

CIVIL AIR PATROL

# NINER magazine

*serving NER's nine wings*

SUMMER 2013



**Northeast Region coordinated  
109 sorties after Sandy struck  
AIRCREWS TOOK PHOTOS EVERY 5 SECONDS  
AND PROVIDED 160,000 IMAGES TO FEMA**

Meet incoming NER commander



Cadet earns glider pilot license





**Col. Christopher Hayden**  
Commander

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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 2013**



**ACROSS THE REGION**

- 3** Meet new NER commander
- 4** Commander. Lot to be proud of. MA mission: blizzard photos.
- 5** Hurricane Sandy missions.
- 8** NH credited with save. NH cadet gets glider license.
- 9** NY unit grabs Blackjacks Trophy.



**10**

- 10** NJ cadets visit Intrepid. Winter exercise in PA. Mary Feik, 88, makes PA visit.



**11**

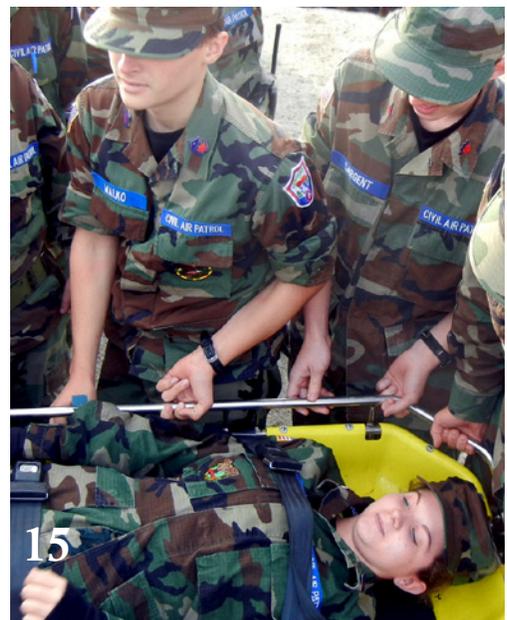
- 11** Chapman leads CT Wing. CT encampment gears up.

- 12** Gliders soar over Vermont. 4 solo at ME flight academy.
- 13** NJ teams grab region titles. 3 Cadets at National Academy.
- 14** 10 attend National Staff College. Region Staff College in October. 35 Quality Cadet Squadrans



**14**

- 15** Land-Nav for VT cadets. VT cadet makes YouTube tutorial. NH aircrew surveys ice on lake.



**15**

**ON THE COVER**

*Satellite image taken Oct. 29 shows Hurricane Sandy pummeling the Northeastern U.S. For the next three weeks, the Northeast Region coordinated disaster relief missions along the eastern seaboard. PAGES 5-7. Photo/NASA GOES Project.*

*Col. Dan Leclair, shown doing a pre-flight check, is the new commander of the Northeast Region, effective Aug. 11, 2013. PAGE 3.*

*Cadet Capt. Katie Brechbuhl became the first New Hampshire Wing cadet to earn her glider pilot's license -- and she did it a day before heading off to the Air Force Academy. PAGE 8.*

# NEW NER COMMANDER SEES ONE CAP ACROSS UNITS, WINGS

## 'WE ARE THE BEST PROFESSIONAL VOLUNTEERS IN THIS COUNTRY'

Maine Wing Commander Col. Dan Leclair, who takes over as Northeast Region commander at a Change of Command Ceremony Aug. 11, has a vision for the region:

"One Civil Air Patrol across all squadrons, groups, wings, and regions."

He believes strongly in CAP's capabilities, from the three congressionally chartered missions -- emergency services, cadet programs and aerospace education -- to the new "old" Homeland Security role, which echoes back to CAP's World War II beginnings.

Simply put, "We are the best professional volunteers in this country, and we support each other in getting the mission done."

Colonel Leclair has served in numerous capacities during his time in both the active duty Air Force and as a volunteer in the Air Force Auxiliary. He enlisted in 1972 and completed initial training at Lackland Air Force Base in San Antonio, Texas at the Cryptographic Systems School. After completing the training, he was assigned to the 13th Air Force Special Security Office at Clark Air Base, Republic of the Philippines as a cryptographic specialist. He was then assigned to the 3250th Technical Training Wing (AETC) at Lackland AFB where he served three years as a cryptographic instructor, eventually becoming an AETC master instructor. In 1978 he was assigned to the White House in Washington, DC with the White House Communications Agency (WHCA) as a watch officer in the White House Presidential Communications Center. His duties consisted of providing the President with direct command and control of both conventional and nuclear U.S. military forces. After four years at the White House, he was promoted to Chief of Technical Security for WHCA where



**Col. Dan Leclair**

he provided the President and traveling White House with technical security services for over 10 years. He has traveled with three Presidents on over 500 presidential missions in this capacity. He retired from the Air Force in 1992 and returned to Maine in 2000.

