

CIVIL AIR PATROL

NINER magazine

servicing NER's nine wings

SUMMER 2011



Cadets Soar on the Wind



Admiral Praises CAP Cadets



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NINER Magazine is a publication of Civil Air Patrol's NorthEast Region (NER). It is by, for and about the **nine** wings that the region encompasses: **Maine, New Hampshire, Vermont, Massachusetts, Connecticut, Rhode Island, New York, New Jersey, and Pennsylvania.**

SUMMER 2011

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ACROSS THE REGION

3-4 Wings mobilize for Hurricane Commander's Message

5 NY flies GIEP mission for Army National Guard.

6 Mass., N.J. teams win region titles. NER has new headquarters. PA. assists at scene of plane crash.

7 Mass. honors WWII base 18. PA. Group hosts aircrew training.

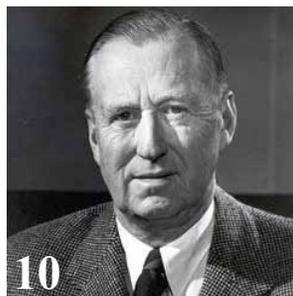


7

8 Mikelson helps cadets soar.

9 Admiral thanks NY Wing cadets. Conn. cadet spearheads memorial.

10 Aviation icon lives on in NY unit. 3rd straight title for PA. team.



10

11 Maine honors WWII-era pioneers. Maine finds downed aircraft.



11
GODFREY, P.

12 MA. flies tornado photo missions. NY gets "outstanding" AF eval

13 Anti-terrorism drill in N.J. NY bivouac = markmanship.

14 Cadets from 7 wings at top course. Paper covers rocket launch in PA.

15 Aircrew recalls Ground Zero flight. 9 NER cadets earn highest award.



15

16 NER Cadet School graduates 36.

ON THE COVER

Glider operations have become Centers of Excellence, and one of the men responsible for launching glider academies is Vermont Wing's Lt. Col. David Mikelson. See Page 6.

The Civil Air Patrol and the U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary have a history of working together – and Coast Guard Rear Admiral Michael N. Parks made a point of expressing appreciation for that cooperation when New York Wing's Utica Cadet Squadron provided the color guard for the annual base commissioning of Flotilla 26 in Sylvan Beach, NY. Flanking the admiral are Utica Cadet Squadron members Cadet Chief Master Sgt. Joshua Wilson (left) and Cadet Airman Jonathan Wells. (Photo by Capt. Bob Stronach) See Page 7.

WINGS MOBILIZE AS HURRICANE SLAMS NORTHEAST

CAP Flies Hundreds of Sorties, Provides Thousands of Aerial Images

By Maj. James A. Ridley Sr.

Not since the days after 9/11 have the members of the Northeast Region been mobilized to such an extent. A powerful Category 2 Hurricane named Irene came north and delivered its fury on many of the regions wings. Vermont in particular was hard-hit.

On Saturday August 27, in preparation for the hurricane, the Northeast Region set up an area command post in Westchester, NY, led by the region's director of Emergency Services,

Lt. Col. Paul Ghiron. At the same time, Col. James Rushing a Civil Air Patrol FEMA team leader, drove up from the Southeast Region to represent CAP in the FEMA Region 2 Operation Center (ROC) located in Albany, NY, while Lt. Col Dan. Stout and Lt. Col. Skip Guild manned the FEMA Region 1 Operations Center at Maynard, MA. Each wing in the NER established Incident Command Posts across the region and relocated all assets to hangars far from the hurricane's blast.

Even before the hurricane hit the northeast states, Civil Air Patrol volunteers responded. The Atlantic County Composite Squadron of the New Jersey Wing evacuated and helped relocate 180 residents of a nursing home near Egg Harbor Township while members of the New York Wing's South Eastern Group helped establish two shelters in Yonkers for residents who were evacuated from their homes. Members of the Pennsylvania Wing assisted in filling sandbags while all the wings staffed mission bases and had members on stand-by if needed both in the air and on the ground.

In the aftermath of the storm, FEMA tasked the Northeast Region with numerous missions whose purpose was to assess the damage from above. Air sorties were flown from almost all of the NER wings. Several of those missions were responsible for locating dangerous debris fields that were previously unknown



CAP photos show overflowing waterways and the typical flooding that swamped many residential areas in the Northeast.



to local, state and federal authorities. By Wednesday August 31, New York Wing had already flown over 37 sorties and other NER wings accounted for an additional 55 air sorties and 13 ground sorties. Before it was over, NER wings provided hundreds of sorties.

“With many states’ personnel and

aircraft initially tasked almost continuously to provide damage assessment and aerial imagery in support of both mitigation and presidential disaster-area declaration, the Northeast Region flew hundreds of sorties in support of both various State Emergency Management

Continued on next page.

NORTHEAST REGION WINGS PROVED THEIR METTLE

Commander's Message by Col. Christopher Hayden

Apart from heavy snow storms; nothing meteorologically extraordinary happens in the Northeast. The exception has been August and September where we have experienced an earthquake, a hurricane and a tropical storm. Ironically and "thank goodness," we have been preparing for such events over the past year and true to form, our members came through, providing hundreds of flight and ground sorties in support of federal and state agencies and others including the Red Cross and a nursing home. Without hesitation, as the weather cleared, each wing quickly set up an ICP and crews volunteered to



Col. Christopher Hayden

perform the tasks necessary to quickly get a grip on the situation across the region from Pennsylvania to Maine. This has been the biggest mobilization of the Northeast Region Civil Air Patrol since 9/11 and is perhaps on a par with Deep Water Horizon in the Southeast.

I personally want to thank everyone who went out of their way to help our fellow citizens. I want to thank the crews that volunteered to assist Vermont Wing by spending days away from home and those who brought additional assets in from Delaware and Maryland. In particular I want to thank Lt. Col. Paul Ghiron and his team for tirelessly manning the NER Area Command continuously for 14 days and all the IC teams for their tireless manning of the nine wing ICPs for the same period. This has proved that all the training and practice we endure has been worth it and proven positive in the results

of our performance.

