

NORTH CAROLINA WING

CIVIL AIR PATROL

U.S. Air Force Auxiliary

Carolina WingSpan

Citizens serving communities: Above and Beyond



MAY - June 2008



NC Wing cadet drill team places 2nd in national competition

Congratulations to the MER Cadet drill team for placing 2nd place in National Competition and to the MER Honor for doing an admirable job. These NC Cadets and their leaders gave an outstanding effort and deserve all the praise we can muster.

Well done!!!

Larry J. Ragland, Colonel, CAP
NC Wing Commander

Congratulations to all the members of the NC Wing / MER Color Guard and Drill Teams, and their escorts. For all indications they did us very proud and it is rumored that they had a wonderful time doing it. Dayton, Ohio and the Air Force Museum are an outstanding back drop for the National Cadet Competition.

Aside from the Drill team taking an overall 2nd place some individual accomplishments were;

C/Col Olivia Barrow - Top Written Score

MER 1st Place Inspection - Drill Team
1st Place Written Score - Drill Team
2nd Place Panel Quiz - Drill Team
2nd Place Innovative Drill

Again congratulations to all who participated. This was not an easy thing to do. Making it to National Competition is a long had road to travel. Many hours of work and dedication to be able to be there and participate, not only by the cadets but the escorts as well.

Congratulations to all for a job well done.

ALBERT R. THERRIAULT, Maj. CAP
Director of Cadet Programs
NC Wing

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Final Salute

I'm sorry to announce the passing of a very special lady. Ada Bridges, a member of the Shelby Composite Squadron passed on Friday. She and her Husband Tommy have been members of CAP for many many years. Tommy's father was a founding member of CAP. I have known them for years and I am truly saddened by her passing. She brightened the lives of everyone she met. Please take a moment to remember Tommy and his family in your prayers.

Lt. Col Jeff Willis, CAP
 NCWG Senior Incident Commander

“Citizens Serving Communities: Above and Beyond” – This is our new compelling message, which complements the Air Force’s new advertising campaign slogan “Above All.” It replaces “More Than Meets the Skies,” which was unveiled during the 2007 National Board meeting along with CAP’s national public awareness plan. The new message “Citizens Serving Communities: Above and Beyond” provides longevity to CAP’s public awareness initiative and avoids any potential trademark conflicts.

Carolina WingSpan is published under the direction of:

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**COMING IN THE JULY ISSUE . . .
 COMPLETE COVERAGE OF THE
 NC WING ENCAMPMENT AND
 THE NC LEGISLATURE
 PROCLAMATION!**

NC Wing Civil Air Patrol Finds Missing Aircraft

Raleigh, N.C. – The wreckage of a missing single engine Piper PA-32-260 was located this morning at approximately 9:10 a.m. near Cold Mountain in the Shining Rock Wilderness Area along the Haywood and Transylvania County lines in Western North Carolina. The aircraft departed from Rutherford County Airport in North Carolina yesterday at approximately 5 a.m. bound for North Little Rock Airport in Arkansas. The aircraft was reported overdue and the NC Wing of the Civil Air Patrol was notified by the U.S. Air Force Rescue Coordination Center (AFRCC) to begin a search.

The search, which began yesterday, continued this morning with three CAP aircraft and the assistance of a North Carolina Highway Patrol helicopter as well as four ground teams from the North and South Carolina Wings of the Civil Air Patrol, members of the Cruso Fire Department and the Haywood County Rescue Squad. A North Carolina Wing CAP aircrew consisting of pilot, Lt. Col. Wally Courtney and Mission Observer, Captain Gary Lux flying a CAP Cessna spotted the aircraft on the ground in steep, rough terrain. The CAP aircraft vectored the SHP helicopter into the site for low-level verification. Ground crews were then directed to the crash site and reported no survivors. The occupants of the aircraft were identified as Reverend Forrest Pollock and his son, Preston, both of Brandon, FL.

The Incident Commander for this mission is Lt. Col. Jeff Willis.

I would also like to acknowledge the kind assistance of CAP 2Lt. Clint Parker of the Asheville Squadron for assistance in the preparation of this media advisory.

Maj. John Maxfield
Mission Information Officer

A big Thank You goes out to all the North and South Carolina CAP members who participated in this missing aircraft search last night and today. This effort was a great example of cooperation by CAP Wings, National CAP, local EM personnel, NC Highway Patrol, and the State of NC Emergency Management. I am sure there were others who assisted, and I apologize for leaving anyone out. Although the outcome was not what we had hoped for, your dedication and hard work definitely does not go unappreciated. Great Job Civil Air Patrol !!!

I appreciate the job Lt Col Willis and his ES team did on this mission. As a pilot, I am glad to know these highly skilled volunteers are around for all of us.

Larry J. Ragland, Col, CAP
NC Wing Commander

Lt.Col. Crawford

I wanted to take a moment and express my deepest appreciation to you and the members of your CAP wing for the wonderful job you did concerning the downed aircraft of our beloved pastor, Forrest Pollock and his son, Preston.

Yours is not an easy task and many times it goes both unnoticed and unappreciated. Please know that it was a comfort to myself and many others who were praying to know that you and others were searching for Dr. Pollock and his son.

It is my wish and prayer that you and the men and women of the CAP be blessed by God in a mighty way for your service.

Thank you, sir.

Perry M. Kosieniak
Valrico Florida

...Continued from previous page

When sending a Media Advisory during a search mission, it is almost impossible to mention everyone's name who participated in the mission. In the Media Advisory sent earlier today regarding the "find" of the crash site of the missing aircraft in the rugged Shining Rock Wilderness Area, we mentioned the names of the aircrew that actually made the "find."

That having been said, there was another aircrew that contributed substantially to this mission and I wanted to acknowledge their participation in the prosecution of their assigned task.

The night before the "find," an aircrew launched from Monroe, NC about midnight and flew to the search area at Shining Rock Wilderness Area west of Asheville. The aircrew tracked an ELT with their Becker system and helped isolate the exact area where the missing aircraft was thought to be. It was tricky night flying in "no light" conditions over rugged terrain. The aircrew's mountain flying experience served them well, however.

Accordingly, I want to acknowledge to our membership the aircrew that flew the overnight ELT search:

Maj. Tom Schick
Capt. Steve Walden
Capt. Scott Malizia

Thank you gentlemen for all you do for CAP in our Missions for America. Our aircrews, ground crews and mission base staff acquitted themselves in a most dedicated and professional manner during this mission. While the end result was unfortunate, the death of a father and son in a crash, your efforts to bring about swift closure of the event was most commendable.

