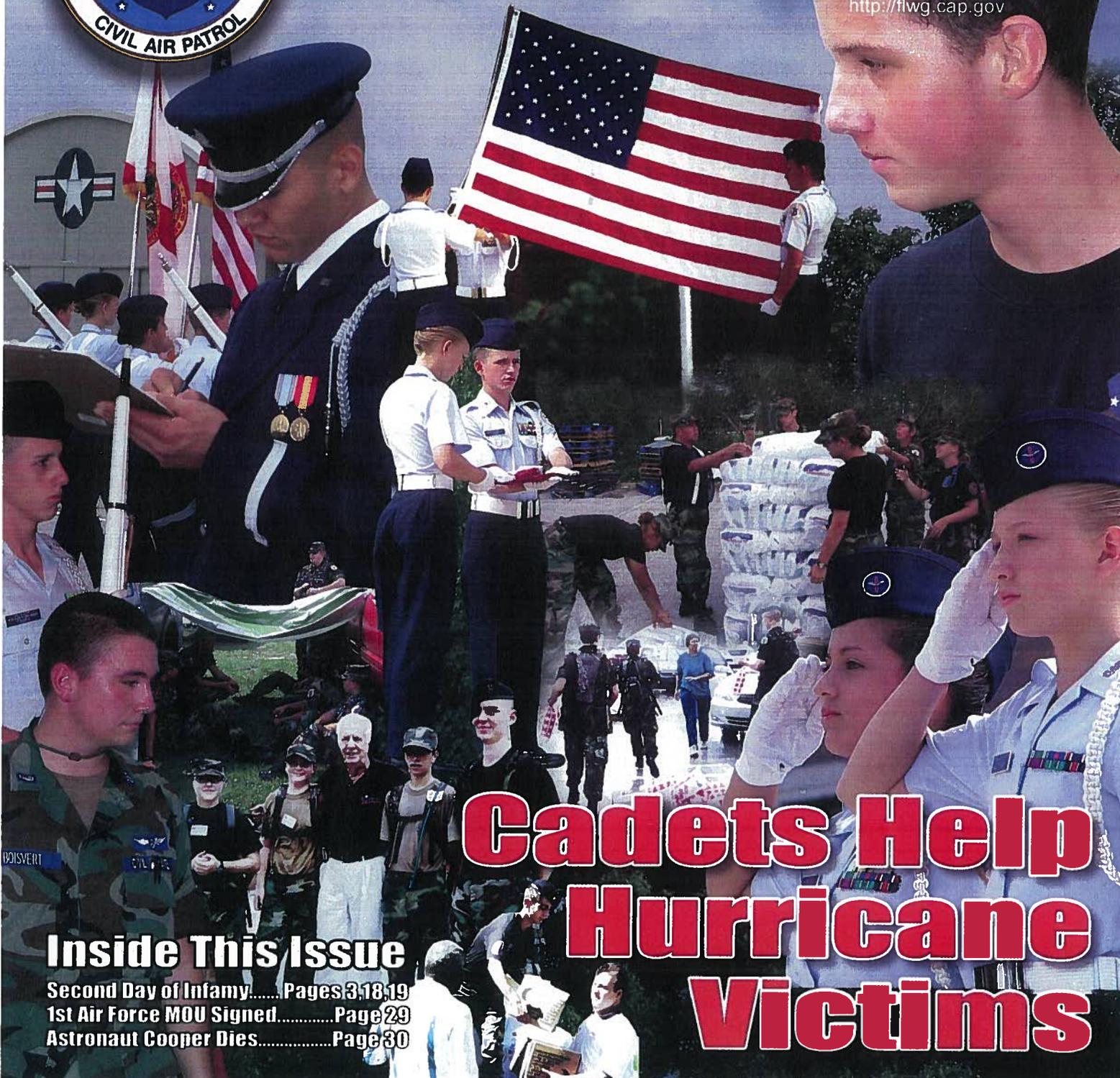


FLORIDA FACTS



Florida Wing News Magazine | Winter 2004 Volume 9 Issue 4

<http://flwg.cap.gov>



Cadets Help Hurricane Victims

Inside This Issue

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Commander's Comments

This year's National Check Pilot Orientation Course held in Lakeland, Florida, was yet another great example of our wing's ability to plan and execute professional programs for our members. Like all of our successful programs there are a few dedicated members who dedicate time and great effort towards putting all of the people, the places and things together to create the success. The two individuals that are to be commended for our Check Pilot School's success are Major Ray Meyers and Lt. Col. Russ Reichmann. The school provided our best pilots with valuable insight into flight safety, pilot validation processes and hands on air standardization testing/training. Ideally, I was fortunate to meet many dedicated members from all areas of the wing. Each member had a story to tell regarding the area they were from as well as the trials and tribulations they had experienced while navigating through our program. I found the interaction with these professionals quite rewarding. Some of the insight garnered from my many conversations was immediately put to work in the formulation of a plan that is slowly unfolding for our wing.

A main portion of the plan will involve new ways to be responsive to each and every member who has a desire to be a part of our cohesive team. In order to accomplish this task, however, it will be necessary for us to reevaluate the fundamental way that we do business. In doing so, more focus will be placed upon three facets of our leadership structure. The first is our group command structure. This focus is of great importance to us as we move ahead into a future of increased membership and operational readiness. The main goal of this initiative is to empower the wing's command structure to be more able to respond to member needs. As a result, the Group Commanders are now part of the core of the Florida Wing Command Team along with myself, your Wing Vice Commanders and your Chief of Staff. Decisions that are made regarding all aspects of our wing are now brought before the Florida Wing Command Team for discussion and considera-

tion. I am leading this part of our leadership team as your Florida Wing Commander. The Inspector General, the Director of Safety, the Legislative Squadron Commander and the Emergency Coordination Officer play an associate role on



COL JOSEPH J. MARTIN
Florida Wing Commander

the Command Team as command support. The Inspector General is providing the entire command team with feedback concerning the effectiveness of our entire structure through the self assessment and subordinate inspection process. The Director of Safety is emphasizing safety by studying the operational risk associated with all our key events and initiatives and communicating safer ways for us to conduct business. Our connection to our legislative partners is being cultivated by our Legislative Squadron Commander. This connection is supported by continual feedback provided by the Group Commanders concerning all aspects of our accomplishments, from every area of the wing. Lastly, the Emergency Coordination Officer is continuing to care for our excellent relationship with our state's emergency management personnel, especially in times of emergency activation.

The second facet of our leadership structure is our Wing Staff. The Wing Staff is composed of a group of professional, knowledgeable subject matter experts in

all aspects of our program. These folks are the main impetus behind the formulation and planning of our Wing Key Events. The future of the Wing Staff will include more interoperability between the various directorates as part of the accomplishment of our major Wing Key Events. Each Director will be interacting with the Command Team in an effort to increase communication and cross talk between staff and command. Teamwork between both of these facets of our leadership structure will ensure safe, successful mission accomplishment. Portions of the Wing Staff will also take on a larger role in upper level training and quality assurance. Delegation of action to the group level will allow our talent at the wing level the opportunity to mentor and observe processes throughout the wing. This process will become a breeding ground for future leadership throughout the wing. After all we must always be cognizant of the fact that the leadership baton is inevitably passed on. Our job is to help ensure that the next leader does not drop it.

The third facet of our leadership structure is the Cadet Advisory Council (CAC). The CAC will be looked to for advice and council regarding all aspects of our cadet program management. Each Group Commander will ensure that their representative is present during CAC meetings. Although there is no direct relationship between leadership in the wing and the CAC, our talented cadet leaders will strive to be members of the council as it becomes the voice of every cadet in the wing. I look forward to the advice and many initiatives that will be formulated and discussed by our CAC.

All three facets of our wing leadership structure will foster an environment that will produce excellence in the accomplishment of our missions. Keep in mind that each member can contribute to this success by diligent accomplishment of each task taken on. If you agree that a mountain is moved one shovel at a time, then it follows that our missions are accomplished one task at a time!

A SECOND DAY OF INFAMY

FLORIDA WING OFFICERS:

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Col Joseph J. Martin

Vice Commander North
Lt Col Valerie Brown
Vice Commander South
Lt Col Wes Hannah

Chief of Staff
Major Fran Gleockler

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"Why did I join the Civil Air Patrol?"

My desire to join CAP germinated on September 11, 2001. It was a day none of us will forget! It was another day of infamy when terrorists slammed two hijacked planes into the World Trade Center in New York City and killed almost 3,000 people. These victims represented 90 countries. The world mourned with us. Those of us who were not there, sat stunned in front of television sets. I sat in the comfort of my Naples, Florida home watching disaster strike the United States while palm trees swayed outside my windows.



Story and photos by
2Lt. Gail Swanson, PAO

In April 2003, I was invited to look through another window. It was the viewing room that jutted out over what was left of the World Trade Center. It was a little building with windows on three sides that had been built especially for families to help them say goodbye to their loved ones. The security guard opened the door for me, saying, "You'll be more comfortable in here." I didn't deserve comfort. I couldn't make myself step through the door. I said, "Thank you, but I cannot disturb the holiness that is inside this room."

Instead I stood out in the wind, shivering from the cold and from the reaction I was experiencing from my first visit to Ground Zero. At the security gate, I had explained that I was in New York to help firefighters and rescue workers document their experiences...and I have to feel it." As I stared at the site, I pointedly asked myself, "What *am* I feeling?" To this day, I cannot comprehend what I felt that day. Maybe I'm not supposed to.

Firefighters who brought me to the site pointed to the slurry wall. They explained that the slurry wall holds back the Hudson River, and it had threatened to collapse during the recovery efforts. Cars had melted in the underground parking garage. Under the long south ramp, the remains of the Ladder 4 men and their truck were found buried seven stories deep. It took over 30 hours to dig the truck out by hand.

During the recovery process, when a victim was found, the south ramp would be lined with hundreds of honor guard. The victim's remains were draped in an American flag, and as they were solemnly walked up the ramp, the honor guard saluted. The 13 acre World Trade Center site was excavated by hand, one bucket at a time, with the bucket's contents searched and sifted at least three times before it left the area. The biggest regret rescue workers have to this day is that they didn't find everyone.

Continued on Pages 18 and 19

Letter From Our Commander

From 11 August to 26 September was quite a challenge for all of us as Hurricanes Charley, Frances, Ivan and Jeanne ravaged Florida from all sides. As we recover from this onslaught, I would ask that each of you take some time to think about the events as they unfolded during the storms. Many of our members volunteered during the storms and participated during the respective relief efforts. Take some time to jot down some notes regarding these members and send the information up the chain so that we may recognize everyone who sacrificed their time in support of these efforts. The chronology of events on pages 12 and 13 could serve as a prompter.

I want to thank our ECO team that deployed to Tallahassee for 40 days over the course of these four hurricanes. These members worked long hours away from their homes and loved ones, enduring great frustration. They learned a great deal, and most of all, represented Florida Wing in an exemplary manner. Major Chip Maher performed admirably in his role as the ECO for our professional relationship with the state emergency management officials for us all in the future. Lt. Col. Mac McConnell worked diligently behind the scenes analyzing the input generated by the many sorties flown by our members around the state. Lt. Col. Mike Brown and Capt. Mike Cook served as IC's during crucial phases of operations around the wing. Lt. Col. Mike Brown continues to serve to this day as over \$50,000 in reimbursements are processed, documented, and submitted to higher headquarters for payment. He truly deserves thanks from each of us, especially upon receipt of that reimbursement check! Many more individuals participated at the ECO and they all have my special thanks as well.

"Let us sing the praises of our Unsung Heroes."

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All of the members that were activated as part of the RECON teams are to be commended. Their services during the events demonstrated to Florida officials the high level of response our organization is capable of providing. The state of Florida is just beginning to see the importance of the CAP RECON team, based upon the hard work and sacrifice of our RECON team members. The valued RECON team members should expect a great deal of tasking from the state in the future, especially where Group and Wing leadership are successful in cultivating expanded relationships with county EOC organizations.

The many flight crews that flew during the relief effort are also to be commended. The SDIS input that was provided to the state was most helpful and valued. Many more individuals participated and contributed during the four storms who also need to be recognized.

Lastly, I thank all those members who made themselves available for tasking but for whatever reason were not called. Your availability to serve our mission is in itself highly commendable. This type of sacrifice is most necessary AND appreciated. As we forge ahead, the operational tempo in Florida will increase. Your availability will become even more important than it is today.