Colonel Leclair later joined CAP in Maine, serving in the 77th Composite Squadron as professional development officer, deputy commander, and squadron commander. He served as Maine Wing director of professional development, plans & program officer and vice commander before being appointed wing commander in 2009. He has managed national programs for CAP,

serving as the director of the National Flight Academy and as a project officer for Wreathes Across America. He is a 1000-hour search-and-rescue and counter drug mission pilot and an incident commander.

His awards include the Defense Meritorious Service Medal with bronze oak leaf cluster, Joint Service Commendation Medal with bronze oak leaf cluster, Air Force Commendation Medal, Joint Service Achievement Medal, Air Force Good Conduct Medal with silver oak leaf cluster, National Defense Service Medal with bronze star, Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal, Humanitarian Service Medal with bronze star, numerous Civil Air Patrol Exceptional Service Awards, Meritorious Service Award, numerous Civil Air Patrol Commanders Commendation Awards, and the Presidential Service Badge.

His CAP professional awards include the Gen. Chuck Yeager Aerospace Education Award, Gil Rob Wilson Professional Development Award, and he has completed Northeast Region Staff College, and National Staff College.

Colonel Leclair is a consulting engineer and director for a national security firm with offices in 70 cities in the U.S. He has been married to Pamela (Rowe) Leclair for 37 years. They live in Minot, Maine with their three dogs.



**Col. Dan Leclair with his personal Cessna 172.**

# THERE'S A LOT TO BE PROUD OF IN NORTHEAST REGION

## Commander's Message by Col. Christopher Hayden

It's hard for me to believe that four years have passed since taking command of the Northeast Region in 2009. As they say; "Time flies when you are having fun." Looking back, I am extremely proud of all we have accomplished as a region.

Our first goal was implementation of region-wide exercises known as multi-wing exercises. The point of was to view ourselves as a single national unit rather than just our individual wings. It was a tough start, but as we proved during Hurricane Sandy, we all came together and performed as one. With a possible repeat hurricane or tropical storm this fall, we are again holding a full region-wide exercise using the ACT facility at New Hampshire HQ in Concord, NH. Those manning the new ACT facility will be members from across the region. You are the ACT staff, not NER staff.

Our second goal was the glider program. Under orders from NHQ, all the regions were tasked with creating Glider Centers of Excellence so all could participate in the glider program rather than



Col. Christopher Hayden

just those wings with a glider. Under the guidance of Col. James Linker and his team, we led the nation with the number of glider flights per year. For the past two years NER has led the way providing four glider academies each year, orientation flights for cadets across the region and now a senior member academy starting in 2014. As a result of this success, we have received two new gliders from the Air Force Academy and that will quadruple the number of flights per O-Flight dollar.

Our third priority was establishing Region Cadet Leadership Schools in northern and southern areas of the

region. These two schools not only help geographically, they are also seasonal with the northern RCLS taking place in the winter and the southern RCLS taking place in the summer. Both schools have been highly successful and will continue as properly accredited region RCLS'.

Our fourth goal has been to provide more ongoing opportunities for personal development both inside and outside CAP. Our Region Staff College under the guidance of Lt. Col. Tim Kinsella has been revamped and feedback indicates a high level of success. Our CISM training under the guidance of Maj. Jack Arena and Chaplain Lt. Col. Van Don Williams has grown considerably. And our Chaplain College under the guidance of Chaplains Lt. Col. Robert Scheidly and Lt. Col. Van Don Williams have been highly successful.

One other goal we have accomplished is what I call, vertical integration of the region, wing and squadron staffs. Here the region staff has been holding monthly or quarterly conference calls with their wing counterparts,

who have been doing the same with their squadron counterparts. This has resulted in improved communications and improved training of new staff members.

As this is my last Commander's Message as your Region Commander, I want to take this opportunity to thank all the members of the region for your support and especially I want to thank the region staff for their dedication and very hard work over the past four years. Many of the NER staff work behind the scenes providing a seamless daily flow of the required processes that not many of us appreciate.