Maj. John Maxfield, CAP
NC Wing Legal Officer (JA)
Mission Information Officer 08-M-0799

There were too many people involved to detail everyone's contributions, however I would like to recognize the efforts of some of the key mission staff. First Lt Col Wes Surratt who took the initial mission from the AFRCC which was reported at first as an ELT early Monday afternoon. Also Capt Joe Weinflash who took the mission as the IC (T) under Lt Col Surratt's supervision. When the AFRCC reported an ALNOT for a missing aircraft Monday night, where the route of flight would have crossed essentially right over the area where the ELT was located, Lt Col Willis took over the mission as Incident Commander. Major John Maxfield served as the Mission Information Officer throughout the mission, as media interest began to intensify. Capt Andy Wiggs deployed to the search area to backup Capt Weinflash as the search progressed into a second day. There were many other North Carolina Wing members who responded or stood by to respond to this mission.

I would also like to again thank all of the agencies who were assisting in this mission including the State EOC, NC Emergency Management Western Branch, Cruso VFD, Haywood County Rescue Squad, State Highway Patrol, CAP members in Pennsylvania and Colorado who performed specialized tasks at the request of the AFRCC and the members of South Carolina Wing who stood by to, or responded to assist in this search.

This mission was further evidence that the efforts of CAP to adopt and implement ICS to assist in interoperability between agencies during a response is on target. The level of cooperation and integration between all the responders on this mission was excellent across the board.

Again, thank you to everyone who assisted, responded, or stood by to respond to this search.

David E. Crawford, Lt Col, CAP
Director of Operations, North Carolina Wing
Civil Air Patrol

Briefings from the flight deck

AE "O" Ride report

AE Day was a big success! As Maj Williams reported we did 16 front seat Orientation Rides with 11 Cadets getting their first ride.

However, the heros of the day were the pilots that gave up their entire Saturday, and our Operations Director who had this operation running like a finely tuned radial engine. We even dragged the Wing Commander in to help when we ran short of aircraft.

Many thanks to the Pilots that did the heavy lifting:

Lt. Col Bill Fountain, 6 Sorties; Lt. Col Jayson Altieri, 4 Sorties; Col. Larry Ragland, 2 Sorties; Capt. Dion Viveni, 2 Sorties; 1Lt Don Willams, 2 Sorties

Maj. Toby Wall was our outstanding Operations Director and Dave Oldham assisted with all the WMIRS entries.

Can't forget Maj. James Williams and Capt. Paul Twiddy for driving the whole activity.
Tim Tessin, Capt. CAP

MER News

Effective 1 June 2008, I am pleased to announce the appointment of Col. Russell M. Opland as Vice Commander and Lt Col. C. Warren Vest as Chief of Staff of Middle East Region.

Col. Opland recently completed a successful tour of duty as Delaware Wing Commander, and until today was Chief of Staff of Middle East Region. He has years of managerial experience in the healthcare and IT industries, and has developed many government and industry contacts in support of Civil Air Patrol.

Lt Col. Warren Vest has great experience in all areas of Civil Air Patrol, and comes to MER from the position of Vice Commander Virginia Wing. As co-founder and CEO of a +150 employee defense industry business, he brings top notch managerial experience to the job of directing MER's staff.

Col. Tink Schaffer, the outgoing MER Vice Commander, will continue on the MER staff as a trusted advisor to the MER commander. I commend him for his service to CAP as region vice commander, and will continue to rely on his help and advice.

Please extend a welcome to Col. Opland and Lt Col. Vest in their new roles on the MER Command Staff. Both officers have my full faith and confidence, both as representatives of the commander and as experienced CAP professionals who know how to get the job done.

Colonel Joseph R. Vazquez, CAP
Commander, Middle East Region

New CD/HLS Officer

I am pleased to announce the appointment of Lt Col Jeff Willis as the new NCWG Counter Drug and Homeland Security Officer. Lt Col Willis currently serves as a Sheriff's Deputy for Wake County and is one of our very experienced Incident Commanders. With his vast knowledge of CAP operations and intimate knowledge of law enforcement needs, I am sure he will be able to master the requirements of this assignment in very short order. I appreciate your support of his efforts on behalf on NCWG.

I also want to extend my sincere appreciation and praises to Lt Col Eric Grant for serving in this CD/HLS role for so many years. Lt Col Grant does an excellent job in any assignment and always makes the extra effort for this Wing. Please join me in letting him know your appreciation for all he does for all of us. I am very grateful that Lt Col Grant has agreed to continue serving as our Wing Finance Officer. His leadership and keen judgment are invaluable to this Wing.

Larry J. Ragland, Col, CAP
NC Wing Commander

Wilmington Civil Air Patrol Cadet Receives Air Force Association Award

Cadet Wil Baker Awarded 'Cadet of the Year' Medal

Wilmington, NC — Cadet Wil Baker received the Air Force Association's 'Cadet of the Year' award for his dedication and contribution to the Civil Air Patrol's Cape Fear Composite Squadron in 2007. The Wilmington Air Force Association President, Glenn Drew, and Cape Fear Composite Squadron Commander, Michael Starr, presented Dahms with a medal and a certificate during a meeting at their Wilmington squadron headquarters.

This is an annual award established by the Air Force Association (AFA) to recognize an outstanding Civil Air Patrol (CAP) cadet in each squadron. Selections are made by unit commanders and representatives of the AFA based on the cadet's accomplishments and contributions during the year.

Cadet Baker resides in Wilmington, NC with his parents, John and Patti Baker. He attends New Hanover High School as a sophomore. Baker was chosen based on his dedication and participation in CAP activities since joining in January 2007. He currently holds the rank of Master Sergeant, C/MSgt. He serves as squadron Safety Officer, a position usually reserved for adult members, for the squadron as well as the Physical Training officer. Cadet Baker is certified in Basic First Aid, CPR, Advanced radio communications, and General Emergency Services (GES). He has recently attended a weekend Ground Team School in Johnston County and completed the required tasks as a Ground Team member. Baker also holds credentials as an Urban Direction Finding team member and participated in several search and rescue missions.



Civil Air Patrol, the official auxiliary of the U.S. Air Force, is a nonprofit organization with almost 60,000 members nationwide. CAP's Cadet Program is designed to provide youth, from sixth grade through age 20, with a safe, encouraging environment in which to learn, mature and explore opportunities to help them reach their potential as adults.

CAP performs 95 percent of continental U.S. inland search and rescue missions as tasked by the Air Force Rescue Coordination Center. Its volunteers also perform homeland security, disaster relief and counterdrug missions at the request of federal, state and local agencies. The members take a leading role in aerospace education and serve as mentors to the almost 25,000 young people currently participating in CAP cadet programs. CAP has been performing missions for America for 65 years.

Capt. Elizabeth Butrim
PAO, Cape Fear Comp. Sqdn.