As for me, all the individuals who participated in or were 'at the ready' during the hurricanes relief efforts are our "Unsung Heroes". All Florida Wing leaders—let us take the time to sing the praises to our "Unsung Heroes" for their generous time, professional efforts and hard work!

Joseph J. Martin, Colonel, CAP
Florida Wing Commander

WING STAFF MEETING and COMMANDERS CALL Requires Duty Above and Beyond....

The October Wing staff and Commanders Call meeting truly required duty above and beyond the norm. With no reservations available in Tampa and



Days Inn Airport—Orlando demolished by Hurricane.

with 74,000 rooms in the Orlando vicinity, it was quickly concluded that was a reasonable alternative. State Director Jerry Angley arranged availability of the U.S. Navy Defense Finance and Audit System Building [DFAS] for the meetings.

Chief of Staff Fran Gleockler took on, what appeared to be the easier assignment of room arrangements. However, after extensive calls and responses of 'no vacancies', it became apparent the four hurricanes intended to continue to be upsetting. Hotels and motels were fully occupied by evacuees whose homes were destroyed, by insurance company appraisers, and by workmen from other states who are providing restoration services.

After a tedious hunt, Major Gleockler finally was able to reserve a block of rooms at the Days Inn-Airport Motel. To the chagrin of all who traveled great distances and arrived at the location, they were greeted with the sight of a motel that was totally destroyed. After the stupefied reaction eased, a sign was noted which directed guests to the adjacent Holiday Inn!

Following a breakfast meeting, a caravan of cars attempted to get to the DFAS building which is

internal to a major residential redevelopment project. The streets network is continuously being modified with newly constructed streets and/or streets having names changed. Therefore none of the internet map services can provide directions. After safely arriving and clearing building security, attendees reported for a General Assembly conducted by Wing Commander Col. Joseph Martin.

The Group Commanders then met with Col. Martin, Vice Commander Lt. Col. Valerie Brown and Vice Commander Lt. Col. Wes Hannah for the Command Call agenda, while wing staff directors met with Chief of Staff Fran Gleockler and Florida Wing Inspector General Gary Owen to discuss the requirements of the forthcoming Florida Wing Inspection by the National Civil Air Patrol Inspector General and staff.

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l to r. Vice Commanders Wes Hannah and Valerie Brown and commander Col. Joe Martin.



Florida Wing Group Commanders from l. to r. Group 2-Major Jean DeBois, Group 5 Major Patrick O'Key, Group 6-Lt. Col. Bruce Smith, Group 7-Major John Houchin, Group 8-Lt. Col. Robert Ashman, Group 9-Lt. Col. Leroy Barnett, and Group 11-Captain Dan Levitch. Not available for the photo were Group 1-Lt. Col. Douglas Kelly, Group 3-Major George Barker, Group 4-Major Walter Lane and Group 10-Major Christie Mathison.

The assigned goal established for all directors was to achieve an **Outstanding** rating for each directorate. In spite of the volumes of catch-up work, most directors have to overcome the excesses caused by the hurricanes and the efforts of response to each, they pledged an all-out effort to fulfill the goal.



Boat Safety and Water Survival

Twenty Ft. Lauderdale Composite Squadron members took to the cooling waters of the Ft. Lauderdale Beach for a course in "Boat Safety and Water Survival". Instructor Jesus Rodriguez {USN



Ret} covered the importance of wearing flotation devices, the proper embarking and disembarking of personal watercraft, care of equipment, and proper water courtesy. Following the course, the cadets tested what they learned as they took to the park's waterways in canoes. Senior member Marcia Vahey, a seasoned lifeguard at the Ft. Lauderdale beach instructed the group in water survival and ways that swimmers in peril are rescued. Teams of cadets simulated a drowning victim and they attempted rescues. The balance of the weekend was spent in various bivouac training.

Lt. Col. Virginia Montalvo

In The Public Eye

The Fernandina Senior Squadron truly put their best foot forward in the area of public relations. During one month they arranged for a Mayoral Proclamation, a full page with photo in the Amelia Islander Magazine featuring the search and rescue services of Major Andy Curtin, a feature article in

the News-Leader about Captain Frank Reidinger and the many services he provides to his squadron, closing out with a five-page article with photos in the "Amelia Now" magazine reviewing the history of the Civil Air Patrol since its creation in 1941 to the current homeland security missions it fulfills.

1Lt. Paul B. Condit

Squadron Earns Two Awards

Hillsborough One Senior Squadron's Major Arnold Glauser won the Senior Member of the Year Award for Group 3 for his efforts as a Mission Pilot to fulfill the CAP mission. He has devoted countless hours flying Search and Rescue and homeland security missions. He devotes himself to staying on the leading edge and continues training and improving as is evidenced by his recent certification as an instrument rated pilot.

Hillsborough One Senior Squadron, called HOSS by its members, also earned the Group 3 Squadron of the Year Award.



The award was the result of each member putting forth maximum effort in all the services and activities of the squadron.

Capt. Thomas Goldston



Treasure Coast Composite Squadron Cadets l. to r. Patel, Kirkland, Gilliam, Rodriguez, Bowden and Cicalese pose with a C-17 transport USAF crewmember after touring the plane at the "Wings and Wheels Airshow" at the Port St. Lucie County International Airport. The squadron also provided crowd control and flightline safety support.

Photo by Capt. William Woody



First woman Governor in Louisiana, Kathleen Blanco, signs the law which removes the requirement that the state agency must have received USAF mission authorization before a surviving spouse or children of a CAP member killed in the line of duty, receives state survivor benefits. Hopefully 49 states will take notice!



Fifteen members of the Miami Beach Cadet Squadron flew on the U.S. Air Force's new C-17 transport plane to Charleston, S.C. for a tour of the Citadel Military College. Their tour also included a visit to the U.S.S. Yorktown, a World War II aircraft carrier, historical sites in downtown Charleston, and concluded with a visit to the Air Mobility Command where they had the unique opportunity of conversing with aircrews.

By 1Lt. Linus Gomez



Col. Matthew Sharkey presents the Group 800 Senior Member of the Year Award to Captain Jimmy Macon.

Photo by Lt. Col. David Mikelson



Highlands County Composite Squadron members helped victims of the recent hurricanes. Senior members and cadets sawed fallen trees and piled aluminum panels, insulation, signs and other debris at curbside.

Capt. Lee Ann Curry



Cadet CAPERS

FIRSTFLIGHT

Cadet Matthew Morden of the Boca Raton Composite Squadron is enthralled with his first orientation flight and the opportunity to



show his ability at flying the aircraft. Major Bill Bottle was the pilot-in-charge. Hundreds of cadets have logged their very first flights with Major Bottle.

GLIDERFLIGHTS

Cadets from the St. Petersburg Cadet Squadron and the Southwest Orlando Cadet Squadron were thrilled to have their Orientation Glider Flights No. 1 and No. 2 and one cadet received Flight No. 5. The cadet launch teams worked with precision. Hook-ups, guiding the Blanik gliders to the runway, and running the wings were performed with proficiency. The glider pilots and the tow pilots were so tightly scheduled they were barely

able to fit in a quick lunch.

1Lt. Walter Pleasants

SPACECAMP

The Aerospace Education Foundation [AEF], in honor of the 50th anniversary of Military Space, is programming to send 50 students to Space Camp during the summer of 2005. The scholarship includes full tuition and round trip airfare. This is not a CAP scholarship but is open to CAP cadets. Applications must be submitted no later than 11 February, 2005 and winners will be announced no later than 15 March, 2005. Scholarships will be awarded to grades 4-6, 7-8, and 9-12.

Major Ivan Acosta

FLWG Dep. Dir. of Cadet Programs

AWARDEARNED

C/2Lt. Evan Jones of the North Tampa Cadet Squadron earned his Mitchell Award #52,722. Cadet Evans was tutored by Major Billy Westcott who was extremely impressed with Jones' desire to learn and excel. Cadet Jones is currently Group 3 assistant CAC representative.

Major Billy Westcott

Group 3 Deputy Commander

NEWAPPOINTMENT

1Lt. John Edwards has been appointed FLWG Aerospace Education Staff Model Rocketry Officer [ADY]. Lt. Edwards is a member of the Bay-side Bridge Composite Squadron and Group 8 AE Officer. He has over 40 years of model rocketry and Project Officer experience.

CAPTEAM

Charlotte County Composite Squadron sports a mother-daughter Civil Air Patrol team. 1Lt. Nancy Mazzara has her daughter, Amanda, fully involved in the cadet program.

Amanda is currently a C/2Lt. with six years of service. She has been taking private flying lessons and is now ready to solo.



C/Lt. Mazzara is a junior at Cape Coral High School where she has a 'top of class' scholastic average.

Amanda wears many hats. She has recently relinquished her position as Cadet Commander after two years of service. Amanda is now assistant to the chaplain and moral leadership officers and additionally serves as Cadet Administrative Officer and Recruiting Officer.

She also serves as President and District Chairperson of the Family Career and Community Leaders of America [FCCCLA] and Secretary of Medical Explorers, which is a division of Boy Scouts of America.

It is readily apparent that C/2Lt. Amanda Mazzara is a fully involved service oriented volunteer in civic, academic and social guidance programs.

Navy Retiree Assisted

As a result of the hurricanes a Navy E-7 retiree had his house devastated to an unlivable condition. He is disabled and incapable of doing the repair work himself. Until his home is restored, Patrick Air Force Base has allowed him to stay at the BOQ.

Members of the Patrick Composite Squadron, South Brevard Composite Squadron and Central Brevard Senior Squadron have teamed to provide whatever assistance they could. Piles of debris were gathered up and removed, SM Kenneth McNeeley brought his chain saw and removed broken tree limbs and trees that were interfering with telephone lines.

A request alert was dispatched for Group 4 members to bring rakes, shovels, mowers and trimmers to remove damaged landscaping and to clean up the area. They will cover his damaged roof with a tarpaulin until it can be repaired by professionals. They also are intending to paint the outside of the house.

What a wonderful gesture of appreciation to a military member who served our country for 39 years.

Lt. Col. Joseph Tirado

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Cadets Attend Ranger School

Halfway between Harrisburg and Allentown, Pennsylvania is the Hawk Mountain Ranger School which became home for eight days to 178 CAP Cadets from nearly every wing in our nation. Included were five cadets from the DeFuniak Springs Squadron. This adventure in the Pennsylvania wil-

derness requires each cadet to maintain his or her own food supply and daypack. The Ranger School is hard-core rugged survival in the wilderness, no showers, no electricity, and no parents to comfort them.

Cadets receive valuable search and rescue training. A typical day started at 5:30 a.m. with physical training, which included an obstacle course and a 1-mile run. Formation training followed and then classes. The day ended with character development instruction and preparation for the next day.

Each cadet participated in a three-day Field Training exercise where they hiked to a nearby mountain away from the base camp. Many ranger skills were taught and practiced including search skills, campsite preparation, rappelling, wild game preparation, and navigation.



Testing for Ranger Grades preceded the graduation ceremony.

Brad Prescott

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Red Ribbon Week

Florida Wing cadets participated in the annual Red Ribbon week which honors U. S. Drug Enforcement Administration [DEA] agent Enrique [Kiki] Camarena who was murdered in Mexico in 1985.

Aviation Scholarships and Grants

The Federal Aviation Administration has a web page that lists links to various organizations offering aviation education scholarships and grants. Go to <http://www.faa.gov/education/rlib/grant.htm>...especially useful is the Aviation Schools Link Scholarships. Additionally the Spaatz Association offers a scholarship for CAP cadets who have earned the Mitchell Award and who seek funds for private pilot training.

Maj. Linda Trimpey

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Aviation Art Contest

For cadets and students interested in art, be aware the 2005 International Aviation Art Contest is scheduled. Go to <http://www.faa.gov/education/artcontest/00art.htm> This is a FAA sponsored contest and worthy of checking out. Who knows, maybe a Florida cadet will win!

Maj. Linda Trimpey

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Squadron PAO Excels

To get 64 articles, most with photos, published in national media, state magazines and local newspapers in slightly more than two years is a feat worth noting.

Only Public Affairs Officers can truly appreciate the level of effort that sort of record requires. Perseverance, professionalism, determination, persistence, steadfastness, tenaciousness, resolute are only a few words that describe the PAO who achieves such success. Those words describe Lt. Jackie Zarrilli of the Boca Raton Composite Squadron.

Wing Wig-Wag

Due to the outstanding response of 18 teams registering for 10 slots, Captain David Leali announced the Color Guard Academy had to add a second day to handle the training of these additional teams.