But it is not over yet. We are only into the first few weeks of the hurricane season and with the changing weather patterns being experienced across the country, there is a good chance we will be hit again very soon with another hurricane or tropical storm. Therefore, we cannot sit back and assume it is over; we must take lessons learned from these past weeks and hone skills to an even higher level of professionalism. CAP is a vital player in Defense Support to Civilian Authorities and our role will grow even more as we prove our mettle as we have in the past weeks.

WINGS MOBILIZE FOR HURRICANE...

Continued from previous page.

agencies as well as FEMA," reported Lt. Col. Ghiron.

All tallied the NER conducted operations for FEMA, various state Departments of Transportation, Emergency Management Offices, local governments and the Red Cross. Over 7,000 Geo-Tagged images were taken and delivered to the states' EMA and FEMA offices.

These images detailed the damage on riverbed overflows, possible dam damage, roads and bridges and flooded homes.

The efforts of Civil Air Patrol members in the Northeast didn't end when Irene passed through the area, but continued long after she departed. Numerous CAP volunteers assisted in their state's Red Cross demobilization efforts. CAP delivered much needed water and

supplies to shelters. In Pennsylvania CAP personnel assisted in missions involving flooded areas and personnel in Vermont were still dealing with the devastation into the middle of September.

"I am very proud of our members," noted NER Commander Col. Christopher Hayden. "They are not only an asset to CAP but to the states they call home. Job well done in my book."



In the wake of Hurricane Irene and September's arrival of Topical Storm Lee...

This aerial picture showing a collapsed bridge and washed out roads was taken by Lycoming County official John Lavelle aboard a CAP plane based in Williamsport, PA. Information provided by Capt. Geoffrey Knauth, commander, Williamsport PA Composite Squadron 401.

NY FLIES REAL-TIME PHOTO MISSION FOR ARMY GUARD PART OF JOINT DISASTER TRAINING EXERCISE IN APRIL

By Maj. Kevin Barry

ROME -- New York Wing participated in a Joint Operations Inter-Agency disaster training exercise on the first weekend in April. The mission was to provide an airborne platform for the New York Army National Guard's Geospatial Information Interoperability Exploitation-Portable (GIIEP) system. The GIIEP features self-contained communications equipment and other hardware that allow for real time and near-real time full-motion video, digital imagery and in-flight chat capability with federal, state and local emergency operations centers.

The aircrew flew the mission out of Griffiss International Airport in Rome, with two soldiers operating the GIIEP system and feeding real-time airborne pictures to the Joint Task Force (JTF) Center at the State Disaster Preparedness Training Center in Oriskany. The purpose of the exercise was:

- to test and improve the current condition of NY Military Forces' CBRNE (Chemical, Biological, Radiological, Nuclear, high-yield Explosive) response capability,
- to support the civil authorities,
- to build strong relationships with state interagency partners, local civil authorities, emergency managers, first responders and participating NY Military Forces.

Wing Communications Director Lt. Col. Steve Perta, Mission Pilot Lt. Col. Edwin Kopp and Co-Pilot Lt. Col. Gerry Marketos assembled at



Lt. Col. Steve Perta, CAP, briefs Maj. Gen. Patrick Murphy, adjutant general of the New York National Guard, about the mission New York Wing was performing to assist the Army National Guard.

Griffiss for a mission briefing with Master Sgt. Jeff Nuding and Staff Sgt. David Vetter of the National Guard's Force Headquarters J-2 Intel. The aircrew's mission was to locate and photograph three targets. They departed Griffiss with the guardsmen and after a short flight to the Training Center, the crew was ready to transmit.

When the pictures were first displayed on the big screen TV, members of the JTF Center stopped what they were doing and for a few minutes all attention was riveted to the ever-changing airborne pictures. Lt. Colonel Perta, a pilot himself, viewed the aerial photos with Lt. Col. Thomas Leene of National Guard Headquarters J-2 and directed the aircrew with radio instructions on what the center wanted to view. The training center is located at the former Oneida County Airport, where many

agencies were training at various sites around the 723-acre complex, so the crew was directed to photograph the different activities. After completing that part of the mission, the aircraft flew to Rome to photograph a simulated train-truck accident site and then to Utica for a school scenario.

While the JTF Center viewed the airborne pictures, 200 miles away at Islip-MacArthur Airport in the Long Island Group Headquarters, the same pictures were being observed on a secure website by New York Wing Commander Col. Jack Ozer and Wing Emergency Services Officer Maj. Darren Cioffi.

"New York Wing is happy that we were able to assist the Army National Guard during this exercise and the wing looks forward to assisting New York State in the future," Colonel Ozer said. "The exercise was very suc-

cessful with the planning and execution, and the wing members did an outstanding job."

While the GIIEP equipment was operated by the National Guard, Civil Air Patrol (CAP) members gained valuable insight into the function and capability that the system can offer to search-and-rescue personnel. In fact, CAP National Headquarters recently acquired five GIIEP units from the U.S. Army Space and Missile Defense Command for use in search-and-rescue and disaster missions.

The exercise involved 400 military personnel and over 100 civilians from various state, county and town fire, police and Emergency Service organizations. The State Training Preparedness Center in Oriskany is operated by the New York State Division of Homeland Security and Emergency Services.

MASS. COLOR GUARD, N.J. DRILL TEAM TAKE REGION TITLES

By Capt. Ken Windyka

MASSACHUSETTS --- The Massachusetts Wing Color Guard Team and New Jersey Wing Drill Team placed first in their respective Northeast Region Cadet Competition fields.

The New Jersey Wing finished second and the New York Wing third in the color guard competition. The New Jersey team finished ahead of the Pennsylvania Wing entry to capture the drill team competition. The Northeast Region teams faced off April 29-May 1 at Westover Air Reserve Base.

The first-place teams represented the Region at the National Cadet Competition June 22-27 in Dayton, Ohio.

MASS. WING CG TEAM:

- Cadet Senior Master Sgt. Joseph Goodreau.
- Cadet Tech. Sgts. Ryan Miller and Jillian O'Brian.
- Cadet Senior Airman Danny O'Connell.
- Cadet Senior Airman Marie Meek – alternate.