Tar River unit assists at homecoming

The Tar River CAP Sqdn participated in the return yesterday of the 1132nd Military Police Company at Rocky Mount Wilson Airport (RWI). Cadets and Seniors assisted in parking and crowd control for the hundreds of people who came to welcome home 120 soldiers brought in by three C-130's. The aircraft arrived at 4:40PM bringing home the guardsmen who had served nine months in Iraq training Iraq security forces. They lost four of their group in three attacks this spring in less than a month.

Maj Rackley,PAO

New MER Commander

B/Gen. Courter, CAP Interim National Commander, has asked that I announce that Col. Joe Vazquez has been selected to be the new Middle East Region Commander. His appointment will be for a full four-year term, effective today, Monday, May 19, 2008.

I would like to thank you all for your support in my efforts as your Interim Commander. I'm sure that you will give Col. Vazquez the same as he strives to move the Region forward!

Charlie
CHARLES S. GLASS, Colonel, CAP
Interim Commander, Middle East Region

Message from new MER Commander

To all members of Middle East Region:

As the new MER Commander, I am looking forward to working with each of you during the coming days and years. We are clearly entering a great time for CAP, more so than any I've witnessed in the past 33 years of membership. CAP's level of visibility has never been higher, with the number and scope of missions truly breathtaking.

For the MER staff, I will make as few changes as possible. I hope each staff member will plan to continue in your present assignment. Any changes will be gradual and with full consultation among those affected.

Given the importance of MER's command staff, I will shortly announce a selection process for the MER Vice Commander and MER Chief of Staff. This is no reflection on the current holders of these positions, who are also invited to apply. Rather, this is to open up the opportunity of these important jobs to all qualified members in MER.

Lastly, I wish to express my thanks to Col Charlie Glass for the excellent job he did as Interim Commander. He stepped up to that job with almost no notice given, and dealt with a variety of problems in a very professional manner. He will continue to be a valued advisor to me and a real asset for MER.

Please have a happy and safe Memorial Day Weekend!

Col. Joe Vazquez, CAP
Commander, Middle East Region



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To: Region and Wing PAOs.
From: Julie DeBardelaben, CAP National Headquarters Public Affairs
Re: 2008 Public Affairs Officer Academy

National Headquarters Public Affairs requests your assistance in ensuring that all subordinate PAOs in your region and wing know about the 2008 PAO Academy scheduled for August 5-6 at the Gaylord Palms in Kissimmee, Fla., and that they are encouraged to attend. In addition to broadcast emails and one-on-one promotions, please add Web site, newsletter, and wing/squadron meeting announcements to your list of ways to communicate and promote the academy.

This year's academy will be presented by seasoned PAOs and CAP National Headquarters' PA and Creative Services staff, who will bring a real-world perspective to the presentations ... information the PAOs can take home and readily implement. A topic of emphasis this year will be PA and crisis planning, which is now required in the new PA regulation 190-1. **The inspector general's compliance report is now based entirely on these plans, so these sessions are a must for all PAOs.**

The 2008 theme "Public Affairs Essentials: Think Nationally, Act Locally," will also be expressed through basic and advanced seminars that address every public awareness initiative discussed in 190-1. Areas of emphasis will include media relations, Web site development, community relations, newsletters, news releases, legal issues for PAOs, writing in various genres, PAO best practices, the future of public affairs and how to get national publicity.

In addition, a call for entries for the second annual Balsem awards has been issued, and NHQ/PA hopes you will encourage all PAOs to enter their work. The competition, which is offered free of charge, provides PAOs an opportunity for recognition of their work in a variety of categories.

After this year, the academy will be held biannually, with the next one scheduled for 2009. So, every PAO in your region and wing should take advantage of this valuable professional development opportunity, if at all possible. For more information, click on www.cap.gov/paoa.

Thank you for the impact you are making in the lives of the citizens of your communities through your service as a PAO! I look forward to seeing you in Florida.

JoCo Monthly Training Meeting

Special thanks to Maj Brian Buczkowski, from the Johnston County Cadet Squadron for organizing what he termed, “The Units’ Monthly Training Meeting.” This was some of the best Ground Team training I have seen in a long while. We had 36 CAP members, both cadets and senior officers, from all over the Eastern half of NC at the Rocky Mount – Wilson Airport.

The training exercise picked up where the observed SAREX left off. In her aftermath, Hurricane Zoe left a path of destruction, washed out roads and a pilot—Dr.I.M. Lost—in his C-172 downed somewhere within the confines of Medoc Mountain State Park. In his haste to relocate his aircraft he had a controlled flight into terrain. Ground teams were assembled and sent in to search. Meanwhile, back at the ranch, as often happens, ELT signals were popping up all over Rocky Mount from aircraft that were upset by the adverse weather conditions, and UDF Teams were dispatched to silence them.

As if that was not enough, there were also communications issues to be cared for and a remote communications unit was setup at the base of Medoc Mountain to assist with relay to the mission base.

Thanks to Maj B for all his prep work, and to Lt. Col. Linwood Barkley and the folks from the Tar River Composite Squadron for being a great hosts for the event.

ALBERT R. THERRIAULT, Major CAP
NC Wing
Director of Cadet Programs



UDF Team begins ELT search



Team members prepare to carry C/AMN Courtney Bayless out of the park after a “Simulated” leg injury.

A great big THANK YOU from Cunningham Field Composite Squadron to Maj Brian Buczkowski and the team leaders from Johnston Co and elsewhere. The training received at this past weekend's exercise exceeded our expectations. Maj B wisely built on the skills we practiced at the GT School 28-30 MAR, leading us into the field on a simulated aircraft accident and team member extraction.

We are pleased that so many of our cadets and senior members can avail themselves of this training. There are eleven members of Cunningham Field poised to complete the GTM3 qualification soon. The Ground Team school and exercise helped us expedite training for this important task.

As a cadet program officer, I highly recommend this model to other squadrons and groups. And as an aircrew member, the ground team training helps me better understand air-ground coordination and planning.

Mary Anne Fleagle, Maj, CAP
NC-160

Memorial weekend at Salisbury NC and its National Cemeteries

Saturday May 24th. Cadets from Ashville Composite Squadron (NC 019) arrived in Salisbury at 0730 hrs. where they joined Cadets arriving from South Charlotte Cadet Squadron (NC-800) They met at VFW post # 3006. They traveled from there to the Cemeteries where they were joined by a group of Boy Scouts. The order was given to begin and one and one half hours later the job was complete. they had placed over 10,000 small flags in front of the grave markers. A job well done. A somber one and the freedom fighters that they paid homage to would have been proud of these young people. We left this field of Honor and went to Grace Lutheran Church where we enjoyed a great breakfast.