Civil Air Patrol and Federal Aviation Administration have signed a new agreement to collaborate on Aerospace Education. "CAP and FAA have worked together for years," said CAP's national commander Maj. Gen. Dwight Wheless, "not only in the aerospace education arena, but through our respective ties to emergency services and general aviation. Organizations like ours that support aviation and space education have a responsibility to join forces. Only through public awareness and education can we develop our nation's future leaders in aviation and space technology."

After 31 December '04, no wideband radio equipment can be licensed. Wideband radios presently in use or are purchased prior to 31 December can be used until transition to Narrowband, which should come about by 31 December '07.

C/Capt. Daniel Spratt, Deputy Cadet Commander of the Bayside Bridge Composite Squadron and formerly with the Tamiami Composite Squadron has been awarded a 4-year Type 7 U. S. Air

Force ROTC Scholarship. He will be attending the University of Central Florida with a major of Mechanical Engineering. The scholarship is valued at \$52,000 and covers full college tuition, textbooks, and most academic fees. Cadet Spratt intends to enter pilot training after earning his degree and his officer's commission in the U. S. Air Force. Cadet Capt Spratt said, "Particular notice has been paid to my experience with CAP. I think it gave me an extra edge and really helped me get to where I want to be."

Chaplain 1Lt. John Hendricks is the new chaplain attached to the Miami Senior Squadron and 2 Lt. Eric Swanson will be serving as Moral Leadership Officer of the Jacksonville Composite Squadron, announced Chaplain Major Tom Carson, Florida Wing Chaplain.

Captain Jose Fernandez is the newly appointed Florida Wing Director of Emergency Services. Captain Fernandez has served for two years as an ES officer and Cadet Orientation Pilot. Jose began his professional career as a Respiratory Therapist, then CEO of a hospital, State of California's Deputy Director of Health where he was responsible for all Medical Care Services and a budget of \$12.7 billion...the largest in the nation.

Capt. Fernandez recently graduated the Southeast Region Staff College at McGhee-Tyson ANG Base in Alcoa, Tennessee.

Public Affairs Officer Leslie Ballard reports 19 senior members graduated from Squadron Leadership School conducted by Group 2. The attendees were from five squadrons and two groups. Lt. Ballard said, "This two-day SLS demonstrated the commitment of our members to excellence and professional development for the benefit of the mission."

Chaplain Emeritus Lt. Col. Dewey Painter has been directing the Deployed Military Support Project for more than two years and intends to continue to send 'need packages' to our military forces overseas until the very last soldier returns home. His continuous shipments of crates of supplies, food, hygiene products, books, videos, holiday cards, etc. are sent with loving-kindness and received graciously and with deep appreciation. The success and spirit of his program has spread and now Col. Painter has welcomed Massachusetts Wing Chaplain Fr. Peter Preble who requested on behalf of all his chaplains to join with Florida Wing. Fr. Preble has, on behalf of Massachusetts Wing, pledged to contribute needed items and to assist in crating and shipping as and when required.

LATE BREAKING NEWS!



Col. Joseph Martin announces Group 6 will now include only Palm Beach County and newly formed Group 11 will encompass Broward County and Capt. Dan Levitch will be the new Commander.



The recent hurricanes destroyed our Charlotte County Squadron headquarters building and the New Smyrna Beach Composite Squadron headquarters building. Each squadron has arranged temporary facilities which they will use while the replacement buildings are constructed.



Major Robert Sims, newly appointed Director, Information Management is already doing just that. The Wing Website is being redesigned and will have many linkages to information pages. Additionally, Major Sims is programming the ability to place every news release he receives onto a calendared news page to facilitate locating stories by topic as well as by date. Keep visiting the wing site frequently as the changes will be initiated rapidly and continuously.



Civil Air Patrol's Public Affairs exposure has been achieving new levels each year. Sixty million media impressions were exposed to the public by national CAP in 2003. Add to that all the local media impressions achieved by all PAO's and it becomes apparent we are rapidly losing our image as the 'best kept secret'.



A number of readers have advised they were unable to watch the History Channel TV show "Tactical to Practical" on September 14 featuring the Civil Air Patrol's missions from WWII to our current homeland security missions. Florida Wing Commander, Col. Martin is working with Major Sims to have this show available on the Florida Wing web page.



CAPNEWS Editor James Tynan advises that EVERY news release submitted will be nearly immediately posted on "CAP

News On Line" which is a direct link on the CAPNHQ website. Jim also advises that news releases to CAPNEWS will soon no longer be accepted via USPS mail. E-mail attachments or CD's are fine alternates. You can greatly improve your chances of being accepted in the "Regional Highlight" section of CAPNEWS if your story is about people and if you have provided their name, rank, unit and the what, when, where, why and how of the event. Finally, CAPNEWS is going to be changing its format from a newspaper to a magazine in the very near future. Florida's heartiest best wishes for what we know will be an outstanding news medium.



Col. Joe Martin has requested NHQ revise the standard Duty Assignments and Responsibilities. When these are changed for Florida Wing, Duty Assignment Organization Charts will then be developed for each of our eleven groups.



NHQ has awarded a \$1.6 million contract to Space Computer Corporation for the software to operate 15 hyperspectral imaging systems [HSI]. CAP will use the high-tech HSI to detect objects from the air. "Hyperspectral imaging is the next wave of reconnaissance technology," said Maj. Gen. Dwight Wheless, CAP national commander.



Chief of Staff Major Fran Gleockler announces the new FLWG Director of Personnel is Capt. Judith Levitch. 1st Lt Darlene Ferris, formerly Director of Personnel, has accepted the position of Deputy Director of Professional Development.



At the recent National Board Meeting in Tampa, a national dues increase of \$5.00 for all dues paying members was approved effective 1 October 2004. This is the first national dues increase since 1994. New cadet members will actually have a savings of \$11 since the cost for cadet training materials will now be an inclusion of headquarters' appropriated budget. Toward keeping the national dues increase to a minimum, Executive Director Al Allenback had instituted an austerity program and nearly one dozen full-time positions have been eliminated from national headquarters personnel roles.

MISSION MEMOS

Editor's Note: The state of Florida was devastated by four hurricanes in a period of less than two months. The impacts were state-wide since most of the hurricanes were 200 to 300 miles wide. The types and number of missions requested of the CAP by various governmental agencies - federal, state, county and local were numerous. Reports of missions, debriefings, EOC activities and unit services are so voluminous that the size of this magazine is inadequate to even print story extractions. Therefore, this chronology is merely a capsulation to profile the extensive activities of CAP and the Florida Wing during this horrendous period.

11 August:- With all hurricane tracking models projecting a direct landfall on the state of Florida, state, county and city Emergency Operation Centers [EOC's] are activated and fully manned. CAP personnel are requested to report in and fulfill various roles and responsibilities.

- CAP squadrons that didn't have to evacuate their planes are requested to be on stand-by for coastal and highway congestion assessment flights.

- Evacuation shelters are opened and manned by Red Cross and CAP personnel.

- Ground team members are requested to assist with unloading of supply trailers to Special Needs Shelters.

- EOC's request additional shelters to open and be manned. CAP personnel respond.

- Collier County Health Department requests manpower to assist a Special Needs bus driver to pick up handicapped persons at their homes and transport them to the Special Needs Shelter.

- After 14 hours of duty, personnel are relieved with requests to return by dawn. Certain CAP members sleep at their assigned posts.

12 August:- Mandatory evacuation orders are issued for barrier islands, coastal and flood plain areas. Nearly a million residents from such communities as Marco Island, Goodland, Everglades City, Naples, Ft. Meyers, Punta Gorda, Sanibel, Captiva, Sarasota, St. Petersburg, Longboat Key, and Tampa take to the highways for safe refuge.

- Pre-hurricane aerial traffic assessment and coastal surge assessment flights are launched at request of EOC Directors.

- CAP activates its VHF and HF net for state-wide communications.

- Wings from Georgia, Tennessee, and Alabama are placed on flight alert by national CAP Operations Center at Maxwell Air Force

Base.

- After 16 hours, CAP members are relieved and requested to report back at dawn.

13 August:- VHF and HF communication network is fully operational and scheduled check-ins are maintained throughout the state.

- Additional pre-hurricane assessment flights are launched.

- Government officials are flown to areas where needed.

- Hurricane Charley makes landfall from the Gulf of Mexico with the eye centered on Ft. Myers and Punta Gorda area. Category 4 winds and gusts are violent and millions of homes are without power. Modular homes are shredded and the path of the storm looks just like an aerial power mower sheared everything in its path. Radio towers toppled, highway billboards and signs were flying debris, subdivisions have become 'blue tarp cities' with all roofs damaged. Interstate light poles are bent in half and traffic lights are non-operative due to the power outage. Every intersection is mandated to be a four way stop. Planes, boats, RV's, trucks and busses are tossed like confetti. Damage is catastrophic.

- As Hurricane Charley advances north-easterly, EOC's begin responding to emergency calls that are coming in by the thousands.

- An assessment of all General Aviation airports is requested by the state EOC. Governor Jeb Bush is planning to fly the next day to the damaged areas to ascertain the needs he will request from FEMA and other federal agencies.

CAP units respond and reports confirm that most airports are without power and generators are being used for emergency needs. Even commercial and international airports are closed when the wind velocities reached 50 mph.

- RECON Teams deploy to impact areas.

- Ground Teams are requested to assess certain homes of persons in shelters as to whether they are safe to return to.

- Following 17 hours of exhaustive duty, staff is relieved until dawn.

14 August:- All evacuated aircraft return for mission assignments. UDF teams, communication units, air crews and airborne repeater units are inbound assets as assigned by CAP/OPS.

- Governor Bush lands at Ft. Myers - Page Field. Receives briefing from EOC staff.

- Hundreds of requests are received for Ground Teams to perform damage assessments of person's homes who are in shelters.

- Additional aircraft with SDIS equipment is assigned as asset resource to Florida CAP from adjacent state's wings as directed by CAP/OPS.

- Flights are launched for aerial damage assessment with video taping or Satellite Digital Imaging System [SDIS] photos transmitted to

➤➤ the state EOC in real time.

- Assets from Arkansas, Mississippi, Alabama, Virginia, Georgia and Tennessee Wings are on the scene. FLWG personnel from all 10 Groups are performing missions.

- FCT [Forward Control Team] and additional RECON Teams are enroute to Charlotte County.

- Nearly seven hundred Emergency Locator Transmitter [ELT] alarms have been silenced. Only those we can't get to because of safety constraints are still sounding. Searching initiates for activated EPIRB's.

15 to 20 August:- Florida Wing members continue to perform missions around the state. Deployments include; overhead team in Tallahassee, mission base on Marco Island, FCT and RECON in Charlotte County, ELT strike team also in Charlotte County, and Distribution Center Manager is loaned to DeSoto County.

- All personnel are transitioning from response to recovery.

- 'In addition to hurricane missions, FLWG is mobilized to search for a downed helicopter. The pilot had reported the crash and that he was somewhere in the Everglades approximately 60 miles from Ft. Myers. Using intelligence from NEXTEL on tower usage and data from the 84th RADES, CAP was able to direct a Lee County Med-Evac chopper to the pilot. He was rescued alive and was in stable condition when air lifted out.

- Air Force Rescue Coordination Center at Langley Air Force Base in Virginia advises they can again see alarm blips on their searchmaster computer screens whereas previously it looked like a Broadway sign in New York City. Only three blips are still active in the impact area.

-Almost 1,000 ground and air photos have been processed and delivered to the state officials by CAP. The wall screens at the state EOC are alive with visions of the horrendous damage created by Charley.

21 August:- Deployment initiates.

-ECO team is still in place in Tallahassee and are developing the DEMOB plan.

-Marco Island mission base is still op-

erative and numerous air sorties will be assigned.

- An SDIS equipped Cessna 182 from South Carolina Wing arrives at Tallahassee and will be assigned to impact assessment flights.

- All but one ELT alarm signal has been located and silenced. This one has been located but it is not accessible.

- Lt. Col. Bob Berlam from the Naples Senior Squadron upon his return from a mission is interviewed by reporter Tom Roussey and photo-journalist John Dulin of NBC-TV.



1 to 12 September:- Coastal areas are ordered to evacuate. Hurricane Frances as a Category 3 Hurricane lashes the east coast of Florida and 5 million homes are without power for six to 32 days. No lights, no TV, radio, or phones other than battery operated, no hot water, and no water or ice or food. Even WalMart stores are closed for the first time ever in certain areas. Gasoline is in scarce supply and "D" size batteries are a rare commodity. Curfews are announced.