Team Advisers and escorts: Maj. Claire Belden and 2nd Lts. Jamie O'Connell and Jerry Rodgers. All are members of the Westover Composite Squadron.

N.J. WING DRILL TEAM:

- Cadet Capt. Ryan Melody, Lone Eagle Composite Squadron.
- Cadet 2nd Lt. Matthew Romanuski, Maj. Thomas B. McGuire Jr. Composite Squadron.
- Cadet Chief Master Sgt. Nadine DeCristofaro, Teaneck Composite Squadron.
- Cadet Senior Master Sgts. Jacob DeCristofaro, Teaneck Composite Squadron, and Jeremy Wei, Bayshore Composite Squadron.
- Cadet Master Sgts. Alexandra Dwyer, Bayshore Composite Squadron, and Aaron Sauerhoff, Plainfield Composite Squadron.
- Cadet Tech. Sgts. Joseph DeCristofaro, Teaneck Composite Squadron, and Carolyn Rehm, Bayshore Composite Squadron.
- Cadet Staff Sgts. Paul Ig-

nari, Air Victory Composite Squadron, and Salonika Kakoulakis, Plainfield Composite Squadron.

- Cadet Airman 1st Class Brandon McCoy, Air Victory Composite Squadron.
- Cadet Airman Aakash Agarwal, Plainfield Composite Squadron.
- Cadet Airman Sophie Neumaier, Plainfield Composite Squadron – alternate.

Team advisers and escorts: 2nd Lt Maria Rodriguez-Gregg, Air Victory Composite Squadron, adviser; and 1st Lt. Steven Smith, Plainfield Composite Squadron, escort.

CG INDIVIDUAL AWARDS:

- Fleet Foot Award, Male – Cadet Staff Sgt. Adam Monteith, Atlantic County Composite Squadron, NJ Wing.
- Fleet Foot Award Female – Cadet Airman 1st Class Francie Baker, Nittany Composite Squadron 338, Pennsylvania Wing.
- Highest Written Exam – Cadet Tech. Sgt. Ryan Miller, Westover Composite Squadron, Massachusetts Wing.

DRILL IND. AWARDS:

- Fleet Foot Award, Male – Cadet Airman Aakash Agarwal, Plainfield Composite Squadron, New Jersey Wing.
- Fleet Foot Award, Female – Cadet Staff Sgt. Salonika Kakoulakis, Plainfield Composite Sq. NJ Wing.
- Highest Written Exam – Cadet 2nd Lt. Matthew Romanuski, Maj. Thomas B. McGuire Jr. Composite Squadron, New Jersey Wing.

TEAM AWARDS:

- Bailey Award – New Jersey Wing Drill Team.
- Gilmore Award for Sportsmanship – Pennsylvania Wing Drill Team.
- Gilmore Award for Sportsmanship – Vermont Wing Color Guard Team.
- Goldman Award – Massachusetts Color Guard Team.

Westover Composite provided food service support as well as use of squadron facility for written exam and panel quiz. The 439th Airlift Wing at Westover provided lodging and additional facilities.

NEW REGION HEADQUARTERS



Northeast Region has a new headquarters -- located at U.S. Coast Guard Station at Cape Cod.

CAP ASSISTS AT SCENE OF PA. PLANE CRASH

PENNSYLVANIA -- Civil Air Patrol members secured the site after a plane crashed on Saturday, May 14, on Route 62 in Limestone Township near Tidioute. According to the Warren County 911 Center, the plane crashed with two people on board. The two patients were transported to the Warren Hospital then to UPMC Hamot with serious injuries.

CAP secured the area until the NTSB and the FAA arrived the next day.

MASS. WING RENDERS HONORS TO WWII COASTAL BASE 18

By Lt. Col. Keith E. Raymond

FALMOUTH, MA — Massachusetts Wing has a long CAP history since Civil Air Patrol's inception in 1941. The Commonwealth is home to one of the original "Coastal Patrol" units that was based in Falmouth. Using private aircraft, the volunteer men and women patrolled the Atlantic Ocean for German submarines. They operated off of a small, unpaved airport known as Coonamesset Field. Although Coonamesset Field is still there, it is a little overgrown and none of the original buildings remain. However it is still a place of history.

During Massachusetts Wing Conference this past March, members and direct descendents of volunteers who served at Coastal Base 18 placed an historical marker at the site, commemorating its historical significance and CAP's roots as an organization.

Remembering the men and women of Base #18 for their courage, bravery and unusual civilian wartime service, a wreath was laid at the site by Colonel Christopher Hayden, Northeast Region commander, State Representative David



Wreath Presentation (l-r): State Rep. David Viera, 3rd Barnstable District; Col. Christopher Hayden, NER commander, and Lt. Col. Richard Bungarden, commander, Det. 1, CAP/USAF Liaison Region.



Family (l-r): Lorrie Button, daughter of Coastal Patrol 18 Commander Gordan Gibbs; Susan King, daughter of CP member Everett King; Donald LaCouture Jr., son of CP member Donald LaCouture.

Viera (3rd Barnstable District) and Lt. Colonel Richard Bungarden, commander of Det. 1, CAP/USAF Liaison Region.

In addition, Massachusetts Wing Commander Col. William Meskill and several descendants placed roses at the base of the plaque.

Final honors were rendered to the 93 volunteer members of Coastal Patrol Base #18 as a CAP aircraft flew over the field.



Stone and plaque commemorate Coast Patrol Base #18.

PA WING GROUP 2 HOSTS GARMIN TRAINING FOR SAR AIRCREWS

By Lt. Col. Jayson A. Altieri

PENNSYLVANIA - Some 15 pilots, observers and scanners of Pennsylvania Wing's Group 2 and North Carolina Wing's Group 5 took part in training in January on the new GFC 700, Automated Flight Control System, now installed in many CAP Cessna 182 NAVIII aircraft.

The training was conducted at Lower Allen Township Emergency Operations Center in Camp Hill by Operations Officer Lt. Col. Chuck "Chopper" Bechtel

and Standardization Officer Maj. Bruce "Frosty" Russell. The session updated Search and Rescue (SAR) aircrews on the latest features of the GFC 700, as well as the new SAR software installed in the Garmin NAV1000 system.