Finally, I want to recognize a tragedy that is a low point in our otherwise successful past few years.

On Saturday 4 May 2013, Lt. Col. Don Vosseller had a serious accident while flight testing a new glider. He received severe head injuries in the crash and has been in a coma for over two months. Therefore, my parting request to everyone is to pray for Lt Colonel Vosseller's recovery and speedy return to our ranks.

## MASS. WING'S AERIAL PHOTOS SHOW BLIZZARD'S IMPACT

by Lt. Col. Keith Raymond

Massachusetts Wing aircrews participated in recovery efforts in the aftermath of February's massive blizzard, providing the state Emergency Management Agency with photographs of the seacoast to show damage along the shoreline from Sandwich to Hull.

Aircrews delivered about 1,600 high-resolution photos to MEMA.

State and local officials used the images to help speed recovery efforts and to identify areas with the most critical needs.

Governor Deval Patrick mentioned the aerial photo sorties during a public briefing.

# NER COORDINATED MASSIVE HURRICANE SANDY RESPONSE

## 7,000-Man-Hour Days, 109 Sorties, and 160,000 Images for FEMA

By Capt. Robert Stronach

When mission pilot Lt. Col. Ken Field of NY Wing received the Exceptional Service Award and Disaster Relief Ribbon with "V" device at the Central New York Group Banquet in May, it was one example of recognition going out to over 700 pilots, air crew members, command center staffs and other support personnel for last fall's massive Hurricane Sandy disaster relief effort.

At the height of the response in November, CAP members were putting in 7,000-man-hour days. Aircrews were flying grids that had them taking photos every five seconds to complete a photo mosaic of storm-ravaged New York, New Jersey, Pennsylvania and other areas for FEMA.

Another priority was helping the Coast Guard locate oil spills, including sources of spills, as well as debris in the waterways that posed navigation hazards and/or public health risks. The Coast Guard also wanted CAP aircrews to photograph the waterways around New York and New Jersey at different times that would correspond to varying tidal conditions.

A third high priority was to give personnel from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers a first-hand view of ravaged areas so they could better assess where to deploy recovery crews for optimal impact.

"The final count was 109 sorties," with aircraft and personnel from Northeast, Middle East and Great Lakes Regions, noted Northeast Re-



*The Area Coordination Center was up and operational by Oct. 29 at Concord, NH as Hurricane Sandy was still pummeling the Northeast seaboard.*

gion Commander Col. Chris Hayden. The crews uploaded nearly 160,000 usable high-resolution images to FEMA.

That joint-region response was coordinated out of a Northeast Region command post known as the Area Coordination Center, set up in Concord, NH. As the ATC was established, Lt. Col. Paul Ghiron, NER director of emergency services, assumed his role as the chief FEMA liaison for the the region, and Col. James Rushing, the national FEMA liaison officer, took up residence at the FEMA National Operations Center (NRCC).

For more than two years, "the Northeast Region has held multi-wing exercises using the Area Coordination doctrine in preparation for any large region-wide disaster," explained Colonel Hayden. "The Area Coordination doctrine states that the HQ NER is to be a

clearinghouse for tasking received from multiple customers (agencies) and flow the task to the assigned wing... During Hurricane Irene the Northeast Region stood up a small Area Coordination Team (ACT) in White Plains, NY, which resulted in the development of the doctrine which was very successfully employed in 2012 following Hurricane Sandy."

On 27 October, as the track of Hurricane Sandy became clear, he said, "the Northeast Region operations staff saw the best place to establish the NER Area Coordination Team was the New Hampshire Wing HQ in Concord, NH." As the northern wings were not in immediate danger, "this meant the majority of the ACT staff would be provided by Vermont, New Hampshire and Maine Wings." NH Wing Commander Col. William Moran quickly assembled a team

of both New Hampshire and Maine personnel under the command of Lt. Col. Paul Mondoux, alternating with Lt. Col. Robert Shaw, and on Monday 29 October the full team was operational.

"As soon as the storm cleared," Hayden noted, "the wings in the affected areas of the Northeast Region and Middle East Region established local Incident Management Teams (IMT) and prepared air and ground crews in preparation for tasking."