9 September:- Hurricane Ivan slams Florida's NW.

26 September:- Hurricane Jeanne roars in to Florida's east coast.

- CAP's response to both is identical to that of Hurricane Charley. All forces are reactivated for each hurricane, all EOC's are manned, shelters are again supported, supplies are delivered and missions are performed on the ground as well as in the air.

Southeast Region Commander Col. Matt Sharkey and Florida Wing Commander Col. Joe Martin both state that words can't adequately express their pride and appreciation to all members of CAP for the interstate and intrastate effort and professionalism displayed. Both Florida's Governor and Lt. Governor want every CAP member to know their gratitude and appreciation for our outstanding efforts during these emergencies.

A SEASON OF STORMS

By State Director JERRY ANGLE

The Summer of 2004 will be one of those periods that most Floridians will remember for many years to come. August and September brought four major hurricanes into the state one right after the other, each time with devastating consequences. Nearly everyone living in the state felt the impact in one way or another.

As each of these storms battered the state, CAP responded with incredible skill, perseverance and compassion. The first order of business was evacuating the aircraft fleet out of harm's way, a more difficult task than it appears since hurricanes have a reputation for changing course with little or no warning. The Director of Operations and his staff did a superlative job ensuring that no CAP aircraft were damaged or destroyed. When compared to the hundreds of private aircraft that were demolished throughout the state, the CAP accomplishment is even more laudable.

At the same time that the aircraft were being sheltered or evacuated, the Emergency Operations Center [EOC] Team gathered in Tallahassee, mission bases were established and ground RECON teams started to assemble. As Hurricane Frances moved nearer to the Florida coast, Civil Air Patrol aircrews began flying sorties to monitor the traffic flows along the hurricane evacuation routes. Congestion conditions were instantly radioed to the EOC and Highway Patrol units were dispatched to ease the bottleneck.

Once the storm passed and it was safe to enter the area, CAP ground RECON teams moved in and immediately began impact assessment. Because of the widespread destruction associated with these hurricanes, the RECON teams were often forced to

exist with what they took with them. One team slept on the beach in tents. Other RECON teams spent as many as three to four days in the field gathering critical information that was passed back to the state.

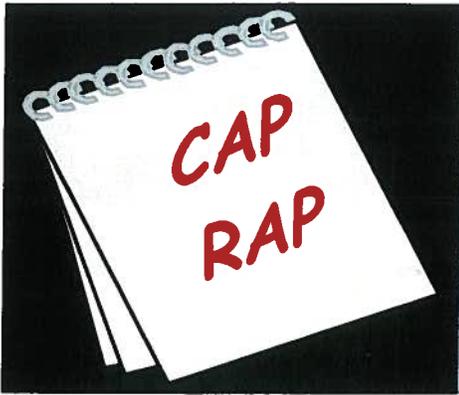
Civil Air Patrol aircrews launched as soon as the weather permitted and immediately began transmitting photo images back to Tallahassee. These sorties were flown from mission bases throughout the state. The mission base staff did an outstanding job ensuring the aircrews were properly briefed and debriefed on every tasking. The aerial photos that were taken by our aircrews provided the emergency planners at the EOC in Tallahassee with vital information necessary to determine how and where to respond.

The aircrews, ground teams and mission base staff performed magnificently. The data they gathered helped determine which roads were usable, where flooding took place, how

much of the infrastructure was impacted and where relief was needed the most. CAP members were also assigned to county Emergency Operation Centers, manage food, water, and ice distribution centers, and assist the American Red Cross with shelter management. While all of this was being accomplished, RECON teams still managed to find the time to check on the fate of several CAP members who were left without power, communications, food, water, ice and other basic needs.

All in all, the Florida Wing contributed over 15,000 volunteer hours, flew over 300 sorties, and provided the state with more than 2,000 photographs. These efforts unquestionably helped relieve the pain and suffering of tens of thousands of residents throughout the entire state of Florida. Everyone involved should be extremely proud. It is indeed a pleasure to work with such a dedicated and professional group of individuals. WELL DONE!





 Former U.S. Congressman Peter Goss is the new head of the Central Intelligence Agency. In addition to serving as the CIA Director, Goss will assume the role as head of the confederation of 14 other agencies that make up the U.S. intelligence community.

Porter Goss has been on the back cover of FLORIDA FACTS since our magazine went to a four color, glossy format in the Spring Issue of 2001. Director Goss is wearing the gray suit on the right side of the EMERGENCY SERVICES montage and is being shown a mission sector search plan by Capt. Donn May during a visit to the Marco Island Senior Squadron.

 The Florida National Guard requested and did use our Charlotte County Squadron Headquarters Building as their mission base during their enforcement of the curfew enacted during the hurricanes.

 Florida Wing mission air crews transmitted over 500 Satellite Digital Imaging System [SDIS] photos to the state Emergency Operations

Center on a daily basis during the 34 days of hurricanes that hit the state. Each photo provided the coordinates of latitude and longitude for location and recordation purposes.

 Private 1st Class William Morden of Bravo



Company, 1-14th, 25th Infantry Division returned to Florida for two weeks from his duty in Iraq. He has served overseas since January of this year and was part of a five-week mission in Najaf which earned him the Combat Infantry Badge. Following two weeks of rest and relaxation, he has returned for assignment to Kirkuk. Private Morden was formerly the cadet commander of the Boca Raton Composite Squadron and has been a member of the CAP for six years. Morden's father, Capt. William Morden, is the commander of the squadron and Billy's brother, Matthew is a CAP cadet who just completed his first Orientation Flight.

 The Southeast Region Cadet Leadership School will be held at the Tyndall Air Force Base from 27 December 2004 to 2 January 2005. Through a combination of classroom academics, simulations, exercises, and personal interaction, students learn to become executive leaders. Applications are available from unit commanders or Lt. Col. Robert Masiker.

 It's getting closer and closer! The CAP Uniform Manual, CAPM 39-1, will be considered for approval by the National Board at its winter meeting. The Operations Committee is considering the creation of a CAP Air Medal and CAP Distinguished Flying Award. CAP Cadet Training Pamphlets are now available on-line.

 CAP has agreed with the Air Force to become the administrative agent of the Air Force STARBASE Project. This project is already underway at Air Force bases around the country and aims to provide science and technical education to at-risk children living in the vicinity of Air Force bases.

 National Commander Dwight Wheless has announced the following appointments:

- National Chief of Staff- Col. Larry Kauffman
- National Controller- Col. George Boyd
- National Finance Officer- Col. Don Angel
- National Legal Officer- Col. Richard Chaney

 CAP members who were engaged in World War II CAP activities i.e. submarine patrolling, coastal patrolling, target towing, radar/searchlight team exercises, radio communications, air fleet maintenance, training, etc. are authorized to wear the American Campaign Ribbon, as approved by the National Board.

Southeast Region Update

Col Matthew
Sharkey

SER Commander



Take Advantage of Training Opportunities...

We are all still recovering from probably the most active hurricane season of our lifetimes in the Southeast. Neighborhoods continue to be a sea of blue tarp-covered roofs. Repair work remains only partially completed. People seem reluctant to put away the plywood that sits outside by their windows.

Proudly, the members of the Southeast Region came to the aid of those in Florida and other areas hard hit by Charlie, Frances, Ivan, and Jeanne.

One of the primary reasons we had the resources to deal with a situation of such a large scale, is that our professional volunteers are trained and ready. The members of our organization train on a day-to-day basis and learn the skills necessary to complete the tasks requested of us.

All this past training, however, is not enough. It is up to each of us to continue to expand our knowledge, our skill sets, and our drive to succeed. We are tasked to perform missions in a variety of venues and, as such, we need to continue to grow and reach further to better ourselves.

Our region is fortunate to have a multitude of training opportunities

available to members. Each wing in our region is doing an outstanding job providing these training events, and Florida is no exception. Refer to this issue of the *Florida Facts* and the newly re-designed Florida Wing website for particular wing-level educational opportunities.



Wherever you receive your training, at the region, wing, or squadron level, be proud of yourself for getting out there and getting it done.

They say you can't teach an old dog new tricks, but even this ol' dog admits I still need to learn things every day. Let me encourage you, my fellow Floridians to be a sponge. Soak up all the training you can. We never know what tomorrow will hold and we won't know if next hurricane season will rival the one we've just seen. (But I sure hope not...!)

On a personal note, thank you to all who have wished me well in this new position as SER Commander. I am proud to serve in this expanded capacity, but remain ever grateful for the friendships and training I received from the wonderful people of Florida.

Southeast Region Calendar

SER Encampment
26 December 04—2 Jan 05

SER Cadet Competition
April 05

SER Chaplain's College
2-5 May 05

SER Staff College
June 05

SER Conference in Pensacola
October 05 (Tentative)

Floridians on the SER Staff:

Major Diane Reid earns the Gill Robb Wilson Award
Congratulations Maj Reid!

Painting Available:

Diane Kraus, the artist who created the beautiful painting of the CAP plane flying over the Space Shuttle mission, was commissioned to paint another painting for National, entitled "We Were There" depicting the mission over the World Trade Center on September 11th. To order prints contact diane@thefreedomagle.com.





From The **MAILBAG**

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

**1Lt. Linus Gomez,
Commander
Miami Beach Cadet Squadron**

"In answer to a call I made, I received a return call from a former Group 7 Commander who presently lives on the Caymen Islands. His name is Trevor Stewart and he has a Civil Air Patrol unit on the island. In response to my inquiry about damage to his property from Hurricane's Frances, Ivan and Jeanne he said he and his wife were okay and the damage to his house was minimal. They had no power and no water. He mentioned his area was in great need of many supplies and he was in the process of checking with various government agencies to somehow coordinate some relief efforts.

I mention this because I am sure members remember him and his son who was National Cadet of the Year in 1998 and are concerned as to how they are faring."



"On the 18th of September, 1947, our nation created the United States Air Force. Over the last 57 years, the Air Force has changed dramatically, employing new technology and responding to a changing world. Today, we plan and fight as a Joint and Total Force, and the U.S. Air Force is performing all of its missions superbly, from patrolling the skies of America, airlifting supplies to Afghanistan and fighting in Iraq.

The War on Terrorism is a war we must win, to preserve our freedoms and protect our way of life. The U.S. Air Force has a crucial role in this war, accomplishing vital expeditionary and long range combat missions, along with dozens of other missions critical to our national security: flying satellites, controlling airfields, maintaining our ballistic missile fleet, training technicians and leaders, and many more.

Preserving our liberties takes determination, hard work and talent. The task is huge, but I stand completely confident that America's air-men are up to the challenge.

Today's Air Force inherits a tremendous legacy: a century of flight and a history of boundless accomplishments. That legacy is in very good hands.

On behalf of the Joint Chiefs, to all the men and women in the United States Air Force who serve, and have served, I thank you.

Happy Birthday, U.S. Air Force."

Gen. Richard B. Meyers, USAF.



To Members of Florida Wing,

In September we started mailing holiday goodies to the troops. Florida Wing CAP units adopted deployed military units. By adopting a unit they were in communication with the front line or with rear support units. Further they committed by sending a Share Package filled with goodies and other needed items and, on occasion, wrote to them with letters and cards.

The Florida Wing under the guidance and spiritual wisdom of Bishop Lt. Col. Dewey Painter, has spearheaded this project since 1999 and has increased the efforts each year.

The lives of many of our service people were touched by the packages, cards, and letters sent by members of Florida Wing. These efforts helped to create somewhat of a happy holiday season for our fighting soldiers.

Chaplain Robert G. Balnicky



Florida Wing has two new MLO's and a new chaplain. Welcome to MLO's 1Lts. John Manard and Charles Shinn and Chaplain 1Lt. George Ramsaran. May God bless you as you serve your units.

FLWG Chaplain Tom Carson

I spent three months in New York City interviewing firefighters and rescue workers from various agencies and trades. As a writer it was extremely challenging. I had to adapt to a new style of interviewing. I hardly asked any questions. I told those I interviewed. "I only want you to tell me what you want to." As the men and women recounted what happened to them, I can only liken it to being in an operating room during open-heart surgery and holding a beating heart in my hand. I will never forget these people.

I knew I was given an extraordinary opportunity. I went into it wanting to help my country and to document a piece of history. But it became more, much more than just writing a story.