The training addressed "a safety issue due to the complexity of the new system," noted Major Russell. "The GFC 700 brings a new level of training. This is a forum for show and tell, which allows the crews to touch the buttons before they go out and fly."



Maj. Bruce Russell

51-YEAR MEMBER SENDS CADETS SOARING

MIKELSON'S PASSION LEADS TO GLIDER CENTER OF EXCELLENCE

by 2nd Lt Diana Hayes

VERMONT -- Quechee in June is renowned for hot air soaring, but Springfield, Vermont has become the glider soaring adventure spot for teens. Lt. Col. David Mikelson, a 51 year veteran of the Civil Air Patrol, made that a reality in 2008 when he inaugurated the first Glider Academy for cadets in the Northeast Region. Every August following has seen dozens of cadets, instructors and a number of pilots take to the skies from the Hartness State Airport to search, find and make the most of summer's thermals.

David Mikelson and CAP go back a long way. In the fall of 2001 Mikelson was honored as CAP Senior Member of the Year. Ten years ago David's 36,000 peers and 27,000 cadets in the Civil Air Patrol recognized the 41 years of enthusiastic and innovative contributions.

With 51 years of service now, Col. Mikelson has been appointed Northeast Region Deputy Director of Activities for the new CAP flight program, Glider Centers of Excellence. Based on the success of the Hartness program, the GCOE holds eight-day Glider Academies throughout the nation over the summer for CAP cadets who meet the qualifications. Hartness State Airport and its CAP Springfield Squadron host two of these glider flight schools.

David and his late wife Col. Sharon Taylor, CAP, envisioned this training when they investigated the defunct CAP



Lt. Col. David Mikelson poses for photo with Capt. Cindy Osuna, who often volunteers to chaperone cadets during glider academies.

Post there and determined that it could be restored to duty. The Mikelsons were tasked by then Vermont Wing Commander, Col. Ann Clark, to go out to Springfield and look around. They did and David, who was Deputy Chief of Staff for Training for National Headquarters at Maxwell Air Force Base, Montgomery, Alabama, noted that there was a glider resting near the post building. If the facility was refurbished and made suitable as overnight quarters, a glider training program could be set up and funded. Work commenced imme-



FREEMAN HEADS 2011 NER GLIDER ACADEMY

Lt. Col. Mikelson couldn't be there this year for the Northeast Region Glider Center of Excellence Academy due to his health. The academy was run by Lt. Col. Charles A. Freeman.

diately and that summer the first glider instruction was held for cadets from across the Northeast Region. Sharon raised funds for carpeting and flooring and donated her old kitchen equipment when David agreed to install a new kitchen at their Quechee home.

At the time the Springfield Squadron was restored it had retained one senior member. By spring of 2010, the squadron had 29 seniors and cadets. In 2009 the post supported two week-long summer academies as well as fall weekend glider camps. David worked at the Springfield post and as finance officer for the wing in Burlington while planning for increased enrollment at two more academies for the summer of 2010. Members of New Hampshire Wing offered assistance. Again, cadets came from every state in the region for the experience of soaring. They learned as well the principles of flight, flight line safety, teamwork, and practicing CAP's CORE values of Integrity, Excellence, Community Service and Respect.

Asked what is most memorable about the glider program, Mikelson replied: "The smile that barely leaves the faces of these cadets from one flight to the next."

He looks back and easily identifies with the 12 to 18 year olds. He obtained his fixed wing pilot's license at age 14. He joined CAP in 1960, organizing with his high school biology teacher, the first CAP squadron in Fairfield, Ohio. Mikelson's CAP career has spanned so much time, so many states and so many missions that an Oral History is being done with him for CAP's Archives.

COAST GUARD ADMIRAL THANKS, PRAISES CIVIL AIR PATROL



Rear Admiral Michael Parks poses with Utica Cadet Squadron members after praising and thanking them for their support of the U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary. From left: First Lt. Tim Paquette,

Senior Member Paula Terault, C/Airman Nathan Terault, C/Chief Master Sgt. Joshua Wilson, Admiral Parks, C/Airman Jonathan Wells, C/2nd Lt. Tyler Kulsea and Capt. Paul Kulesa.

Photos/story by Capt. Bob Stronach

NEW YORK -- Central New York Group's Utica Cadet Squadron shares a tradition with the U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary, providing the color guard for the annual commissioning of the Flotilla 26 Base in Sylvan Beach, N.Y.

In June, the color guard got the attention of a visiting admiral, who was the guest speaker for the event. Rear Admiral Michael N. Parks, commander of the

Ninth Coast Guard District, publicly praised the Civil Air Patrol cadets and lauded the inter-agency cooperation being displayed in front of 150 active duty and auxiliary Coast Guard personnel and guests.

To get the commissioning ceremonies under way, Coast Guard Auxiliary Division Commander Helen Cummings presented the U.S. flag to CAP Cadet 2nd Lt. Tyler Kulesa, who then fell in step behind a four-man squad that

marched to the base mast. After Old Glory was raised, the cadets hoisted three Coast Guard banners representing various levels of command.

Once the ceremonies were over, Admiral Parks went out of his way to mingle with the cadets and personally thank them. And Flotilla Commander Bill Cummings invited them to join in a picnic reception.

In addition to Cadet Kulesa, the color guard included Cadet Chief Master

Sgt. Joshua Wilson, Cadet Sr. Master Sgt. Anders Hansson, Cadet Airman Nathan Terault and Cadet Airman Jonathan Wells.

Also in attendance were Squadron Commander Maj. Joakim Hansson, Capt. Paul Kulesa, First Lt. Tim Paquette, and Senior Member Paula Terault.

Admiral Parks is based in Cleveland and responsible for the Great Lakes region stretching from Minnesota to New York.

CONN. CADET SPEARHEADS SCHOOL MEMORIAL FOR FALLEN

By Capt. Ian M. Schermann

CONNECTICUT – Newtown High School honored Connecticut service members killed in Iraq and Afghanistan with a dedication ceremony Feb. 10 for a memorial created through the efforts of Cadet 1st Lt. Sean Decker of the Stratford Eagles Composite Squadron.