Salisbury, May 26th. Memorial Day 10:00 hrs. The crowd waited, the newspaper and TV cameras were ready, the order was given. "Commander post the Colors" Eleven Cadets from South Charlotte Composite Squadron, nine flag bearers and two color guards bearing the National , State and the flags of each branch of service, plus the MIA flag rounded the curve in perfect formation and step. They remained at their post until the order was given to retrieve the colors. The Veterans council and I salute these cadets , a job well done as we remember and honor those who gave so much.

James P. Williams - Maj.
DDAE and DDPA
NC Wing 001
Rowan Co. Veterans Council



Joint wilderness training helps hone skills

Members of the Asheville Composite Civil Air Patrol Squadron (CAP), Asheville Fire & Rescue Department, Buncombe County Rescue Squad and Mission Air Medical Ambulance (MAMA) participated in a survival exercise in the area near NC 9 in south Buncombe Co. recently.

Nearly 50 participants in all joined the two-day exercise conducted by CAP in cooperation with the other agencies that allowed CAP aircrews to play the role of survivors of a crashed aircraft.

The weekend training mission taught individuals how to establish their location on a map, make a shelter, eat off the land, how to signal search and rescue teams, start a fire using no matches, locate sources of water and first aid.

The exercise also included a Sunday morning visit by MAMA (Mission Air Medical Ambulance), which landed for an up close inspection of the helicopter by wilderness training personnel. Ground team personnel also took turns directing MAMA into a simulated landing site.

The idea behind the exercise was to train CAP aircrews how to survive in the wildness if their planes ever went down, but the training call also aided ground crews and rescue workers.

The operation was under the command of Captain Butch Phillips, CAP, and included an overnight stay in the wilderness by members of the exercise.

2nd. Lt. Clint Parker
Asheville Comp. Sqdn,



Wilderness Training Group with Mama



Cadets learns how to aim signal mirror.

Cadet Logel gets Earhart Award

Cadet Captain Nicholas Logel was presented the Amelia Earhart award Sunday, May 18, by 15th District Congresswoman, Virginia Foxx. Cadet Captain Logel will be the NC Wing Encampment commander this summer.

Joanne Brown, 2nd Lt., NC 153
Public Affairs Officer



Member profile: SM Al Gonzales

Story and Photo By: SM Jan Squillace, Deputy PAO, NC-048

Al is a medium-sized dark-haired man with strong features and a quiet demeanor. He doesn't say much when the group is chattering on about missions and plans and safety briefings. You almost forget he is present.

He joined Civil Air Patrol (CAP) for the first time in 1999 in a Johnston Country squadron. At that time, he was not active and left after a year.

Al retired from the Marine Corps in 1992. His last four years in the service brought him to the Job Corps Center in Kittrell, NC, a small town north of the Raleigh area. His family joined him in North Carolina. During his last four years in the Marines, he became a certified Clinical Supervisor with North Carolina Substance Abuse Professional Practice Board. He had earlier earned the title of Licensed Clinical Addition Specialist.

His concern for the youth of the community led him to found a residential bilingual substance abuse program. Harvest House is in Dunn, Sampson County, east of Fayetteville NC .

After leaving CAP, Al joined the Navy auxiliary and formed a battalion of Sea Cadets that still meets at the National Guard Armory on Western Boulevard near NC State. This battalion is still operating.

Returning to CAP in 2006, Al became active with the NC-048 Raleigh Wake Squadron in October 2007, filling the role of Drug Demand Reduction officer. He presents information periodically to the senior members and attends the cadet meeting on 4th Tuesdays of each month.

Like most of us, Al really wants to get into the air with CAP. Al has considered getting his private pilot's certificate at some point in the future, but all he really wants at this time is AIR TIME.

He participated in the mission scanner training with his class of other new CAP members. When lake patrols started, Al jumped at the chance to participate in the first lake patrol of 2008.

The pilot, Capt. Tim Tessin, and mission observer, 1st. Lt. Don Williams, meticulously prepared the airplane for take-off. Al watched carefully and tried to stay out of the way. The procedures made sense, even to the inexperienced eye. Check the pressure of the tires, check the oil level (add oil) in the engine, check the fuel tanks (adequate fuel) in the wings. These items make sense.

The pre-flight safety briefing was novel, but not news. Al had learned what to expect in his mission scanner training. Maj. John Maxfield gave the safety briefing, Lt. Col. Dave Crawford, as Incident Commander, gave his instructions to both the air crew and the communications crew, Maj. Al Therriault and Capt. Victor Lewis.

Al confided that this was his first time to fly in an airplane smaller than an airliner. He held up the plugs for his headset, "How do these plug in?" Oh, the only item not covered in the scanner training. It's good to find out how to operate the equipment before you absolutely need to know.

Al found the lake patrol mission to be good preparation for further scanner work. "You only improve with practice," he noted. "The flight was exciting."

Being part of CAP is being part of something larger. Al finds the military-like atmosphere comfortable. We provide him with fellowship, community service opportunities and a chance to go flying.

Editor's Note: Several months ago I suggested that your newsletter include a feature story profiling a special member of your unit. Many thanks to SM Jan Squillace for her contribution.



Carolina WingTips

NC-048 cadet receives AFA award

Unit Name: Raleigh-Wake Composite Squadron
Unit Address: PO Box 80064, Raleigh, NC 27623
Unit Commander: Dion J Viventi
Unit Commander Phone: 919.218.5131
Unit E-mail Address: dviventi@gmail.com
Unit Presenter: Dion J Viventi
Recipient Rank/Name: C/Capt B. Hamilton Evrard
Accomplishments: Honor Flight Commander, 2007 NCWG Encampment
Flight Commander and Distinguished Graduate, SUPTFC-MS-07-01
Cadet Commander, MER-NC-048, 2006-2007
NCWG CAC Recorder, 2007-2008
Cadet Leadership Officer, 2007-2008



Presentation Place: Raleigh-Durham Intl. Airport, General Aviation Terminal

Presentation Date: 5/6/08

Date This Form Completed: 5/6/08

NC Wing Conference coming soon

It is not too early to be thinking about the 2008 NC Wing annual conference. This year, the conference will be at New Bern, NC, on 24-26 October. It will be located at the Sheraton Hotel & Marina, and we have negotiated an excellent room rate of \$119/night for this popular coastal location. So plan on coming down to New Bern in October and enjoy some fun and fellowship with your fellow NC Wing volunteers in October. The NC Wing staff is already working on many education and training seminars to make your weekend fun and fruitful. You will not want to miss this one.

Larry J. Ragland, Colonel, CAP
NC Wing Commander

New monitors installed at NCWG Hqs.