A firefighter named Tom was unable to sit still in a chair while I interviewed him. I had to run alongside him with a tape recorder as he physically retraced his steps on that day. Tom survived by diving onto the back of a fire truck and pulling the hose on top of him. Firefighter Lou was assigned to a GPS Unit. Lou and I had to break for thirty minutes because I couldn't get the image out of my head of Lou tagging a pair of hands that were tied together and found on top of a nearby firehouse roof. Claudio, from Highway Patrol, personally evacuated 20,000 people out of lower Manhattan. He had to convince the older people to get on the bus because they were worried they'd never get back home. George lost God that day. He and his partner Kenny were doing evacuations out of the North Tower as hundreds of people fell from above. George and Kenny had to time the people coming out of the North Tower door so that they wouldn't get hit by the people falling from above. Laborer Ralph wanted to tell his story so that maybe his nightmare would go away. That

day Ralph made his way to the site and took a blowtorch from a man too shaken to cut a beam that had skewered four people. But Ralph's nightmare is about a boy. Ralph found a boy about 12 years old stuck underneath a beam with chairs, desks, and debris on top of him. A quarter of the boy was missing.

This is what happened. This is what the terrorists did to us.

Just as the people I interviewed were changed, I was changed. It was, and is, a time for all of us to



A panoramic view of Ground Zero at the New York City World Trade Center site. The slurry wall that holds back the Hudson River is on the left. The ramp that slopes downward from left to right is covered on both sides with honor guard members, shoulder to shoulder, who stand at attention and salute when a victim's body draped in an American flag is carried out of the site.

share our time and skills for the sake of our country—for the sake of each other. It is a time of preparedness and response.

After the New York experience, I longed to help in some meaningful way. I attended Aviation Day at the Naples Municipal Airport and unexplainably was drawn to the United States Air Force Auxiliary, Civil Air Patrol recruiting display. People dressed in Air Force uniforms explained to me that the organization membership was solely

composed of civilian volunteers. I was invited to attend their squadron's next meeting on Tuesday night. Again, I was given an extraordinary opportunity.

At the Tuesday meeting I was astounded by what I saw and heard. Here was an organization that participated in training, preparedness, search and rescue missions, aerospace education, and even homeland security. I could be a part of it. I could be *part of the solution*.

Major Tom Kuznar, then squadron commander,

asked me to tell the members about myself. Learning I was a professional writer, Kuznar explained there were many different jobs within the Civil Air Patrol. He then asked a host of questions....Did I want to become a pilot? I replied I had never been in a small plane and I would be quite content to let them fly the planes.

It then dawned on me that the Civil Air Patrol as an auxiliary of the United States Air Force meant flying for a girl who is petrified with fear of

heights. I quickly asked, "Do you have anything to do on the ground?" "Oh yes," was their immediate reply, "Radio Operator, Administration, Personnel, Communications, Ground Team, and Public Affairs." "But I know nothing about the military or how it works," I said. "We will train you," they quickly responded.

I now proudly wear the specialty badge of PAO [Public Affairs Officer]. I work with the media and the public. It's been almost a year now, and I've participated in Search and Rescue missions, both ground and air. Every mission is different. During Hurricane Charley, I had the honor of being part of RECON 1 Ground Team. Our mission was to search a sector of Charlotte County and report back to mission base if we found any people in distress. Almost immediately, we found about 25 families who were without food or water for days. Within hours, a supply of both was delivered directly to each family in need.

Our Naples Squadron has participated in 73 missions as of September. Our pilots, aircrews, and ground support personnel are some of the best, but missions get fulfilled because of all of us. I may know how to write news stories and contact the media but Lt. Marie Berninger, Administration Officer can recite all official forms in her sleep. We are all proud of the tasks we do and we do them well, always striving for better. We continue to learn and train under the leadership of our present squadron commander, Lt. John Varsames.

As stated, September 11, 2001 was America's wake-up call for better preparedness and response. Through the Civil Air Patrol, anybody, even someone like me, no matter what we know or don't know, can be *part of the solution*. The opportunity is here and now. There are thousands of people just like me looking for a way to help. Let's all of us tell them about the Civil Air Patrol.....today and every day.

Panoramic photo by 2Lt. Gail Swanson

LESSONS FROM A HOMING PIGEON

On the day before Hurricane Jeanne visited Ocala, a pigeon arrived at our house. Now that in of itself is not something out of the ordinary. However I did notice the pigeon had an identification band around its leg. Apparently, this was a pigeon that belonged to someone. I did not have much time to really think about it because I was busily preparing my mother-in-law's home with plywood for the coming hurricane. I figured the pigeon would stay around for a short period of time and continue whatever journey it was on.

To my surprise, the pigeon was still in our backyard on the following day, the day that Hurricane Jeanne came to town. It was interesting to watch the pigeon on that day.

Unlike the coastal areas, the sustained winds at our house probably only made it to 50 or 60 miles an hour. The winds were enough to cause our power to go out at 1050. That meant I could keep my eye on the outside all day as the wind blew, the trees swayed and the branches fell. I had the opportunity to think about all the feelings I had experienced the week before the hurricane. We had missed the winds of Charley, but saw and heard about the devastation so many of our CAP members experienced. Frances had blown through our area and while it was not as strong as Jeanne, it seemed as if it would never leave.

In Ocala we watched the path of Hurricane Ivan for a long time. Nerves were on edge for many people. Unfortunately the Panhandle of Florida was hit hard. Now Jeanne was blowing through. I wondered how long we would be without power this time. I wondered how things were going to be at the hospital when I went to work the next day. The week before you could cut the tension with a knife.

I cannot pretend to know the feelings of the CAP members who experienced the full fury of the storms, but I do know the people of Marion County were anxious, and I was one of them.

With all this going through my head, I had the opportunity to watch that pigeon the better part of the day. The pigeon had found a great place to eat on the ground under our bird feeder which once hung from above. I was amazed as the pigeon walked around the yard eating. It almost seemed oblivious to the wind that was blowing around. Every once in awhile the pigeon would move right up against the shed in our yard while the wind blew. Throughout the entire day, the pigeon didn't

seem to have a care in the world even though the storm was blowing continuously.

The action of that bird reminded me of a passage of Scripture that says, "Look at the birds of the air, they do not sow, nor reap nor gather into barns, and yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not worth much more than they? [Gospel of Matthew 6:26] I have to admit knowing I have a God who cares for me helps me through some difficult times.

The hurricane season has been a difficult one for many of us in Florida. By the time you read this article, hurricane season will be long past [and perhaps the memories softened]; but I would imagine there are plenty of events that come into lives that cause stress and anxiety.

As a chaplain, I found the following helpful for people who go through difficult times:

1. Take one day at a time, and
2. Remember you don't have to carry the burden alone.



Chaplain Major Tom Carson
Florida Wing Chaplain

Final Flight



**Chaplain, Lt. Col.
John M. Magee**
Founder of the Southeast Region
Chaplain Service Staff College

*Florida Wing expresses thanks for his generous gift of dedicated
volunteerism, patriotism, and fraternalism.*

Colonel Joseph Martin, Jr.
Florida Wing Commander

60 YEAR CAP MEMBER DIES

Col. Robert J. Schaetzel, CAP, provided outstanding service as a member of the Civil Air Patrol for 60 years, also in the U.S. Navy Reserve and the U.S. Air Force.



Col. Robert J. Schaetzel, CAP
Feb. 13, 1928—July 16, 2004

He joined CAP in 1944 as a cadet in the New York Wing. His family then moved to Indiana and as a senior member he was appointed to be Squadron Commander of an Indiana squadron. Serving as Group Commander of the Fort Wayne Group, he then moved on to being Deputy Commander of the Indiana Wing.

Transferred to Michigan by his firm of 41 years, General Electric Company, he soon became the Commander of the Michigan Wing. Following retirement and relocation to Florida, he served as Commander of the Ocala Squadron and then moved up to being the Commander of Group 2, followed by appointment as Commander of the Marion County Composite Squadron.

Col. Schaetzel was a certified Mission Pilot, Mission Coordinator, and Senior Observer. As a member of the National Commander's Communication Committee he assisted in the re-writing of CAPM 100-1. During this service, he supervised the development of a regional communications center in which CAP had the capability to support the 2nd USAF Reserve Region and the FAA at JFK Airport during the establishment of the USAF Operation Recovery Effort.

He received the Phillippe Award from GE for Distinguished Public Service and numerous awards and medals from CAP.

9/11 CREATES ANOTHER MEMBER

"As a college student, I worked during the summer of 1969 on construction of the World Trade Center. Subsequently as a CEO of a public company, I made hundreds of visits to financial institutions that were housed in the WTC Towers. Every time I cleared lobby security I would flashback to 1969 for a thrilling realization that I was a bit responsible for this magnificent edifice. On 9/11 some of the people I did business with perished. That's when I made the decision to rejoin the Civil Air Patrol.

As a youth, I was a CAP cadet colonel. That experience led to my service in the Air Force during the Viet Nam era from 1970 to 1976. Today, as a CAP member I have a sense of community service in fulfilling the needs of our state and nation...and I don't forget our brothers and sisters in those towers.

Lt. John Varsames, Squadron Commander
Naples Senior Squadron

MEET YOUR TEAMMATES



1 Lt. Michael Tier has been a member of the Civil Air Patrol since 1996 when he started as a cadet. He earned the appointment as Cadet Commander of the Central Florida Composite Squadron and was the Group 4 CAC Chairman.

He has attended and served as a staff member of five region leadership schools and ten encampments and was a student of the Cadet Officers School in 2000. Michael is very active in the Florida Wing Cadet Program and currently is the Drug Demand Reduction Administrator where he teaches cadets about drug and alcohol abuse.

Michael also serves as the Circulation Manager of FLORIDA FACTS and is responsible for updating the distribution list for each quarterly issue.



Major Robert Sims is Director of Information Management for Florida Wing. He is responsible for coordination and integration of most information generated by the wing.

Sims has held command positions in squadrons, groups and now serves as a wing staff officer.

He has been awarded medals for Meritorious Service, Commander Commendation, Paul E. Garber, Grover Loening, General Chuck Yeager, Command Service, Disaster Relief, Search and Rescue, Rescue Find with two clasps, and Gen. Billy Mitchell.

Major Sims has also been recognized as Squadron Senior Member of the Year, Group Public Affairs Officer of the Year, and has received the Cadet Programs Circle of Excellence Award.



Capt. Vickie Meyer has been serving Florida Wing as the Director of Cadet Programs since 2001. She is a graduate of the Southeast Region Staff College and has earned the Chuck Yeager Award, Grover Loening Award, Paul E. Garber Award, two Life-saving Awards, Exceptional Service Award and Meritori-

ous Service Award. Additionally she has three Commander's Commendation Awards, and a Masters Rating in both Finance and Cadet Programs.

Capt. Meyer has achieved her solo wings and hopes to complete her pilot's license in the near future. At the unit level, she has held positions that include Finance Officer, Leadership Officer, and Deputy Commander of Cadets. Vickie also has her General Emergency Services and UDF qualifications.

Although Capt. Meyer spends lots of her time with Cadet Programs, [and her four daughters and six grandchildren] she has recently graduated with a degree in Crime Scene Technology and intends to join a law enforcement agency.



Lt. Col. Rex Meyer has served as Florida Wing Director of Safety since 2003. Previously he was the Assistant Inspector General for CAP Southeast Region. At the unit level he held positions as Safety Officer and Finance Committee member.

He has been certified as a General Emergency Services

member with UDF qualifications. He has earned an Air Search and Rescue Ribbon, a SAR Find Ribbon with a bronze propeller clasp, and Disaster Relief Ribbon with a Presidential Clasp. In addition, Col. Meyer has earned a Commander's Commendation, Meritorious Service Award, and a Life-Saving Award.

A graduate of the Air Force Air War College, Air Command, and Staff College, Col. Meyer is employed full time with the Air Force Reserve, 920th Rescue Wing, Special Operations, at Patrick Air Force Base with a combined total of 37 years between Active Duty and full-time Reserve Service. Col. Meyer is a licensed pilot and an Aircraft and Helicopter Accident Investigator having worked with FAA, NTSB, and DoD, while investigating over 50 aircraft accidents.