Decker, a Newtown student as well as deputy cadet commander, devoted more



than 400 hours to the project. He got permission from the high school, talked a local artist into painting the memorial, and contacted fallen service members' families for permission to list their names.

The dedication ceremony featured an appearance by the U.S. Marine Corps Color Guard. A student sang the national anthem, followed by remarks from two assistant principals who are both in the military. Then Decker

read the names of the fallen service members after a slideshow displayed their photos.

Since Decker's name appears nowhere on the memorial, and he told very few people, the attention was focused on the fallen and their families, not him.

He humbly thanked all the families for coming when they came up to him to express their heartfelt thanks for the tribute to their loved ones.

NY SQUADRON ADOPTS NAME OF AVIATION ICON GRUMMAN FAMILY, DIGNITARIES AT NAME-CHANGE EVENT

HUNTINGTON, NY -- In the same church where as a small boy Leroy R. Grumman and his family worshiped, this legendary Long Island aviation icon was honored May 1 while his descendants and admirers looked on. Leroy Randle Grumman was a naval aviator in the First World War, a test pilot, innovative engineer and co-founder of the Grumman Aerospace Corporation, and now his name lives on in the cadets and senior members of the Civil Air Patrol squadron which bears his name.

The name-change ceremony took place at the Old First Presbyterian Church in Huntington. Present were the NY Wing Commander Col. Jack Ozer, Long Island Group Commander Maj. Alan Gibbs, wing and group officers as well as five members of the Grumman family, including the event's guest speaker, his son, David.

While cadets from the Flushing Cadet Squadron's Drum Corps played the appropriate music, the official party led by Squadron Commander Maj. James A. Ridley, Sr., marched onto the stage and took their



Leroy R. Grumman, 1895-1982. RIGHT: Grumman's son, David, with Grumman Squadron Commander Maj. James Ridley Sr. during the name-change ceremony.



seats. The national anthem was sung by Capt. Susan Hartmann and the squadron Chaplain Capt. Andy Hart gave the invocation.

Speeches were made by the Squadron, Group and Wing commanders, and before Mr. Grumman spoke, he and the Squadron were presented a Town of Huntington Proclamation by Councilwoman Susan A. Berland, Councilwoman Glenda A. Jackson and Councilman Mark Mayoka. Councilwoman Berland said "it was an honor and a pleasure to congratulate the Leroy R. Grumman Squadron this afternoon" and she commended the "Civil Air Patrol, Long

Island Group, for memorializing Grumman's legacy". In all the squadron received five proclamations from the Town of Huntington, Suffolk County, U.S. Congress, New York State Senate and the State Assembly. David Grumman regaled the gathering with stories about his father that no one outside the family had ever heard.

The audience included the vice president of engineering of Northrop Grumman Corporation, members of the Grumman Retiree Club, the Cradle of Aviation Museum and the Sons of the Union Veterans of the Civil War, which awarded two of the squadron's cadets with certifi-

cates and medals.

The posting of the colors and the presentation of the new squadron flag were conducted by the Squadron Color Guard.

"This was a great day and a new beginning for our squadron," said Major Ridley. "We now have an identity that we can be proud of, and Leroy Grumman's memory and history will now live on through our members."

Once the official ceremony was concluded, the Grumman family and others in attendance enjoyed a little socializing and some food, including a cake that bore the squadron's new patch.

PA. COLOR GUARD TEAM WINS 3RD STRAIGHT WING TITLE

By Capt. Roy Long

PENNSYLVANIA – The Nittany Composite Squadron 338 Color Guard captured first place March 12 in the Pennsylvania Wing Cadet Competition for the third straight year.

The Mercer County Composite Squadron Color Guard placed second in the wing competition at the Pennsylvania State campus in State College. Third place went to the Allegheny County Composite Squadron 602 team.

In addition to the color

guard competition, cadets from two Group 5 units, the Nittany squadron and the Mid-State Composite Squadron, came together to form a drill team that went uncontested.

Nittany Color Guard champs:
• C/Tech. Sgt. Tyler Brahosky.

- C/Airman 1st Class Francie Baker and Meredith DeLong.
- C/Airman Jason Young.
- Alternate – C/Airman Thomas Biggs.

Senior member escorts – 2nd Lts. Karly Gelatt and Ken Radzieta, squadron deputy commander for cadets.

MAINE WING BEGINS 70TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION

World War II-Era Pioneers Are Special Guests at Wing Conference

By Capt. Mary Story

MAINE -- The Maine Wing celebrated its 70th anniversary and paid tribute to its World War II-era pioneers when members convened at the wing conference in April in Lewiston.

Members in attendance heard from one of the wing's earliest members at the convention banquet April 2.

Col. Walter M. Soule, who served as a lieutenant at Coastal Patrol Base 19 in Portland, was the guest speaker.

Soule, 93, spoke of long hours flying over the Maine coast in frequently unforgiving weather, peppering his presentation with stories about his comrades and their bravery, as well as some of the funny experiences they shared.

Another guest, Col. Donald Hancock, 87, progressed from cadet to senior member in the 112th Squadron during the war. He related his memories of being a student pilot; drilling at the armory; training in communications,



LEFT: Col. Walter M. Soule, who served at Coastal Patrol Base 19. He spoke at the wing conference banquet.

BELOW: World War II subchaser Col. Prentiss Godfrey, whose memory was honored at the wing conference.

first aid and security; and flying with the unit's commander, Capt. Roland Maheu, at the airport in Minot.

Soule and Hancock received medals, plaque and colonel's ranks from Col. Daniel Leclair, Maine Wing commander.

In addition, Maj. Don Godfrey, wing vice commander, honored his father, Col. Prentiss Godfrey, who died March 16. The elder Godfrey flew submarine patrols out of Coastal Patrol Base 19 as a member of Squadron 111.

The late Capt. Merritt Roakes, engineering officer at Base 19, was honored by his son, Robert.

Gov. Paul LePage has honored the wing for its 70th anniversary by proclaiming April 24-30 as Civil Air Patrol Week.