I have just received word that two new 46" LCD monitors have now been installed in the Harwell auditorium at your Wing HQ in Burlington. Special thanks go to the CAP Division (Lucy Davis) for obtaining these two beautiful monitors for us, and to Lt Col Eric Grant for the expert installation. These monitors will improve our mission base capabilities enormously and help NC Wing CAP look like the professionals we truly are. The mission base at Burlington continues to take on the look and feel of the headquarters of a group of highly trained and highly skilled volunteers. And that is the way it should be.

Now we're cooking big time. Thank you Lucy and Eric.

Larry J. Ragland, Colonel, CAP
NC Wing Commander



NTSB Reports

Accident occurred Thursday, March 20, 2008 in Waxhaw, NC

Aircraft: Cirrus SR22, registration: N615WM

Injuries: 1 Fatal.

This is preliminary information, subject to change, and may contain errors. Any errors in this report will be corrected when the final report has been completed.

On March 20, 2008, about 1600 eastern daylight time, a Cirrus SR22, N615WM, registered to Manning Companies LLC, and operated by a private pilot, collided with trees while on approach to runway 06 at the Aero Plantation Airport in Weddington, North Carolina. The personal flight was operated under the provisions of 14 Code of Federal Regulations Part 91 with no flight plan filed. Visual meteorological conditions prevailed at the time of the accident. The private pilot received fatal injuries. The airplane was substantially damaged by impact forces. The flight departed from Pilot's Ridge Airport, Carolina Beach, North Carolina, on March 20, 2008, about 1515.

According to witnesses the airplane was observed crossing mid-field over the airport at about 800 feet, agl. They then hear the pilot transmit on the UNICOM frequency that he was turning base to final for runway 06. This was the last communication received from the pilot.

The wreckage was located behind a residence on Stone Haven Road, in the Weddington Chase Subdivision. The debris path extended on a 035 degree magnetic heading from the first broken trees, to the main wreckage at an elevation of 737 feet msl. The main wreckage came to rest against a tree in a 25 degree nose down attitude.

Accident occurred Friday, May 30, 2008 in Durham, NC

Aircraft: Piper J3C, registration: N3544N

Injuries: 1 Serious.

This is preliminary information, subject to change, and may contain errors. Any errors in this report will be corrected when the final report has been completed.

On May 30, 2008, at 1854 eastern daylight time, a Piper J3C, N3544N, was substantially damaged when it collided with trees short of runway 14, at the Lake Ridge Aero Park Airport (8NC8) in Durham, North Carolina. The private pilot received serious injuries. Visual meteorological conditions prevailed and no flight plan was filed for the local flight, which originated from 8NC8, about 1835. The airplane was registered to and operated by the private pilot under the provisions of Title 14 code of Federal Regulations (CFR) Part 91.

Examination of the airplane by an FAA Inspector found that the airplane had impacted the tops of trees and came to rest in a steep nose down attitude about 100-yards short of the runway. The airplane was removed from the site and transported to 8NC8 airport for further examination. During the examination the FAA Inspector found the header fuel tank empty, and when he sampled fuel from the main fuel tanks he found that two thirds of the liquid drained into a jar was water. The engine has been retained at the airport for further examination.

PAO Update from National

To all CAP PAOs:

Welcome to another PAO Update. Please join me in congratulating our newest Civil Air Patrol region PAOs – Lt. Col. Anthony (Tony) Biondo of the Middle East Region and Capt. Marie Haberstroh of the Great Lakes Region. Tony served on the advisory committee that planned the inaugural PAO Academy in 2007. He also serves as North Carolina's Public Affairs director. Marie, who attended the 2007 academy, is also the Ohio Wing PAO. Congratulations, Marie. Congratulations, Tony. NHQ/PA looks forward to working with you.

NC Wing cadets post colors for CC & PS

On the invitation from Mrs. Lucy Davis, Director CAP Division of Crime Control and Public Safety, 4 cadets from the Raleigh-Wake Comp Sq posted The Colors, Friday at the Annual CC&PS Employee Appreciation Day Luncheon. They also had the opportunity to meet and chat with The Secretary of CC&PS MR Bryan Beatty, and the Chief Deputy Secretary Gerald Rudisill. Following the presentation the cadets feasted on some great BBQ Chicken, Fried Chicken and all the fixin's served at the appreciation day luncheon as guests of Mrs. Davis.

Maj. Al Therriault

NCWG Director of Cadet Programs



Left - Right
C/Col Jeremiah Coogan, C/Lt Kyle Zobel, C/MSgt Seth Hall and
C/Lt Stephen Coogan receive Disaster Preparedness Kit from
CC&PS CAP Division Director Mrs. Lucy Davis in appreciation
for their service.



Left - Right
C/Col Jeremiah Coogan, C/Lt Kyle Zobel, NC CC&PS
Secretary Bryan Beatty, C/MSgt Seth Hall and C/Lt
Stephen Coogan

South Piedmont Sqdn. gears up for Lake Patrol

Base of Operation: Monroe Regional Airport (EQY), Monroe, NC

Charlotte, NC - The South Piedmont Squadron (NC-137) of the Civil Air Patrol, will be performing aerial surveillance of the area's lakes over the upcoming Memorial Day weekend. As in previous years, CAP aircraft based at Monroe Regional Airport will be manned by three member aircrews consisting of a mission pilot, mission observer and mission scanner. The lake patrols have a two-fold purpose: To provide aerial surveillance of the major lakes looking for boaters and others in distress. It also offers CAP members valuable training experience to hone their search and rescue (SAR) and surveillance skills in the event of an emergency.

Missions will be flown above Lake Norman, Mt. Island and Lake Wylie. Flights will be conducted Saturday, Sunday and Monday throughout the day. Coordination will be between the CAP and law enforcement lake patrols along with the U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary.

1Lt. David Hodges
USAF Auxiliary / Civil Air Patrol
Public Affairs Officer
South Piedmont Squadron (NC-137th)
dhodges@carolina.rr.com

Coastal Squadrons Hold Joint AE Day Events.

Coastal Patrol Base 21 and Cunningham Composite Squadron joined each other for the annual AE Day events held at the Havelock Aviation and Tourism Center, Havelock, NC, on 3 May 2008.

First up was the dedication ceremony of the new Veteran's Memorial Monument, attended by military and civilian groups from the local area, with flag raisings by the Marines, Sailors, Soldiers, Coast Guard and Air Force representatives. In his address to the attendees, Mayor Jimmy Sanders acknowledged the presence of various state and county officials, local Veteran's groups and our Civil Air Patrol members, asking each group to stand and be recognized.