FEMA tasked CAP with providing a mosaic of high resolution imagery spanning the coastline and coastal towns from Delaware to Cape Cod, Mass. "Just along the New Jersey coastline alone, from Sandy Hook in the North, to Cape May in the South and up the Delaware River Valley to the Trenton area required over 4,700 one kilometer square grids to be photographed," Colonel

Hayden pointed out. “ Presented with this massive task, the NER ACT planning section consisting of Lt. Col. Don Godfrey, MEWG, Maj. Marc Brunelle, MEWG, Maj. Richard Courtney, RIWG, Capt. Don Norris, NHWG, and Lt. Col. Hank Dahlquist, NHWG, soon broke the task down into manageable sorties. They chose a 15 by 5 mile tile size and using a cardboard template, built the FEMA mosaic over a sectional chart, cataloging each tile with its entry coordinates, leg length, offset and number of tracks. Captain Norris, a professional photographer, calculated the optimum altitude, lens length and picture frequency. Col. Dan Leclair then flew a test sortie and confirmed their calculations. Using only G1000-equipped aircraft, the aircrews’ task was to fly to the grid entry point and using the G1000’s SAR grid search program in the FMS, fly the grid on the auto-pilot with the photographer shooting a picture at 45 degrees every five seconds and then flying the grid again in the opposite direction to provide a 6% overlap. Named ‘Operation Looking Glass’, the planners estimated it would take over thirty aircraft flying 100-120 sorties gathering around 200,000 images. The final count was 109 sorties.”

He added: “With the camera window open, temperatures around freezing and grids taking two and a half hours to fly, our aerial photographers are the heroes of this mission.” National Headquarters, he said, provided Northeast Region with an additional 18 D90 cameras with GPS and a



**Pennsylvania Wing mission scanner 1st Lt. Jennifer Lichlyter provided damage assessment photos of New Jersey and eastern Pennsylvania.**

device called the Shutter Boss, which allowed the later aerial photographers to let the system time and click the shutter.

“The Area Coordination Center in Concord, NH, was critical to the success of this mission and manning it with 20 to 25 skilled and dedicated personnel was soon to be the next big challenge,” Hayden noted. “From the first day members of NH, ME, VT and MA Wings rotated as their work and families could allow. Some commuted while other stayed overnight.” Colonel Hayden added that he was able to secure the support of Great Lakes Region “in the form of more aircraft and aircrews and additional ACT personnel.”

Great Lakes Region members flew in from as far away as Michigan, Illinois and Ohio. “Maj. Steven Cassani from Michigan Wing took over command of the Area Coordination Center with his planning section consisting of Maj. James Gregory, Capt. Damon Card and Maj. Chris Felton, and for operations, Maj. Rick Crepas and Lt. Col. Richard King.”

Not knowing how long the operation would take, the center decided on a seven-day tour of duty for the regions. “After two long weeks of operation, Middle East Region Commander Col. Larry Ragland sent a relief team to Concord, NH, led by Maj. Eric Templeton, Illinois Wing,” Hayden said. Other

team members included: Capt. Sheri Sorenson and Capt. Damon Card, also of Illinois Wing, Cols. Clarence Peters and Don Haffner, Lt. Col. Chris Trossen and Maj. Timothy Dixon from Wisconsin Wing, Col. Eugene Jackson from Virginia Wing, Lt. Col. Dion Viventi from NC Wing, and Maj. Josh Schmidt from National Capital Wing.

“Even with these reinforcements over a three-week period, NH, ME and VT Wings still provided the bulk of the operational staff,” Hayden said. “Lt. Crystal LePrade of Maine Wing in particular drove in from Bar Harbor, Maine on the first day along with Brian and Sandy Riis from the NH Wing to provide finance/administrative support and stayed throughout the time the center was in operation. Other exceptional support was provided by Col. William Moran, Col. Dale Hardy, Maj. Marc Brunelle, Col. Dan Leclair, Lt. Col. Don Godfrey, Lt. Col. Skip Guild, Lt. Col. Mead Herrick, Lt. Col. Hank Dahlquist, Lt. Col. Charles Freeman, NHWG Administrator Lesley Lara, and many more.”

Noted Colonel Hayden: “The most important lesson we have learned from this very successful operation is that the mission of the Civil Air Patrol is changing rapidly. The days of the ubiquitous ELT or missing person searches at wing or squadron level are now few and far between and large scale disaster relief operations are the mission of our future. Following Hurricane Katrina, Deepwater Horizon, Madrid Ardent Sentry Exercise, Hurricanes

Earl and Irene and now Hurricane Sandy, multi-wing and multi-region operations are more likely and are the way we need to train...

