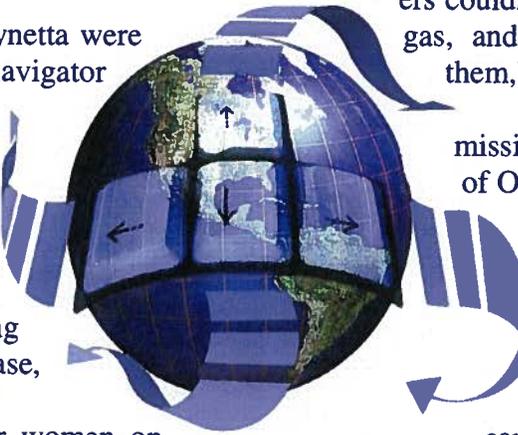
"I've always thought the greatest thing I could do with my life was to serve my country, and be willing to die for it—for my family, my neighbors, people I don't even know," Waynetta said. "Now we're here supporting troops in Afghanistan who are defending our freedom and way of life."

Basking in the early morning sunlight, the KC-135 tanker headed back to Ganci. As the Norwegian snow-capped mountains poked out above the clouds, the women reflected on the significance of the flight.

"All we wanted was to fly together," said Lyndi. "I'm so excited we got to do it."

"We believe in equality," Waynetta said. "But, the fact of the matter is, we are still ladies, and we're doing something our grandmothers couldn't do."

**Capt Elizabeth Ortiz**  
376th Air Expeditionary Wing Public Affairs



# FLORIDA WING

## CIVIL AIR PATROL

Where  
imagination  
takes FLIGHT



Emergency Services



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<http://flwg.cap.gov>

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