MAINE WING LOCATES DOWNED PLANE ON FROZEN LAKE

By Capt. Mary Story

Two Maine Wing Civil Air Patrol aircraft were dispatched by the Air Force Rescue and Coordination Center early Friday morning, March 25, to search for a Maine Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife airplane. The plane and its 25-year veteran pilot did not return from a March 24th patrol.

The red and white Cessna 185 was located at 9 a.m.

Friday morning when the signal from the ELT was picked up by Maine Wing aircraft. Crews from Maine Wing and Maine Forest Service found the downed plane on a frozen Clear Lake in a remote section of Piscataquis County, in northern Maine. The pilot did not survive the crash.

The search also involved Maine State Police, the Houlton Air Branch of Customs and Border Protection, and the U.S. Border Patrol.

MASSACHUSETTS WING FLIES TORNADO PHOTO MISSIONS

By Lt. Col. Keith Raymond

MASSACHUSETTS -- Massachusetts Wing flew aerial photo missions for the Commonwealth in early June after tornados touched down in heavily populated western Massachusetts. The tornados caused widespread damage as the eastern half of the state dealt with a barrage of thunderstorms, hail and high winds.

The approaching front was logged at speeds in excess of

100 MPH with wind gusts exceeding that. Law enforcement 911 centers became swamped with calls describing tornados on the ground.

Gov. Deval Patrick declared a state of emergency where tornados swept through the state. A mission request for Civil Air Patrol services was made to Mass. Wing Headquarters asking CAP to fly aerial photo missions over the hardest hit areas of the Commonwealth.

According to the incident

commander for this mission, Maj. Derrell Lipman, "CAP aircraft were asked to fly designated areas taking high resolution aerial photographs" for the Massachusetts Emergency Management Agency. This information is helpful to communities trying to determine where to evacuate, where to provide aid and shore up critical infrastructure.

Local media outlets were reporting that this string of tornados claimed four lives and destroyed over 300

homes in at least 19 communities.

Massachusetts Wing provides controlled state support to state and local agencies who often request CAP to perform air and ground missions following major storms. In March 2010, pilots provided emergency management officials aerial images showing the flooding at Norwood Airport with overflow from the Neponset River after spring storms dumped record rains.

NY WING SCORES 'OUTSTANDING' ON AIR FORCE EVALUATION

By Major James A. Ridley, Sr.

ROME, NY – New York Wing scored an "outstanding" on its U.S. Air Force evaluation in June.

The evaluation included a week of taskings to test the wing's homeland security, search-and-rescue and disaster-relief capabilities. In all the wing completed 18 air sorties and several ground team missions, with the evaluation team giving high marks in all areas, and the highest overall grade of "outstanding."

The intent of the training exercise was to ensure that the New York Wing CAP personnel are qualified and proficient in the event of an actual disaster. The exercise concluded with a full day of on-site presence at the primary mission base at Griffiss International Airport in Rome, NY.

Once the last of the mission crews returned, Incident Commander Lt. Col. Steve



Lt. Col. Steve Perta (center), incident commander for NY Wing's outstanding evaluation exercise this summer, received a Meritorious Service Award from National Commander Maj. Gen. Amy Couter and Region Commander Col. Chris Hayden during the Northeast Region Conference last fall.

Perta held a final briefing with his staff. Over 55 CAP personnel were present. The exercise also involved many more members staffing mission bases across the wing from Long Island to Rochester.

"For the past six days CAP New York Wing personnel were tasked by the United States Air Force with several disaster recon, search-and-rescue and advanced technology photographic tasks," said Lt. Colonel Perta. "Through-

out the state numerous air and ground sorties were conducted in support of these missions, each successfully and safely concluded."

He added: "I'm very proud of our members. They are professionals."

NEW JERSEY HOLDS ANTI-TERRORISM EXERCISE

Air & Ground Teams Respond After Simulated Bombings

News of the Force, Dec. 31

NEW JERSEY -- The New Jersey Wing of the Civil Air Patrol (CAP) conducted an extensive homeland security disaster training exercise based at the general aviation area of Trenton-Mercer Airport, in Ewing, N.J., on Dec. 4.

The initial scenario for the exercise was the explosion of 10 terrorist bombs at critical infrastructure around New Jersey, including several bridges, a dam, rail lines, an electric generating station, a power transmission line and a ferry terminal. Initial casual-

ties were placed at 2,000-plus dead and 4,700-plus injured.

The exercise plan included activation of the New Jersey State Police Incident Command Center at the Regional Operations Center (ROC) in West Trenton. The New Jersey CAP Wing's Director of Operations, Maj. Kurt Pricer, was assigned to man the CAP desk at the ROC. Satellite command posts were established at three strategic airports, including Trenton-Mercer. Forty-two CAP personnel took part in the training exercise.

Trenton-Mercer incident command staff initially

fielded an eight-man ground disaster relief team led by CAP Capt. Robert Cann, a resident of Sayreville, supported by CAP 1st Lt. David Lee, a resident of Millstone. They, along with other CAP cadet and officer personnel, performed a reconnaissance of the Gilbert Generating Station in Riegelsville that reportedly suffered damage from the explosion of two bombs. The ground team then went on to support local authorities activated at other bomb explosion sites.

Five air crews - including pilots and photo observers - were dispatched in

CAP aircraft, flown in from other airports to Trenton-Mercer Airport, to perform photo reconnaissance of all 10 terrorist bombing sites and to perform other air-based homeland security tasks.

The incident commander for the homeland security training operations was CAP Major John Paul, a resident of Hillsborough. New Jersey CAP Wing staff member Lt. Col. Steven M. Tracy, a resident of Jackson, monitored the exercise for operational correctness. The safety and logistics officer was CAP Capt. Eric Cohen, a resident of Asbury Park.

NEW YORK SQUADRON HOSTS NRA RIFLE COURSE BIVOUAC

NEW YORK -- Syracuse Cadet Squadron hosted an NRA Rifle Course Bivouac in May that led to all 28 cadets and six senior members passing the basic rifle shooting course.

In addition, 16 of the cadets and four senior members went on to earn the Winchester/NRA Pro-Marksmanship certification.