After the ceremony, the CAP members adjourned to the museum maintenance shop to view the reconstruction of a Pioneer Drone that was recently donated to the museum by the Marine Corps. This particular UAV, approx. 18 feet long and 12 feet wide, was first used in Gulf War I and escaped detection the entire time. It was manufactured in 2001 and its last flight was in 2005. It was retired from VMU2, after suffering a hard landing. It has a total of 1007.9 hours. This particular model took off on its own and not from a catapult. The Drone is now hanging inside the Aviation Museum.

Major David Bratton, CPB21, a volunteer with the Aviation Maintenance shop, led the discussion of the UVA and the work being done to reconstruct it prior to its hanging. On hand for the festivities were Majors Fred and Linda Eldredge, Maj. Linwood Dabney, CO of Cunningham Composite, Maj. Bratton and SM Jesse Hastings, CPB21.



Story and photos by Maj. Linda Eldredge, PAO
Coastal Patrol Base 21
Beaufort, NC

Chaplain Wood Honored

On Wed June 11th Chaplain (LtCol) Charles Wood was presented his plaque for 50 years of service as a CAP chaplain. The award was presented at the Fayetteville Composite Squadron, NC-007. Capt Robert Mason, Squadron Commander read the citation and Chaplain (LtCol) David Bobbey, NC Wing Chaplain presented the plaque. Chaplain Wood's wife was present at this ceremony witnessed also by the cadets and senior members of the Fayetteville Composite Squadron. Chaplain Wood, was for 23 years the Wing Chaplain for the New Jersey Wing, he has completed the Air War College course and the Industrial College of the Armed Forces. In addition to numerous other awards, Chaplain Wood was selected as the National Chaplain of the Year in 1987.

By: Chaplain David Bobbey, NCWG



Chaplain Wood



L-R: Capt. Rob Mason, Chaplain Wood, Chaplain Bobbey

DCP's Corner

An apology from your editor: although this article was submitted in a timely fashion, the newsletter was published late--after the NCWG encampment. It is printed here since much of the information has a timeless quality. DP

Welcome to summertime. CAP and summertime means encampments, National and Wing. Commanders please be sure your cadets are ready. Uniforms, boots, etc etc. Paperwork, all paperwork should be completed and current. It has been a few months since paperwork has been completed for National activities, is the information still correct? Are their medical forms complete? NC Wing has a new Encampment Medical Permissions form. This form must be signed by the cadets' parents and by you. This new encampment form has a list of over-the-counter medications that the encampment medical staff will have available for the cadets if their parents have given them permission. This means that they need not bring them to encampment. Review the encampment packing list with your cadets. Most if not all the activities will be watching for contraband. Be sure they are not bringing it with them to encampment.

CADETS; time for you to start getting ready. June has already gotten off to a warm start. We are getting into the 80's and 90's. You can be sure we will be in the 90's for most of the rest of the month and July.

GET OUT OF THE A/C. Get out in the heat and get accustomed to it.

GET OUT OF BED. You will be getting up early in the morning, start getting accustom to it. School is out and relaxing in bed is not an option. Get up get moving. Work on your CPFT. Expect it at encampment.

GET OFF THE CAFFINE. You will have very limited access to soft drinks. Replace your soft drinks and iced tea now with water. Each year we have many cadets who actually have headaches as a withdrawal symptom from going cold turkey.

BREAK-IN THOSE NEW BOOTS. As you are outside getting accustom to the heat of summer, wear your boots. Your feet will thank you when you get to encampment. Remember two pair of socks reduces friction on your skin and help to reduce the chances of blisters. If your boots at too snug with two pair of boot socks, use one thin pair and one thick pair.

Encampment is a great time to meet new folks and make friends. A little preparation now can prevent those new friends from being the medical staff of the hospital!

Let's have a great and safe Summer and encampment.

Major Al Therriault
NCWG Director of Cadet Programs

PAO Update from NHQ.

Happy anniversary – CAP's 1st Lt. Don Penven, deputy PA director for the North Carolina Wing, received excellent publicity last month on CAP's 60th anniversary of the signing of Public Law 557, which made the Civil Air Patrol the official auxiliary of the U.S. Air Force. Many state legislative bodies passed resolutions honoring the anniversary. Lawmakers in North Carolina, with the prompting of Penven, added a twist to their proclamation. The N.C. General Assembly, in addition to paying tribute to Civil Air Patrol, honored one of CAP's "finest members," Chap. Lt. Col. Royce A. Beacham, who died in March. Combining the anniversary and Beacham's life and service was nice. Thanks to each of you who organized local efforts to promote the 60th anniversary of Public Law 557.

MCAS Cherry Point Air Show – Symphony of Flight . . . June 6-8 2008

HOT, HOTTER, HOTTEST.....

Members of Coastal Patrol Base 21 spent three grueling days in record temperatures ranging into the upper 90's –closer to 100 to be exact, on hot tarmac. All members remained safe and functioning due to regular hydration practices and wet towels applied to the head and neck areas. The same could not be said of many civilians over the three day period, and the ambulances were kept busy in their recovery efforts.

Working in shifts, the members were able to meet and greet many of the local crowd, which was light due to the extreme temperatures. They handed out brochures and talked readily of the CAP mission, encouraging participation on the local level. Several former CAP members and cadets stopped by to get the latest updates.

Assistant Wing Commander, LtCol. Wes Surratt, and Group 3 Commander LtCol. Dan Ellis, were on hand to encourage and assist in the effort and our thanks go out to them.

Coastal Patrol Base 21 has been a proud part of Cherry Point's static display 6 times in the past 10 years and hopes to continue the tradition next year on the new "yearly basis" schedule.

Story and photos by:
Maj. Linda Eldredge, PAO
CPB21
Beaufort, NC



L-19 Bird Dog



The old and the newer ...

CAP supports NC Special Olympics

The numbers were small and the task was great, but again this year CAP supported the NC Special Olympics with style. With the searing record high temps in NC this past weekend, it was all the more important for CAP to be on guard and ready with weather updates. Fortunately (for CAP) the high heat caused SONC Officials to cancel the outdoor events, which meant that we could spread the few that we had to fit the needs.

Special thanks to Capt Tim Grindstaff who travelled all the way from the NC-019th to assist. Not only was he the mobile radio for the Games Logistics Manager, but he also served as our central control station. That actually equates to triple duty.

And to Maj Starr and the cadets from Cape Fear, C/2Lt Robert Dahms, C/SMSGT Andrew Dahms, C/SMSGT Will Baker, C/Tsgt Joshua Crafts and C/AB Nathan Justice for all their assistance at Ravenscroft School

And Lt Don Penven for also working mobile for the Games Security Manager. This was a major blessing to the program, as the Security Manager had heat related issues on Friday evening and was not back to 100% by Saturday morning. With Don there to assist and drive he was able to get his job done in top fashion.

And to round out the team Lt Mary Sandlin coming in on Sunday to work Ravenscroft.