“Our national commanders over the past years have all asked us to work as one CAP. What has been most evident throughout the Hurricane Sandy operation has been the stretching out of hands across wings and region and the desire to help each other. Working to together is one of the most rewarding components of CAP membership and so multi-wing and multi-region training exercises and a national level doctrine for such operation are critical to our future.”

## NY WING PILOTS TRAINED AIRCREWS ON D90 CAMERA, GPS



Three NY Wing pilots provided valuable training on the Nikon D90 digital camera and eTrex GPS system for air crews before they launched from South Jersey Regional Airport. After each sortie, the photographs and GPS track log were uploaded into RoboGeo software that tagged each image with latitude, longitude and altitude. The final images were available immediately for FEMA use. From left: Lt. Col. Steve Perta, NY Wing, 1st Lt. Jennifer Lichlyter, PA Wing (mission scanner), Maj. Chuck Hereth, NY Wing, and Lt. Col. Gerry Marketos, NY Wing. Photo by Lt. Zack King, NJ Wing.

## CONN., NY MEMBERS HELP RED CROSS GET READY FOR SANDY



Photo by Maj. Jim Vigar

Conn. Cadets prepare lunch at Danbury War Memorial Shelter.

By Capt. Peter Milano

DANBURY, CT – As Hurricane Sandy stormed towards Connecticut, 399th Danbury Composite Squadron members devoted five days and over 200 man-hours helping the American Red Cross Connecticut Chapter and the Town of New Fairfield set up shelters and distribute supplies.

Squadron members moved cots into Danbury Hospital to accommodate additional emergency personnel and assisted with shelter set-up at the

Danbury War Memorial and New Fairfield High School. They filled supply orders, unloaded trucks, distributed food, water, blankets and other supplies at the shelters.

“We are grateful for the support of the Civil Air Patrol,” said American Red Cross Connecticut and Rhode Island Region CEO Mario Bruno. “They have been long-time partners with us in our preparedness work and in our efforts to keep Connecticut residents safe in emergencies.”



Photo by Lt. Col. Sean Neal

NY cadets prepare pallet of water to ship to New York City.

By Capt. Bob Stronach

ALBANY, NY – Some 60 NY Wing members spent over a week helping the American Red Cross Northeast New York Chapter ship food and supplies to disaster-struck areas of New York and New Jersey. It started before Hurricane Sandy struck the Northeast.

“Officers and cadets from six squadrons in New York Wing’s Mid-Eastern Group put in over 1,000 man-hours in relief assistance at the major Red Cross warehouse in Guil-

derland (near Albany),” noted Mid-Eastern Group Commander Lt. Col. Sean Neal.

“Due to experience gained during Hurricane Irene a year before, the Red Cross requested Civil Air Patrol assistance again,” Neal said. CAP volunteers were responsible for loading trucks and shelter trailers, keeping inventory, and processing requisitions. In fact, he added, Red Cross Warehouse Manager Gene Ouderkirk commented that the Civil Air Patrol was “the best group of volunteers he has ever worked with.”

# NEW HAMPSHIRE WING CREDITED WITH SAVE AIR, GROUND TEAMS HELPED SEARCH FOR WOMAN

by Maj. Penny H. Hardy

EFFINGHAM, N.H. -- Members of New Hampshire Wing conducted air and ground searches for an 18-year-old female who was reported missing in Effingham, N.H., on Sunday afternoon, June 9. New Hampshire Wing has been credited by the Air Force Rescue Coordination Center with helping save a life for their efforts.

The woman was found by a hiker near the summit of Green Mountain in Effingham on Tuesday evening. She was treated for mild hypothermia and carried off the mountain by New Hampshire Fish and Game officers.

Since the missing woman was wearing a Care Trak bracelet, the wing flew a Care



**Ground team rests briefly while searching mountainous terrain.**  
Photo by C/SMSGt Alex Rose

Trak representative twice on Monday, hoping to pick up her Care Track signal. They

flew multiple search patterns and contours in the vicinity of Green Mountain, but no

signal was received. Approximately 400 square miles of heavily forested mountainous terrain was covered. A total of 24 CAP members assisted with the search.