The two-and-a-half-day bivouac took place at Verona Beach State Park, with classroom instruction and shooting at Oneida Rifle Club.

Calling it "a huge success," Squadron Commander Capt. Matt Mallory said he received a congratulatory email from head NRA instructor Dave Klish, who praised the cadets.

"I commend you on a fantastic group of young men and women," Klish wrote.



Photo by Capt. MATT MALLORY

Cadets practice at the outdoor range at Oneida Rifle Club during the NRA Rifle Course Bivouac

"... I have not seen such a well-disciplined and focused group in over 25 years. You should be extremely proud of your and their accomplishment."

The Rifle Course Bivouac included over eight hours of shooting, with the group ex-

pending over 6,900 rounds of .22 caliber ammunition and shooting 250 paper targets.

Those earning the Pro-Marksmanship certification had to "shoot five bullets into ten bull's-eyes, scoring a minimum of 20 points in each bull's-eye, all from 50 feet

away," Mallory said. "The 16 cadets are authorized to wear the Pro-Marksmanship medal on their blues uniform."

He added: "I cannot express enough how proud I am of all of our cadets and senior members that participated."

CADETS FROM 7 NER WINGS AT NATIONAL COURSE

CADET OFFICER SCHOOL A TOP LEADERSHIP OPPORTUNITY

National PA Staff

ALABAMA -- Cadets from seven Northeast Region wings participated in the Civil Air Patrol's Cadet Officer School at Maxwell Air Force Base in July, one of the top professional development opportunities available to America's youth.

CAP cadets from across the nation compete for selection each year. Only the top 15 percent of all CAP cadets are invited to attend.

This year saw 120 cadets from 42 CAP wings participated in the 10-day, executive-level course.

At COS, the cadets have a unique opportunity to learn about the Air Force, airpower history, leadership, teamwork, communication skills and problem solving.

Patterned after the Air Force Squadron Officer School, COS is an academically challenging program combining lectures, seminars and hands-on training.

"In COS, these cadets learn to take diverse skill sets and weave them together to solve problems," Air Force Brig. Gen. James K. "Kevin" McLaughlin said. "They gain confidence and learn to work with others. From the Air Force perspective, I love COS and the cadet program for the basic leadership skills and discipline they give cadets, some of whom may not get those skills elsewhere. It makes a positive difference, whether they end up in the military or not. It builds our nation's future leaders, no matter what they end up doing."

CADET PARTICIPANTS

Connecticut Wing

C/1st Lt. **Eric Testman**,
143rd Comp. Sqdrn, Oxford.

Maine Wing

C/Capt. **Eric Squire**, 75th
Composite Squadron, Machias.

Massachusetts Wing

C/1st Lt. **Ralph Melanson**,
Goddard Cadet Squadron,
Worcester.

C/2nd Lt. **Connor O'Dwyer**, Pilgrim Composite Squadron, Plymouth.

New Jersey Wing

C/Capt. **Miguel Hernandez**, Bayshore Composite Squadron, Rumson.

C/Maj. **Nicholas Jennings**, Jack Schweiker Composite Squadron, Mount Laurel.

C/1st Lt. **Justin Weaver**,
Maj. Thomas B. McGuire Jr. Com-

posite Squadron, McGuire AFB.
C/2nd Lt. **Cameron Ellis**,
Picatinny Composite Squadron,
Succasunna.

New Hampshire Wing

C/2nd Lt. **Hannah Andrick**,
Greater Nashua Composite
Squadron, Chelmsford, Mass.

C/Capt. **Noah Johnson**,
Lebanon Composite Squadron,
Lebanon.

New York Wing

C/Capt. **Megan MacDonald** and C/2nd Lt. **Anthony Spina**, Jamestown Composite Squadron, Jamestown.

Pennsylvania Wing

C/1st Lt. **James McDanolds**,
Bangor Slate Belt Composite
Squadron 807, Windgap.

C/2nd Lt. **Audrey Crismon**,
Mount Pocono Composite
Squadron 207, Mount Pocono.

PA. SQUADRON'S ROCKET LAUNCH FEATURED IN NEWSPAPER



Cadets successfully launch model rocket.

PENNSYLVANIA -- Squadron 807's aerospace education and model rocketry program were spotlighted in the Pocono Record on Aug. 19.

The paper reported that Cadets 2nd Lt. Chris Bugyi and 2nd Lt. Tara Thrasher launched a six-pound, seven-foot tall model rocket -- which returned to earth on a 45-inch parachute.

As part of the squadron's aerospace education program, the cadets participated in building the rocket, assembling the motor and launching it. "They have to build a rocket capable of carrying a small payload to 300 feet," the paper reported. "In their case, they carried a large payload to 3,000 feet."

"It was an awesome experience

that has grown to become a hobby," Cadet Bugyi told the paper,

The program is divided into three stages. The cadets must build and fly five rockets from simple and small to larger and more complex. They must also pass three written tests: history of rocketry, laws of rocketry and modern model rocketry. After they complete all of the requirements, they are awarded the CAP Model Rocketry Badge.

The objective of the aerospace education mission of CAP is to promote an understanding and appreciation of the impact of aviation and aerospace in participants' everyday lives.

The squadron meets Mondays from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. at the East Bangor Fire Station.

LONG ISLAND AIRCREW RECALLS GROUND ZERO FLIGHT

NEWS MEDIA SPOTLIGHT CAP'S 9/11 PHOTO MISSION

NEW YORK -- With the 10th anniversary of the 9/11 terrorist attacks occurring this year, the Civil Air Patrol's Long Island-based aircrew that flew over the World Trade Center site and photographed the devastation was spotlighted in several news media in August, including the New York Daily News, Newsday and News 12 Long Island.

"There were huge amounts of smoke emanating from where the buildings collapsed and we had to steer away from it," Lt. Col. Warren Ratis told the Daily News.

"It was stunning how spread out all of the debris actually was -- like a quarter-mile or a half-mile. There was so much powdery debris, it was like it snowed on lower Manhattan."