Thanks to all for your support and hopefully next year we will have a somewhat larger force. With any luck we won't have two airshows, a fair, staff college, graduations, ROTC competition and who knows what else on the same weekend.

--

ALBERT R. THERRIAULT, Major CAP
NC Wing
Director of Cadet Programs
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Cadets Will Baker and Andrew Dahms take a break with a power lifting contestant.

Cadets Will Baker and Andrew Dahms take a kunch break with SONC power lifter

Three NC Wing Officers Graduate Staff College

Submitted by Lt Col Roy Douglass, NCWG CS

Following a six-day, in-residence, intensive management and leadership training session, better known as the Middle East Region Staff College (MERSC), three more officers from North Carolina Wing graduated from the region staff college (RSC) and completed one more step in their pursuit of the Paul Garber Award.

Capt William Ryan, NC007, Capt Patrick Sedberry, NC007, and Capt Andy Wiggs, NC022, received their diplomas on Saturday, 14 June from Col Charles Glass, Lt Col John Knowles – MERSC Director and Lt Col Nancy Gleaton – MERSC Deputy Director. Col Glass, former MER Commander, was the 2008 MERSC graduation speaker.

During the graduation ceremony, Capt Ryan was also presented with a metal certificate for his achievement at becoming the distinguished graduate of the MERSC class of 2008. Capt Sedberry, a member of the honor wing, flew in from his job in the Azores to participate in the college, and flew back immediately after graduation.

Three other NC Wing officers served on the MERSC staff: Maj Paul Meade, NC150/CC served as Curriculum Coordinator; Lt Col John Smoot, NCWG/DP served as Protocol Officer; and Lt Col Roy Douglass, NCWG/CS served as Program Evaluation Officer. This was Maj Meade's third continuous year on staff, Lt Col Smoot's fourth year, and the sixth continuous year for Lt Col Douglass.

Maj Meade, a graduate of the 2005 MERSC, was also promoted to his current grade at the college in a ceremony conducted by Lt Col Knowles, with Lt Col Gleaton and Lt Col Douglass assisting.

The Middle East Region Staff College was conducted at McDaniel College located in Westminster, MD, and is scheduled to be at McDaniel College in 2009. Dates and cost of the college are being determined and will be announced later through professional development channels. Region Staff College is designed to enable selected CAP officers to better execute the duties and responsibilities associated with CAP command and staff positions at the squadron level and above. RSC is also required for duty performance promotion to CAP lieutenant colonel and for completion of Level 4 professional development. For more details about RSC consult CAP Regulation 50-17 or discuss it with your Professional Development Officer and Commander.



L-R: Capt Ryan, Capt Wiggs, Lt Col Douglass, Lt Col Smoot, Capt Sedberry, and Maj Meade



Maj Meade receives his major epaulets from Lt Col Douglass (left) and Lt Col Gleaton (right)

NC ARCHER A-Team finds simulated lost aircraft

By: Capt. Dion Viveni, CC NC-048

Siler City, NC - Operating out of a remote mission base in Siler City, North Carolina, Civil Air Patrol (CAP) Officers planned and flew an ARCHER sortie to its anticipated, and sometimes elusive conclusion... "A Find". Sunday's A-Team led by Mission Commander Lt. Col. David Crawford set out to test their skills with the ½ Million-dollar asset known as the ARCHER system (Airborne Real-time Cueing Hyperspectral Enhanced Reconnaissance). This ARCHER system is one of 16 high-tech aerial platforms composed of a Gippsland GA-8 Airvan and special data collection sensors. The Airvan, N605CP, AKA: "CapFlight Ninety Niner Zero Fife" as ATC affectionately calls it after a typical "repeat that type of aircraft" call during clearance delivery, is a Middle East Region Asset whose home roost is Florence, SC and is shared throughout the region.

"I LIKE this airplane, it is very similar to the Navion in the way that it handles" said Colonel Larry Ragland, Wing Commander for North Carolina Civil Air Patrol, former Navion owner and a skilled Airvan pilot, "This is the very first Airvan delivered to CAP and the only one flown over from Australia to the US for delivery, the rest were shipped."

The A-Team planned and executed several search sorties with the system over the past week and on this day a Grid search was on the docket and the goal was to see if ARCHER could find a simulated missing aircraft in a rural search environment. "The possibility of finding a target increases dramatically if a well trained aircrew is deployed on the mission," said Col. Crawford, who is also the Director of Operations for the North Carolina Wing. The Grid search was briefed as a four-mile leg East-West grid pattern with 10 legs spaced at 0.25 mile spread at an altitude of 2500' AGL and flown at approximately 90 knots ground speed.

The data collection system is composed of an airborne computer, sophisticated sensing equipment and a Tablet PC running the ARCHER Trac software. ARCHER Trac was designed to help the pilot follow a prescribed search grid as accurately as possible in order to maximize target detection as well as to minimize overlap and search time. It effectively reduces time spent in the air and increases search efficiency. During Sunday's sortie, the A-team was able to locate the crash site as an "anomaly" on the system's chip set viewer, which presents a rapid-fire assortment of "parameter matches" programmed by the operator. It takes determination and concentration along with a certain amount of intestinal fortitude in order to stay focused on a computer screen in the tail section of an airplane.

The training accomplished several tasks at the same time. Annual recurrency is now mandatory for all ARCHER operators so the crew was able to sharpen their skills as well as shake off any rust that may have accumulated since their last mission. "The aircraft is very sensitive and requires precise control inputs in order to maintain altitude and level flight during the grid search" says Lt. Col. Jeff Willis, NCWG Homeland Security Director. "You need to nail down your airspeed with pitch control, then adjust your altitude with the throttle on final if you want to land this baby smoothly" says Keith, a certified GA-8 instructor. Lt. Col. Hodgin also set up the target area for this mission. The simulated crash site actually consisted of a wing section of a PA 28-151 Piper Warrior strategically placed in a farm field just north of Coleridge near the Deep River in Randolph County.

After the action and back in Raleigh Composite Squadron where the Airvan and it's corresponding "Ground Station" was temporarily based, the ARCHER operators (Lt Col Crawford, Major Viveni) poured over the data collected on all of the week's training sorties. The team had over flown the Asheboro Fly-In earlier that week and collected spectral signatures of static aircraft on the ramp. Two separate sorties flown over the same ramp at Sanford-Lee County airport where the Wing's aircraft are currently serviced on the Wing maintenance contract. ARCHER's "Change Detection" feature was run in order to check how well the system is able to identify "changes" between 2 sets of data.