**MARK YOUR CALENDARS NOW!
2005**



JANUARY

1 National Congress Crown Circle Nomination
1 FLORIDA FACTS submittal deadline
15-16 Special Activities Selection Board
21 Chaplain Service Training

FEBRUARY

1 National Congress Teacher Nomination
5-6 Super Bowl Security Mission
19-20 Professional Dev. Weekend-Tallahassee
21 President's Day
26-27 Drill and Color Guard Competitions

MARCH

11 Chaplain Service Training
12-13 Communications Workshop
20 Palm Sunday
27 Easter

APRIL

1 FLORIDA FACTS submittal deadline
2-3 Professional Dev. Weekend-Orlando
3 Daylight Savings Time - Change Clocks
9-19 Sun 'n' Fun
24 Passover

MAY

2-8 Southeast Region Chaplain College
2-8 State Hurricane Exercise
5 National Day of Prayer
8 Mother's Day
21 Armed Forces Day
30 Memorial Day

JUNE

10 Chaplain Service Training
10 AE Teachers Workshop -Orlando

JUNE [cont'd]

9-10 Wing Conference Pre-Events-Orlando
10-12 Wing Conference-Orlando
14 Flag Day
19 Father's Day
TBA Florida Wing Encampment-Blanding

JULY

4 Independence Day
24-31 Career Shadowing
24-31 Florida Leadership Academy
24-31 Southeast Region Staff College

AUGUST

SEPTEMBER

5 Labor Day
16 Chaplain Service Training
17 Communication Exercise

OCTOBER

1 FLORIDA FACTS submittal deadline
13 Yom Kippur

NOVEMBER

8 Election Day
11 Veterans Day [Observed]
24 Thanksgiving

DECEMBER

25 Christmas
26 Hanukkah
31 New Years Eve

PRECAUTIONS FOR FLU SEASON



Lt Col **PATRICIA FAUNT**
SER Nurse Officer

Nationwide, the flu season is November through March. No one knows how difficult the coming season will be or which strain of the flu virus will be prevalent, so be prepared.

If you are sick or your children are sick, please **stay home**, don't spread your germs. Use considerate respiratory etiquette. Sick or not, cover your mouth and nose when you cough and sneeze, preferably with a tissue, or if you absolutely have to, with your sleeve.

If you use your hands, wash them as soon as possible or use a hand sanitizer. If someone wants to shake your hand, explain you have a health issue and would prefer not to share the germs.

Probably the best thing you can do is wash your hands frequently. A rinse-and-run job is just not enough. If you merely run your hands under the water and dry them, the germs are going to stick to the oils on your hands. You have to make the sudsing actions.

You have to wash your hands after visits to the bathrooms. If you are out and about any trips to public places you can be exposed to infections. Think of the elevators, stairwells and phones where many people touch the same surfaces.

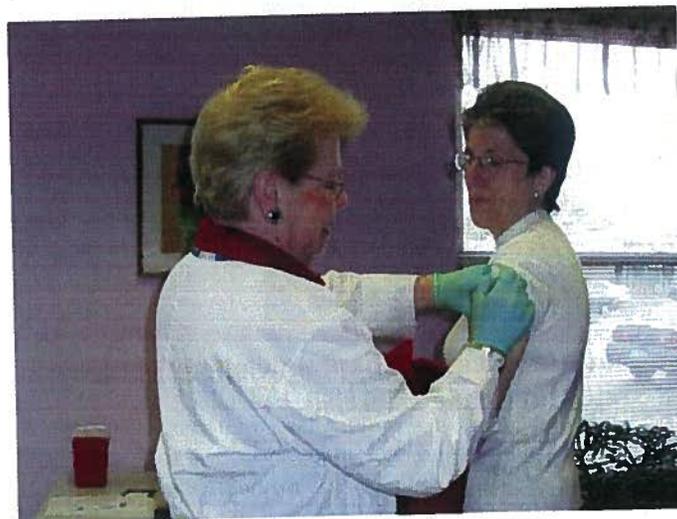
Avoid touching your eyes, nose or your mouth. That's how you can spread germs into your system.

Don't eat or drink after sick people, meaning you should not share a sick persons utensils or dishes. Don't share towels either.

Be particularly aware that traveling can be risky since you are exposed to multitudes of people, confronted with the need to touch things other passengers have touched. For example, as you arrive at the terminal building, perhaps you have to touch a door opener, the E-Ticket Dispensing Machine, the ticket counter, the stairs/escalators going to your gate, the flush valves and sink faucets in the restrooms, the check-in counter, the overhead bin, the overhead light switch and air vent, the seat and arm rest, the tray table, the airline magazine, and the plane's restroom facilities.

Airplanes are notorious for people getting sick. Try to stay healthy throughout the year. Exercise, eat properly, get enough sleep, and stop smoking. A healthy immune system has a better chance to fight off germs.

If you can, get a flu shot if offered. As you well know, they are in very limited supply and a priority qualification program has been established.



Be aware, take care.

Ref: County Health Dept.

ROUNDUP

► The Civic Leadership Academy fosters cadet officers' civic growth by increasing their leadership skills, civic responsibility, and overall interest in the democratic process.

The academy is scheduled for 26 February to 5 March 2005 and is not your average field trip to our nation's capital. This is an opportunity for 24 of CAP's brightest cadets to explore their government and learn how the three branches and the media inter-relate. During their week in Washington, cadets will visit the Capitol, Supreme Court, State Department, plus major museums and the Air and Space museum. The academy culminates with cadets meeting Congressional leaders to help them better understand the United States Air Force Auxiliary's value to America.

► The Veteran's Administration advises the Center For Women Veterans has been established to assure that women veterans receive benefits and services on a par with male veterans, encounter no discrimination in their attempt to access these services, are treated with respect and dignity by VA service providers, and to act as the primary advisor to the Secretary of Veterans Affairs on all matters related to programs, issues, and initiatives for and affecting women veterans.

► 2Lt. Anthony Gorss completed his one year Internship and the Florida Wing Public Affairs Workshop and has earned the Technicians Rating as a Public Affairs Officer.

► Major Mario Bartoletti, Florida Wing Public Affairs Officer has been installed as Vice President of the Regional Air Force Association.

► Major Chris Triano is now serving as Group 7 Director of Cadet Programs.

► Major Linda Trimpey, FLWG External Aerospace Education Officer advises the Aerospace Education Officer Workshop will be held on 6 November 2004 at the Crystal Lake Middle School Cadet Squadron Headquarters in Pompano Beach. This workshop is for AEO's and C/AEO's and those CAP members who are interested in supporting the CAP AE Mission. Attendance fulfills one of the specialty track requirements.

► Capt. Vickie Meyer, FLWG Director of Cadet Programs is accepting applications for Project Officers for:

- Special Acts - January 2005
- Drill Competition - February 2005
- Summer Encampment Commander - June 2005

Exact dates and locations are in process.

► Peterson Air Force Base, Colo. - In a windowless room inside a nondescript building on this Colorado air base is a room jammed with computer screens. Bridge safety reports flash on one screen, while photos of the university hosting one of the presidential debates scroll

nearby on another screen.

A handful of military installations in and around Colorado Springs are the heart of the U.S. military's anti-terrorism network. The staff at Northern Command headquarters and nearby Cheyenne Mountain, where the North American Aerospace Defense Command is hidden under tons of granite, readily admit they were unprepared for the asymmetrical airborne attacks on 9/11.

NORAD, formed with Canada during the Cold War, was monitoring only 20 percent of the flights over the United States then. Today there is a 100 percent coverage and a direct link from staff there to the Federal Aviation Administration. Since September 11, fighters have been scrambled more than 1,500 times. Northcom staff now know if a pilot even calls for help with a drunken passenger.

An electronic wall map shows all civilian airliners in the air over the lower 48 states. A plane that veers from its flight plan is noticed immediately and, based on circumstances, a fighter plane is launched swiftly. Gen. Ed Eberhart, commander of NORAD and Northcom, has stated, "Our level of security and surveillance has vastly improved. We consider ourselves at war with the terrorists everyday."

► The Southeast Region Encampment is scheduled for 27 December 2004 to 2 January 2005 at Tyndall Air Force Base.

Toshiba TV Puts CAP in Spotlight

CAP has received some unexpected national publicity since Oregon Wing CAP members tracked an emergency distress signal that turned out to be coming from a Toshiba television set!

A CAP squadron had been assigned by the Air Force Rescue Coordination Center to search for an electronic distress signal in Oregon's Willamette Valley. The CAP search and rescue team and local law enforcement officials discovered the signal was actually coming from a television set in a Corvallis man's apartment.

"This is definitely a first in CAP history", said Maj. Gen. Dwight Wheless, CAP National Commander. "It's such an unusual story that it's captured the media attention all over the country. Most people are not aware as to how many missions our members actually perform each year to locate and verify distress signals." CAP deploys for nearly 3,000 missions each year related to ELT's or EPIRB's. That's an average of eight missions per day nationwide. Of these, some 300 or about 10% are true distress signals.

"In the aftermath of Hurricanes Charley, Frances, Ivan and Jeanne, Florida Wing members were assigned nearly 1000 missions to locate emergency beacons that were activated when aircraft in hangars and docked boats were severely damaged. Each had to be located and disabled so that true emergency distress signals could be discerned," said Col. Joseph Martin, Florida Wing Commander.

Melanie LeMay
Public Relations Specialist



Member Profiled in Sun-Sentinel

The South Florida "Sun-Sentinel" printed an interview profile of Richard Davis, member of the Boca Raton Composite Squadron. Davis is a mission certified pilot and is on standby alert from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. every Saturday. However, as with all CAP members he is expected to respond to an emergency mission call-up at any time on any day.

Richard had a passion for flying since he was a little boy. His father, a U. S. Navy pilot was killed on active duty when Richard was 2 years old. His grandfather was a U. S. mail pilot, so flying is definitely in his lineage. Davis said, "I joined CAP to be involved in Homeland Security and disaster relief.

CAP Featured in News Story

Career Shadowing program initiated by the Civil Air Patrol was covered in a full page story in the "Missileer", Patrick Air Force Base's newspaper.

Twelve cadets spent five days at the base touring the facility and gaining an in-depth view of various duties carried out by the 45th Space Wing. Capt. Ivan Acosta was the military sponsor of the trip. Capt. Acosta is the 1st Space Launch Squadron Global Positioning System Field Program Manager and he is also an active Florida Wing staff officer of CAP.

Major Robert Cooke, a pilot with the 39th Rescue Squadron said, "The cadets showed a lot of interest in how we accomplish our mission and they asked several good, intelligent questions." "I think it is important the younger generation understands there is an enormous number of options for them in the military. They need to see more than what they hear and see on television," said Capt. Acosta. All the cadets agreed the experience inspired a new understanding of the military as a whole.



Group 5 Change of Command

The Naples Senior Squadron hosted the Group 5 Change of Command presided over by wing commander Col. Joseph Martin. Col. Martin commands more than 4200 volunteer members in the Florida Wing of the Civil Air Patrol composed of 11 Groups and 87 squadrons.

The former Group 5 Commander, Major Fran Gleockler has been elevated to serving as Chief of Staff of Florida Wing and Capt. Pat O'Key has been appointed to assume the command responsibility of Group 5.

Attending the ceremony were members from the Naples Senior Squadron, Naples Cadet Squadron, Marco Island Senior Squadron, Weston Cadet Squadron, and the Ft. Myers Composite Squadron.

Naples agencies were represented by Ted Soliday and Richard Cobb, Naples Airport Authority; Jim vonRinteln, Bureau of Emergency Services; and Capt Jim Bloom, Collier County Sheriff's Department.

At the completion of the Change of Command, Col. Martin addressed the group.

2Lt. Gail Swanson

Cadet Wins College Scholarship

13 year old Cadet Chief Master Sergeant Christina Zarrilli won the Investing in the Future's 7th annual College Scholarship Essay Contest. The middle school essay topic was "What is the most important thing you can do with your money."

Sgt. Zarrilli, a member of the Boca Raton Composite Squadron, wrote about working and dividing her money between saving for college and activities that will help her achieve her dream of becoming an astronaut. She stressed how she feels investing her time and money now in the Civil Air Patrol is providing her with knowledge and skills to achieve her life's ambition of exploring the universe in the future.

1Lt. Jackie Zarrilli



Hurricane Chronology Released

The Florida Wing Communication Directorate released their chronology of activities during the six weeks that Florida was struck by four hurricanes.

- A three day net was conducted while Hurricane Charley roared over the state from Port Charlotte to Daytona Beach.
- A seven day HF radio net was operated while Hurricane Frances slowly moved from Stuart exiting into the Gulf of Mexico.
- A two day HF net was maintained as Hurricane Ivan tore into the panhandle and Pensacola.
- A three day HF radio net was in place while Hurricane Jeanne slammed into Stuart and Vero Beach.
- During all these incidents, HF stations checked in for roll call at the top of each even hour with many VHF stations being relayed into the HF nets. Further, several times only HF and VHF were communicable. Base phones, portable phones, cellular phones, etc. were knocked out by the fury of the storms.