Ratis, along with Lt. Colonels Jacques Heinrich and Andrew Feldman, took to the skies in a Cessna 172 on Sept. 12, 2001 on orders from Gov. George Pataki. They took photograph after photograph as they circled Ground Zero. The photos were used



Andrew Feldman, Jacques Heinrich and Warren Ratis flew above Ground Zero on Sept. 12, 2001 and photographed damage from the 9/11 attacks.

by New York State and the Federal Emergency Management Agency to get a view of the size of the disaster.

As officials struggled to grasp the magnitude of the terror attacks, the Daily News reported, Pataki and federal officials picked the Civil Air Patrol to document

the tragedy.

CAP was better suited to fly above Ground Zero than the military, Ratis said.

"The Air Force has a lot of fast-moving aircraft that would just fly past the site but we were equipped to fly slow and low and go over and over the site," he said.

"It was very somber but our mission came first," Heinrich told the Daily News. "We knew we had a job to do - it didn't really hit us until later what we saw."

(NY Wing PAO Maj. Kevin Barry credited the efforts of Long Island Group PAO 1st Lt. Kevin Coughlin for the media interviews.)

10 NORTHEAST REGION CADETS EARN COVETED SPAATZ AWARD

Nine Northeast Region cadets have earned the General Carl A. Spaatz Award, CAP's highest achievement for cadets, between January 2010 and June 2011.

The Spaatz Cadets are:

- **Jacob T. Miller** – NY
- **James A. Ridley II** – NY
- **Frederick M. Koennecke** – NY
- **Dane V. Carroll** – PA

- **Devin J. Holland** – VT
- **Alecia I. Hagman** – NH
- **Ryan K. Chapman** – CT
- **Mark C. Teubl** – NY
- **Noah D. Bendele** -- PA
- **Darin Mihalik** -- NY

A cadet earns the Spaatz award after completing all 16 achievements in the cadet program and passing a rigorous four-part examination

consisting of written exams in aerospace, education and leadership, a written essay, and a physical fitness test. The Spaatz exam is administered by CAP US Air Force Liaison Officer, and is complex and demanding. Less than one half of one percent of cadets nationwide earn the award.

Established in 1964, the

award honors the late General Carl A. Spaatz, who became the first Air Force Chief of Staff on September 26, 1947. When Congress designated the Civil Air Patrol as the official Auxiliary of the U.S. Air Force on May 26, 1948, General Spaatz was appointed CAP's first National Board chairman.

36 GRADUATE FROM REGION CADET LEADERSHIP SCHOOL

Summer Program Conducted at McGuire Air Force Base in New Jersey

By Maj. James A. Ridley Sr.

LAKEHURST, NJ -- After a week of intense leadership training developed by military and CAP personnel, 36 cadets from eight wings graduated from Northeast Region's Cadet Leadership School South at McGuire Air Force Base in July.

Cadets hailed from NER's New Jersey, New York, Connecticut and Pennsylvania wings as well as wings in other regions, such as Michigan, Ohio, National Capital and Alaska.

Instruction was reinforced through teamwork and team building exercises involving critical thinking, decision making, public speaking and management skills. Students were separated into three "seminars," with Seminar 1 being named honor seminar.

C/SMSgt **Kayla Robertson** of PA Wing was named top graduate. She also was one of three distinguished graduates. Other Distinguished Graduates are C/CMSgt **Nicholas Ferrara**, PA Wing, and C/CMSgt **Herbert Sipes**, NJ Wing.

Top Third Graduates are: C/Maj **Patrick Argento**, NY Wing; C/Maj **Bethany Roczen**, NY Wing; C/Capt **Thomas Jacobs**, NY Wing; C/SMSgt **Joseph Abbate**, NJ Wing, who also received the award for academic excellence; C/CMSgt **Samuel Fox**, PA Wing; C/Capt **Sara Fishbein**, OH Wing; C/Maj **Carissa Lackey**, NY Wing; C/MSgt **Anabella Madrid**, NJ Wing; and C/1Lt **Jonathan Millings**, NY Wing.

List of graduates:

- C/SMSgt Joseph Abbate, NJWG.
- C/MSgt Emily Absalom, PAWG.
- C/CMSgt John Amticev, NJWG.
- C/Maj Patrick Argento, NYWG.
- C/Maj Victoria Beck, AKWG.
- C/2Lt Ryan Cain, OHWG.
- C/1Lt Brian Cann, NJWG.
- C/SMSgt Michael Carneiro, CTWG.
- C/Capt Shaun Coburn, NYWG.
- C/SMSgt Jessica DeAngelo, MIWG.
- C/1Lt Meghan Duell, NYWG.
- C/CMSgt Hector Febo, PAWG.



Capt. Scott Konzem, senior advisor for Seminar Two, took a group of students on a walk-around of a C-17A during shadow day.



Leadership School cadets enjoyed a ride in an Air Force KC-10 (left) and saw a KC-135 Stratotanker from 50 feet away (above). The Maine Air National Guard tanker practiced refueling the KC-10.

- C/CMSgt Philip Federico, NJWG.
- C/CMSgt Nicholas Ferrara, PAWG.
- C/Capt Sara Fishbein, OHWG.
- C/CMSgt Samuel Fox, PAWG.
- C/Capt Christopher Fry, NtCapWG.
- C/CMSgt Alex Gerena, NJWG.
- C/Maj Vanessa Gonzalez, NJWG.
- C/2Lt Rachel Hyatt, NYWG.
- C/Capt Thomas Jacobs, NYWG.
- C/MSgt James Kerrick, PAWG.
- C/Maj Carissa Lackey, NYWG.
- C/MSgt Anabella Madrid, NJWG.

- C/1Lt Jonathan Millings, NYWG.
- C/Capt James Mizvesky, NYWG.
- C/MSgt Travis Nolt, PAWG.
- C/SMSgt Kayla Robertson, PAWG.
- C/Maj Bethany Roczen, NYWG.
- C/2Lt Jacob Rutt, PAWG.
- C/SMSgt Michael Schurig, NJWG.
- C/MSgt Michel Sipes, NJWG.
- C/CMSgt Herbert Sipes, NJWG.
- C/SMSgt Wyatt Steele, PAWG.
- C/SMSgt Jean Marie Weitz, PAWG.
- C/2Lt Britton Williams, NJWG.