ARCHER missions can be very exciting, especially when it is working as intended and the crew are in sync with each other. "You definitely need an experienced pilot and observer in the right seat because there is a lot of communication going on between the flight crew, ATC and the ARCHER operators," says Lt. Col. Willis. When the crews train together enough, their performance is elevated. Performance can be measured by results and the results of Sunday's Sortie bears witness to that. As Lt. Col. Crawford put it during the debriefing... "This was a successful ARCHER training sortie, accomplishing our training objectives and finding what we were looking for."

Continued on next page....

.... ARCHER mission continued



GA8 Airvan departs Siler City Airport

Photo by: Lt. Col. Keith Hodgin



A-Team L-R: Lt Col Jeff Willis, Lt Col Dave Crawford, Capt Dion Vimenti, Lt Col Keith Hodgin and Col. Larry Ragland

Sights on Safety

June's here and it's the good ole summer time again! The average high temperature in North Carolina for June is 84 degrees and the low is 65. It's time to take off the shoes and walk barefoot in the grass, go fishin', go swimmin', and family cook outs. With June comes the return of hurricanes, not the hockey team or the University of Miami. The other ones with the wind, rain, and such sort. Sooner or later, they will come back here again.

Hurricane Season officially begins June 1 and runs until November 30. Now is the time to start getting ready for the season. The links below will help you and your family prepare for this season.

<http://www.nhc.noaa.gov/HAW2/english/intro.shtml>

<http://www.redcross.org/news/ds/0305hurricane/>

<http://meted.ucar.edu/hurricane/chp/index.htm>

Hurricane season preparation isn't just about getting our personal things in order. As CAP members we are often called upon to support the State and the region in disaster relief efforts before and after a major storm. The Summer is a good time for outdoor activities and vacations, but please don't pass up a chance to get some good training and prep with CAP.

The Spring and Summer are good times for flying (make sure to watch out for thunderstorms!). It's also the time of year when the critters like to build nests for the expected young ones. With most of our CAP fleet sitting on the ramps, it's easy for little peeps to find a home in a cowling. Semper vigilans.

AOPA has a great checklist addition for your preflight at the link below:

http://www.aopa.org/asf/hotspot/springpreflight_check.html

Birds aren't the only folks looking for a home. All sorts of insects may find that your aircraft would make an excellent home for their colony.

<http://www.aopa.org/asf/asfarticles/2003/sp0305.html>

Attention Cadets!

Summer Encampment will be here soon! It's a great learning experience and time for fun. We will be guests of the United States Marine Corps once again. Now is the time to plan for this event.

Make sure that your footwear is properly broken in and ready for use. (no blisters)

Review all safety protocols before you load up in the van to go to camp.

Remember to leave horseplay at home.

Pack your best conduct in your kit to bring with you.

Come prepared to have fun!!

Homesickness is something that pops up from time to time at camp. While it's not a loggable sickness or injury, it is an inevitable phenomenon. The good news is that it is not fatal, but it can be contagious. The encampment cadre will work to "cure" this disorder if it appears. Usually, a swim, a ride in a helicopter, or a round of obstacle course will cure said homesickness.

Let's keep it safe for everyone.

Flag Day occurs on June 14. Honor America by displaying Old Glory on this day and every day, but do it right. The websites below are full of good information on how, where and when to fly the Stars and Stripes.

<http://www.ushistory.org/betsy/flagetiq.html>

<http://www.usa-flag-site.org/etiquette-display.shtml>

In other June events, Father's Day occurs on June 15. Take the time to thank Old Dad for everything he has done, is doing, and will do for you.

The Summer Solstice comes around on June 21. The longest day of the year. It's the start of real Summer.

Y'all be safe. Use sunscreen and bug repellent.

Don't do nothing stupid.....

Capt. Dan McCollum, NCWG Safety Officer

CAP members from across NC assist at Wilmington Thunderbirds airshow

Six Squadrons Join Forces to Provide Gate and Parking Control

By: Capt. Elizabeth Butrim, PAO

Wilmington, NC – Over fifty members from six squadrons of NC Wing (Elizabeth City, Asheville, Apex, Cunningham Field, Topsail, and Cape Fear Composite) gathered in the volunteer center at Wilmington International Airport (ILM) to be briefed on their duties for the bi-annual Thunderbirds Airshow on April 19th and 20th. Julian Bradberry, volunteer director/coordinator, spoke to NC Wing members to explain what their responsibilities would be throughout the weekend and to extend his thanks for their support of the airshow and ILM. In addition, Cape Fear Composite Squadron set up a booth with literature on CAP's missions and membership information. Capt Denis Faver flew in a Cessna 172 and, along with some cadets, allowed youngsters to get inside and explain what purpose the aircraft serves and how cadets can receive orientation flights as a CAP member. "The plane was really a big hit. We were busy all weekend showing it to kids and their families", stated Faver.

With temperatures in the low 80's and attendance hitting a record 25,000+ on the first day of the show, CAP members put in a full, hard day's work. Members were placed at all entrances to help control the flow of attendees and to check for items that were prohibited such as coolers while other teams were in charge of parking and keeping traffic moving putting in over 500 hours of volunteer time. Their efforts were well rewarded as each team of cadets, led by an adult volunteer, were able to explore and enjoy the sights, sounds, and tastes of the show throughout the weekend. This time working and enjoying the show allowed NC members from across the state to get to know other members that they would not normally have the opportunity to work with. "I think it was a great idea to mix the teams up with members from different squadrons", remarked Major Michael Starr, Cape Fear Composite Squadron Commander. A senior member of Elizabeth City was also grateful for the opportunity. "We are located so far away from other squadrons and have never been able to work with other units. This has been great for our cadets", stated Senior Member Scott Hinton.

Cadets and Senior members, under the guidance of LtCol Ritter, NC Wing Recruiting and Retention Officer, handed out over 1,000 Drug Demand Reduction ribbons and signed up 50 potential members. Literature and CAP promotional items were given to 100's more.

Highlights for the cadets were, of course, the Thunderbirds themselves, the Army Virtual Reality tent, and meeting Miss North Carolina. But all cadets agreed that the most exciting moment was meeting and posing with Thunderbird pilot #5, Major Weeks for a photo op. Major Weeks, the first female solo pilot for the Thunderbirds, is a former CAP member and took a few moments to come to the CAP booth to meet and greet members and to autograph an issue of *Volunteer* magazine where she was one of the featured articles.

CAP members also received the opportunity to interact with local veterans during their stay in Wilmington. Arrangements were made for all to bed down at the local VFW hall and to eat an early breakfast on Saturday with the members of that post. "The VFW has been supportive of CAP and we appreciated their help in providing a wonderful facility for our members to spend the weekend and to share a meal", stated Capt Elizabeth Butrim, Public Affairs Officer for Cape Fear Composite.



Maj. Weeks with NC Cadets at airshow