Cadets Help Storm Victims

More than 50 CAP cadets and senior members deployed to help storm victims of Hurricanes Charley on the west coast and Hurricane Frances on the east coast. Following the paths of destruction and power outages, they distributed desperately needed supplies.

"We gave out six truckloads of ice and three truckloads of water. A lot of people hugged and thanked us for what we did. That's what makes it all worthwhile," Lt. Dennis Lecik said.

Mission debriefings were conducted at the Melbourne home of Lt. Col. Rex Meyer, Florida Wing Safety Director and Capt. Vickie Meyer, Florida Wing Director of Cadet Programs. "We were some of the first responders. In less than two days after Charley hit, we were unloading supplies. You know that our help means a lot to them when eyes water up when they thank you and grown men become emotional.

A feature story and photos of the exploits of the community services the Civil Air Patrol provided was in the "Florida Today" newspaper.



Air Force Recognizes CAP

CAP's missions during the Frances onslaught were reported in an article appearing in the "Air Force" magazine which is the journal of the Air Force Association. The following excerpt is from an article in the October issue headlined **Hurricane Frances Blasts Canaveral and Patrick Bases**. "Two Air Force facilities in the state of Florida were hit hard by Hurricane Frances during Labor Day weekend. Patrick Air Force Base and Cape Canaveral Air Force Station, both on Florida's Atlantic Coast, sustained damage from the Category 2 hurricane that came ashore September 4.

Much of the damage at Patrick resulted from the collapse of an empty hangar. The aircraft normally held there belong to the 920th Rescue Wing. As Frances approached, the HH-6 Pave Hawk helicopters and a C-130 normally housed there were flown to Dobbins Air Reserve Base in Georgia, for protection.

At Cape Canaveral, scattered damage did not affect three rockets already in place on their launch pads, officials said. Three boosters –a Delta II, Delta IV, and Titan IV B-all seem to have survived and weathered the storm.

The Civil Air Patrol, USAF's official civilian auxiliary, assisted with the storm assessment efforts. According to an Air Force news release, CAP members were to "capture and transmit aerial photos of the affected sites" for use by emergency responders.

Digital cameras aboard CAP aircraft were to take high-resolution photos to "help emergency relief agencies plan and prioritize rescue, repair and cleanup efforts," the release stated.

Financially, Frances is still expected to be the most destructive in Cape Canaveral's history."



PROP WASH

U.S. homeland defense strategists have quietly implemented a novel way to protect sensitive facilities from GPS-guided weapons, such as cruise missiles. Electronic experts have noted large errors in GPS navigation units used within 0.25 mi. of a nuclear facility. GPS anomalies indicated speeds twice as fast as cars were driving in vicinity of the plant and readouts of terrain elevations near the plant as zero - several thousand feet lower than actual. These could effectively 'spooF' the navigation of a cruise missile that relied on GPS signals for targeting.

All members of Florida Wing salute our new wing commander, Col. Joseph Martin. Hardly having adequate time to place his command flag in its floor stand, he was greeted by a meteorological anomaly of four hurricanes in the shortest spread of time for nearly 125 years. Groups had to be ordered to HURCON status, Aircraft Evacuation Plans had to be activated, the Emergency Center Operations Team had to be dispatched to Tallahassee - again, and again, and again, and RECON and FCT personnel were readied for deployment. Col. Martin functioned as if he had been Wing Commander for years. National Commander Maj. Gen. Wheless may rest easy knowing his selection and appointment of Florida Wing's Commander was an excellent one.

The cruise liner, Queen Elizabeth II moves only six inches for each gallon of diesel that it burns!

SHUTTLE WATCH PAINTING UNVEILED



At the Florida Wing Conference, a painting entitled "Shuttle Watch: Florida Wing CAP" was unveiled. Donated by aviation artist Diane Kraus, it will hang at Wing Headquarters at MacDill Air Force Base. Print Number One went to Senior Member of the Year 1Lt. Melissa Cook.

Cape Canaveral and NASA Kennedy Space Center were bracing - as we all were - for a potential direct hit by Hurricane Frances, followed quickly by Hurricanes Ivan and Jeanne. Category 4 or 5 winds could seriously damage the U.S. space launch infrastructure. Sustained winds of 140mph with gusts to 170 mph were projected. Cape facilities were designed to sustain winds of 115-124 mph. NASA's fears were well founded. While not devastated, Kennedy suffered the worst hurricane damage in its 40 year history. More than 800 wall panels were torn away from the Vehicle Assembly Building.

Lt. Col. John Lynn and

Major Linda Trimpey have earned First Place Southeast Region Aerospace Education Award and First Place National Aerospace Education Award for Florida Wing - again. Oooooah!

Major John Houchin has accepted the Change of Command from Major Ernest Manzano and is now the Commander of Group 7. With Major Fran Gleckler becoming the Chief of Staff of Florida Wing, she is replaced as Commander of Group 5 by Major Patrick O'key. Major Gary Owen serving as Florida Wing's Inspector General has earned promotion to the rank of Lt. Colonel and Lt. Col. Roger Thomas was named the "National Historian of the Year" at the National Conference in Tampa. One would imagine we are building a new headquarters building at MacDill Air Force Base merely to have more wall space for all the plaques and trophies we earn!

950 of our members have experienced personal damage and disruption as a result of the four hurricanes that hit our state from August 11 to September 25. More than 700 ELT's and EPIRBS sounded alarms throughout the state during this period. Nine Urban Detection Finder Teams were deployed to silence them. The "first boots" to perform ground damage assessment in the state were those of CAP members.

CAP and CAP-USAF Sign Agreement With 1st Air Force Northern Command

1st Air Force, the air component of the U.S. Northern Command, has signed an official Memorandum of Understanding the civilian auxiliary of the and CAP-USAF, the vice, liaison, and oversight

According to the will consider the use of ground capabilities as an combat missions. CAP has bers throughout the nation search and rescue, disaster assessment, and aerial re-

CAP is a cost-such Air Force assigned bers are all unpaid profes-Agreement was signed at Florida, headquarters for

Gen. Craig McKinley, Commander of 1st Air Force; Maj. Gen. Dwight Wheless, CAP National Commander; and Col. George Vogt, Commander of CAP-USAF.

"Civil Air Patrol has really made its mark on the way 1st Air Force does business," McKinley said. "This Memorandum of Understanding simply solidifies the relationship we've been building over the last several years."

Also present for the signing were Brig. Gen. Marcel Duval, Canadian Forces Deputy Commander, Continental U. S. North American Aerospace Defense Command Region; Brig. Gen. Antonio Pineda, CAP National Vice-Commander; and Al Allenback, CAP Executive Director.

"We are proud to be partners with 1st Air Force, Wheless said. "Working with Northern Command gives us the opportunity to contribute to our nation's security in a more meaningful way. We take very seriously the gesture of trust that this MOU signifies."

"This MOU codifies the command and control lines between CAP and 1st Air Force," Allenback stated. "CAP is the best value in homeland security today, and this Agreement opens the door to CAP's providing even more support for agencies throughout the nation that need our services."

CAP has been working on a limited basis with 1st Air Force for more than two years, assisting the Air Force on such exercises as Determined Promise 03 and 04, which measured our nation's ability to respond effectively during a simulated terrorist attack, CAP also assisted the Air Force with security for the G8 Summit in Georgia, which brought together key government leaders from throughout the world to meet with President Bush and cabinet members.

In the last few months, CAP has worked closely with 1st Air Force to provide ground and aerial damage impact assessment for areas devastated by hurricanes and tornados in the state of Florida where CAP has more than 4200 members. CAP has also assisted in security training missions for 1st Air Force by using its planes to pose as suspicious aircraft, allowing the Air Force to assess the speed and effectiveness of its response. On Air Force assigned missions, CAP works under the auspices of active-duty Air Force officials assigned to CAP National Headquarters, as well as CAP-USAF Liaison officers in each of CAP's eight regions. CAP members cannot fly missions that involve actual combat or combat training deemed excessively hazardous. CAP members also cannot perform duties reserved for law enforcement officials, such as detaining or arresting individuals, or gathering of intelligence information.



Signing l to r Maj. Gen. Dwight Wheless, CAP National Commander; Maj. Gen. Craig McKinley, Commander 1st Air Force and Col. George Vogt, Commander CAP-USAF.

Photo by 1st Air Force Public Affairs Office

with Civil Air Patrol, United States Air Force, agency charged with ad-of CAP.

Agreement, 1st Air Force Civil Air Patrol air and option for any of its non-more than 62,000 mem-trained to assist in relief, damage impact conaissance.

effective resource for missions since its mem-sional volunteers. The Tyndall Air Force Base, 1st Air Force, by Maj.

Astronaut Cooper Dies

U.S. Air Force Col. [ret.] Leroy Gordon Cooper, one of the nation's 'original seven' Project Mercury astronauts died at his home in Ventura, California at the age of 77.

Cooper, entered the Marine Corps after graduating from high school and then became an elite Air Force test pilot at Edwards Air Force Base where he became fascinated with the space program.

In April 1959, 'Gordo' was named one of the Project Mercury astronauts. He joined previously selected Alan Shepard, Gus Grissom, John Glenn, M. Scott Carpenter,



Walter Schirra, Jr. and Deke Slayton.

On May 15 and 16, 1963, Cooper piloted the Faith 7 spacecraft on a 22-orbit mission that concluded the operational phase of Project Mercury.

During his two space flights, he logged 225 hours, and served as backup com-

mand pilot for Gemini 12 and as backup commander for Apollo X.

"I would have liked to go to the moon. I would have liked to have been one of the crew that landed on the moon."

In his post-NASA career, Col. Cooper became an outspoken believer in UFO's. "I believe there is extraterrestrial activity and these vehicles and their crews are visiting this planet from other planets, which obviously are a little more technologically advanced than we are here on earth."

"For many years I have lived with a secret. I can now reveal that every day, in the USA, our radar instruments capture objects of form and composition unknown to us."

LATE STORY IN FROM REUTERS

Editor's Note: See earlier story on Page 26

EUGENE, Oregon [Reuters] — TV Hardly Gets Much Better Than This.

An Oregon man discovered earlier this month his year-old Toshiba Corporation flat-screen TV was emitting an international distress signal picked up by a satellite, leading to a search and rescue operation to his apartment in Corvallis, Oregon, 70 miles south of Portland.

The signal from Chris van Rossman's TV was routed by satellite to the Air Force Rescue Coordination Center at Langley Air Force Base in Virginia.

On October 2, the 20 year-old college student was visited at his apartment in the small university town by a contingent of local police and Civil Air Patrol search and rescue personnel.

"They'd never seen a signal come that strong from a home appliance," said van Rossman. "They were quite surprised. I think we all were."

Authorities had expected to find a boat or a small plane with a malfunctioning transponder, the usual culprit in such incidents, emitting the 121.5 MHz frequency of the distress signal used internationally.

Van Rossman said he was told to keep his TV off to avoid paying a \$10,000 fine for "willingly broadcasting a false distress signal." Toshiba contacted Rossman and offered to provide him with a replacement set for free.

Cadets Serve As Color Guard

Civil Air Patrol Cadets from the Boca Raton Composite Squadron performed Color Guard duties at a ceremonial breakfast. Fifty veterans, their guests and local elected officials attended the event. Airman Basic Michael Lima, Master Sergeant Brit-tany Roberson, and Chief Master Sergeant Christina Zarrilli proudly carried the colors.



The Color Guard Commander, C/MSgt Roberson stated, "The carrying of the colors for our veterans is one way the Civil Air Patrol can say 'Thank You' for all you have done."

Mike Addresso, a member of the DAV and Marine Devil Dogs said, "These cadets are always so respectful and helpful. It's a privilege when they honor us at our functions."

Cadets Demonstrate Rocketry

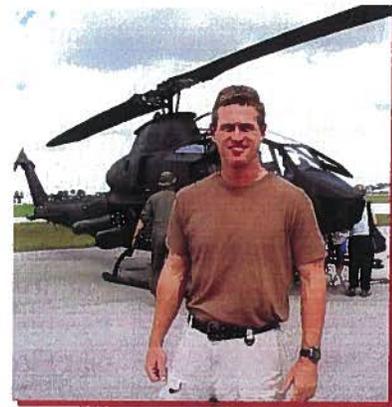


C/Airman 1st Class Chelsea Weiss from the Central Florida Composite Squadron assists young homeschooling students to complete the RingWing while C/Senior Airman Brandon Wicklander from the Lantana Cadet Squadron helps other students ready their Alka-Fuji rockets for launching. These two cadets discovered CAP at the FPEA Convention 2003. Lt. Col. Vivian Olson watches.

History Channel TV Show Aired

The "Aerial Reconnaissance" segment of the History Channel's Tactical to Practical series which featured Civil Air Patrol services during World War II and homeland security services of today was aired nationally on September 20. Producer Julie Mirocha suggests there will be re-runs with schedules to be announced.

Major Robert Sims, Florida Wing Director of Information Management is intending to put the video tape onto the Florida Wing web site for all to see.



Hunter Ellis, former U.S. Air Force jet pilot, hosts the Tactical to Practical History Channel TV Series.

CAP Mother and Daughter Respond to Emergency

A women in a parked car outside a store began to have a violent seizure. Her eleven year old daughter screamed for help. CAP members Lt. Jackie Zarrilli and her daughter Cadet CMSgt Christina were within earshot and immediately responded. Lt. Zarrilli ministered to the victim while Christina went into the store to phone 911. She directed a teenage observer to read the street signs at the intersection so she could relay the information to the dispatcher. She told another to check with her mother as to whether the victim was breathing. Cadet Zarrilli calmed the victim's daughter so that she could relay her mother's medical information. Lt Zarrilli who is certified in First Aid kept the woman from hurting herself during her seizure. Both Zarrilli's stayed on the scene until the Emergency Medical Service technicians had everything under control. "I was able to handle the situation because of my CAP training, I knew just what to do." explained Christina.

CAP CLIPS

Training For New Aircraft

Group 6 recently took possession of a late model Cessna 172S to replace an older C172P aircraft which had seen a great deal of service.

Under the requirements of the Florida Wing Supplement to CAPR 60-1, the new airplane is considered to be sufficiently different from the model it replaced to warrant special differences training, both on the ground as well as in the air. All Group 6 pilots were required to complete this training.



Lt. Col. David Mikelson [left] Lt. Col. Russ Reichmann, Assistant Florida Wing

DOV, [center] and Lt. Col. Harvey Siegal, Group 6 Operations Officer [right] conducted the training session at the Boca Raton Composite Squadron.



Thirty current Form 5 and Form 91 pilots, as well as others in training to be CAP pilots, reviewed a power point presentation detailing the differences in pre-flight and engine start-up procedures for this fuel-injected C172S and its 13 fuel drains. Due to the large turnout, only CAP Check Pilots were able to practice the new engine start-up procedures. These Check Pilots will then take the Mission Pilots, O-Ride Pilots and other pilots through the new procedures.

The thoroughness of this pilot training is another example of Florida Wing's commitment to professionalism, excellence, and safety in all phases of air operations.

Les Schwartz

Acosta Earns USAF Award



Brig. Gen Greg Pavlovich, Commander, 45th Space Wing, presents Capt. Ivan Acosta the Wing's Military Volunteer of the Quarter Award at Patrick Air Force Base. Major Ivan Acosta is also a member of CAP and serves on Florida Wing staff as Deputy Director of Cadet Programs.

Wing Staff Appointments

Col. Joseph Martin, Florida Wing Commander has appointed Lt. Col. Alvin Bedgood, Capt. Judy Levitch, 1Lt. Darlene Ferris, and 2Lt. Rudolph Korpas to serve as the Florida Wing Awards Review Board. Col. Martin additionally appointed the same personnel as the Florida Wing Promotion Board.

The Florida Wing Finance Committee has been appointed to include Col. Martin, Chairperson; and members Lt. Col. Wes Hannah, Lt. Col. Valerie Brown, Lt. Col. Joseph Martin, Lt. Col. Irene LaFollette, Lt. Col. Evelyn Holdren, Maj. Frances Gleockler, Capt. Judy Levitch, and Lt. Col. Wesley Borner. All other currently serving wing staff were re-appointed by wing commander Col. Martin.

Blue Angels Return To Battered Home Base

Soon after Hurricane Ivan left the west coast and the panhandle of Florida in a totally disabled condition, the Blue Angel team returned. They were in Nantucket, Mass. to perform in an air show when Ivan struck. They cancelled the show and returned to the Naval Air Station Pensacola to help with the recovery.

Hurricane Ivan caused hundreds of millions of dollars of damage to the station, officials estimated. "I don't even know what to say," said Cmdr. Russ Bartlett. "I never dreamed there would be this level of destruction."

On their return, the Blue Angels were overwhelmed at the sight of hangars without roofs, historic buildings from the 1800's crumbling, giant trees strewn all over, heavy water damage, and tons of debris. There was no power or water except in certain critical buildings used for emergency operations.

None of the airplanes in the fleet were damaged but many vintage planes at the National Museum of Naval Aviation were destroyed. A C-47 Transport plane had a wing sheared off and a S-6 Phantom Jet was missing part of its cockpit.

Coast Guard Station Pensacola, which sits inside the Naval Air Station, was virtually disabled by Ivan. The bottom half of the building was gutted and the second floor was wiped out by water.

Tyndall Air Force Base at Pensacola was also hit hard and lost many of its operations facilities. The control tower is 'no more' said an official. Our losses will cost millions for restoration.



Cadets Assist Hurricane Victims

When the Boca Raton Composite Squadron received a request from an exhausted United Way, after the third hurricane, Jeanne, hit the Atlantic Coast, they 'jumped to' and immediately provided

teams to load ice into trunks of cars that were lined up with no visible end.

It was exactly this type of emergency

response provided by CAP units all over the state that generated the special thanks from Governor Jeb Bush. Of course all United Way personnel and volunteers were extremely appreciative of the relief and assistance.



Recruiting Stirs Interest

A squadron's Open House attracted many families with teenagers who were extremely interested in the radio, emergency services, and model rocketry displays as well as the opportunity to talk with pilots about the orientation flight program and career training. Cadets and Senior members demonstrated various search and rescue equipment and talked about Civil Air Patrol's unique training programs, scholarship opportunities and providing services to their community and country. Boca Raton Composite Squadron cadets spoke about the different academies they attended and the memorable experiences they acquired. Aerospace Education, Honor Guard, Officer and NCO Leadership School and Blue Beret were a few academies that sparked keen interest.

The visitors who expressed a desire to learn more were invited to attend a special training meeting particularly geared to new recruits.

1Lt. Jackie Zarrilli

WHAT THEY'RE THINKING AND SAYING

Editor's Note: These interviews were conducted at the Florida Wing Conference in Fort Lauderdale.

Interview of then Florida Wing Commander Col. Matthew Sharkey:

Question - "What was it like to take command of the largest wing in the nation?"

Answer - "In my first week of command, 9/11 occurred and I was faced with the responsibility to have a CAP member dispatched to every General Aviation Airport in the state. Within hours of the mission assignment I had 1,000 members dispatched and manning every airport with assistance of law enforcement agencies."

"In expectation the second day would be as devastating, I spent nearly the entire day in mobilization and deployment planning. All this activity was compounded by a hurricane which was projected to hit the mainland on Friday. Southwest Florida, Sarasota, and Ft. Myers were the prime targets. With all non-commercial and non-military air activity grounded, CAP was mobilized by the state with the approval of the Federal Aviation Administration."

"I had six aircraft aloft providing evacuation traffic congestion assessments for the Florida Emergency Operations Center [EOC] in Tallahassee."

"So my first half week as Florida Wing Commander was quite full. A humorous incident occurred when I visited areas experiencing heavy flooding and arrived at a mission base in only a

CAP golf shirt, unshaven and unknown to the members therein. It took a while for me to convince them I was their commander and not an interloper."

"Toward the end of week two, things began to return to normality. I began to assemble my wing staff and move towards a smooth transition. I was very lucky to have truly good people in squadrons, groups, and wing and made very few changes from that of my predecessor, Col. Tony Pineda."

Interview of C/MSgt. David Glidden, Lake Composite Squadron

Question - "Is this the first conference you have attended and what do you think of it?"

Answer - "I've been a member of CAP for three years and this is my fourth conference. I had attended a conference just before joining. I currently serve as Flight Commander of 28 cadets and we have about 20 senior members."

"I enjoy the education, training and camaraderie that I have at the wing conferences. Meeting other cadets is great and I have an established network of cadets I met during the previous conferences. I would have liked additional cadet activities and classes at this conference."

"In the long term I'm planning on attending Embry-Riddle, then joining the Air Force and becoming a fighter pilot."

Interview of 2Lt. Charity Prescott, Walton High School Cadet Squadron

Question - "Why did you join a cadet squadron and why have you attended this conference?"

Answer - "I joined six months ago with my daughter. This is our first conference and I think it's wonderful to see so many motivated people - cadets and senior members alike. My daughter wanted to attend to see and meet all who are involved and to get ideas to take back to the squadron and improve it. We both are enjoying the opportunity to communicate with other members."

Interview of Capt. Jimmy Macon, Commander, Walton H.S. Cadet Squadron

Question - "How long have you been a member of CAP and how did you get to be a Commander?"

Answer - "I've been a member for two years. I joined CAP to start this squadron. I am a founding member and got the squadron chartered. We have 13 senior members and 30 cadets. I started the squadron because kids in my community wanted to join a military organization. I researched the internet and came upon the Civil Air Patrol web-site. Based on my 21 years in the Army, CAP seemed to be exactly what they needed."

"This is my second conference with Daytona being the first. I'm planning to attend the National Conference in Tampa but I hope future conferences are planned to be located closer to the Panhandle."

NEWS NOTES

BARTOLETTI SCHOLARSHIP

The second Bartoletti Soaring Scholarship competition is now underway. This award is open to active CAP Cadets from Tampa area squadrons within commuting distance from the Zephyrhills Airport.

Major Mario Bartoletti is the sponsor of the scholarship. Thanks to him, cadets are being introduced to the thrills of powerless flight in the silent blue skies of Florida.

The Bartoletti Soaring Scholarship is a fantastic route for a cadet to obtain an FAA Glider Private Pilot License at no cost to the cadet. The scholarship is worth several thousand dollars. For additional information contact Major Howard Chipman at 813 854 1428.



FIND OF THE MONTH

Lt. Col. David Horowitz of Group 7 located an Emergency Locator Transmitter [ELT] which was broadcasting an emergency alarm in a most unusual location.

The satellite acquisition and transmission to the Air Force Rescue Coordination Center at Langley AFB in Virginia was relayed to Horowitz at 9:40 p.m. With his Directional Finder, he located the errant ELT in one hour and 28 minutes in a wooden box on a shelf in a storage room in a closed metal warehouse of a boat yard.



NEW APPOINTMENT

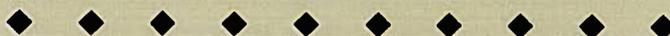
1st Lt. John Edwards has been appointed as the new Florida Wing Staff Model Rocketry Officer [ADY]. He also serves as the Bayside Bridge Composite Squadron and Group 8 Aerospace Education Officer.

John has over 40 years of model rocketry

experience. He is available to groups in establishing a Model Rocketry program.

Lt. Edwards will serve as the Project Officer for the Florida Wing Model Rocketry/Water Bottle Rocketry Competition to be held in April of 2005.

Major Linda Trimpey



MEDIA KIT AVAILABLE

2nd Lt. Gail Swanson of the Naples Senior Squadron has written and produced a multi-page Media Kit that is a boon for a Public Affairs Officer. The kit, to be distributed to all media, provides them with CAP History, its missions, its programs, our national and state assets and resources, our mission capabilities and competencies, Search and Rescue program, flight statistics, specialty tracks, and statistics.

These kits are of great advantage to media writers who need background fill for a CAP story. When such information is readily available to them, the chances are substantially increased that a meaningful and accurate story will appear.

Efforts are underway, at wing level, to make this kit available for every squadron and group Public Affairs Officer.



PHYSICAL FITNESS AWARDS

Civil Air Patrol's National Headquarters will be recognizing squadrons that make physical fitness a cornerstone of their Cadet Program. The Squadron Physical Fitness Award is a voluntary program open to every cadet unit twice each year.

Award details and description of the Cadet Physical Fitness Test can be seen in CAPP 52-18. If 70% of the cadets in the unit can perform at the 50th percentile for their age and gender, then that unit qualifies for an award. There are three levels of award...Gold, Silver, and Bronze.

Major Billy Westcott, Group 3
Deputy Commander, Leadership & Development

FLORIDA WING

CIVIL AIR PATROL

Where
imagination
takes FLIGHT



Emergency Services



Cadet Programs



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