CAP members also devoted approximately 100 hours searching for her on the ground. The terrain was very challenging and included swamps, marshes and steep mountainous areas.

New Hampshire Wing Commander Col. Bill Moran commended the CAP members, noting they “rapidly responded to the request for air and ground resources” and “stood out as professionals in executing their search duties.”

New Hampshire Fish and Game as well as local fire and police departments also participated in the search.

## CADET SOARS AS NH WING’S FIRST CADET GLIDER PILOT



From left: Tow Pilot Walter Striedieck, FAA Examiner Bill Stinson, C/ Capt. Katie Brechbuhl, and Maj. John Williams, CFI-G,

Cadet Capt. Katie Brechbuhl of Lebanon Squadron is the first New Hampshire Wing cadet to earn her glider private pilot’s license. It happened June 25 at Hartness State Airport, Springfield, VT -- just a day before she left for the Air Force Academy.

“Katie is the perfect example of how soaring in America and the Civil Air Patrol should be,” noted her instructor, Maj. John Williams, CFI-G. “She started her training only last August at a CAP Glider Academy at the Hartness State Airport... and then joined NESAs to finish her training in only five months (plus a winter’s

worth of ground school with her CAP/NESA CFI-G). She also earned a scholarship providing her a membership to NESAs.” The cadet flew with all four of NH Wing’s certified flight instructors for gliders (CFI-G) -- Thomas Scheidegger, John Graziano, Matt Towsley, and John Williams -- plus NESAs President/CFI-G Jerry Smith.

“This was the perfect team effort for a wonderful result of growing Soaring in America and not taking years to do it either.”

Williams added it only took Cadet Brechbuhl a week to solo after taking her first glider lesson.

# NY COLOR GUARD TEAM CAPTURES BLACKJACKS CUP

## GRUMMAN CADETS HOLD OWN AGAINST COLLEGIATE TEAMS

By Maj. James A. Ridley Sr.

New York Wing's Leroy R. Grumman Cadet Squadron's color guard not only captured the National Society of BlackJacks Drill and Color Guard Competition's Black-Jack Championship Cup in April, it also more than held its own against collegiate teams in the National Society of Pershing Rifles' annual Gen. John J. Pershing Memorial Drill Competition.

The Blackjacks competition, held this year at the Prime F. Osborn III Convention Center in Jacksonville, Fla., consists of members of Civil Air Patrol, Junior ROTC and equivalent high school age organizations. It's conducted alongside the Pershing Rifles competition for college ROTC cadets.

When the Grumman cadets arrived in Jacksonville to compete in their third straight



*Trophies in hand, the Grumman color guard – Cadet Tech. Sgt. Steven Horowitz, Cadet Chief Master Sgts. Patrick Tracy and Peter Girdvil, and Cadet Tech. Sgt. Travis Jensen – poses with the reviewing general, retired U.S. Army Brig. Gen. Arnold Neil Gordon-Bray. Photo by Maj. James A. Ridley Sr.*

BlackJacks meet, they learned things would be a bit different this year – the Junior ROTC teams had pulled out of the competition's color guard phase.

Since the New York Wing

cadets had traveled so far, organizers decided they would be the first noncollege unit to compete in the Pershing Rifles event. As a result, the CAP members found themselves going up against cadets

in 17 college programs from as far away as California.

The color guard – Cadet Chief Master Sgts. Peter Girdvil, flag bearer, and Patrick Tracy, commander, and Cadet Tech. Sgts. Steven Horowitz and Travis Jensen, riflemen – performed so well against the older cadets that its total score of 193 points led the field until the final two teams performed. Ultimately, Company M-4 from Appalachian State University nudged the New Yorkers out of first place by a single point.

Along with the overall BlackJack Championship Cup, the Grumman cadets also took first place in inspection.

The color guard was mentored by 1st Lt. Michele Renneberg, the squadron's activities officer, who escorted the cadets to Jacksonville along with 1st Lt. Virginia Lackey, administrative officer.

## GRUMMAN NAMED NY'S SQUADRON OF MERIT

By Capt. James Ridley II

Consistent hard work by cadets and officers in the LeRoy R. Grumman Cadet Squadron, which was named Long Island Group Squadron of the Year twice in the last

three years and New York Wing Squadron of the Year last year, paid off this year with the highest honor yet – recognition as the wing's 2013 Squadron of Merit recipient.

"I am very humbled right

now and extremely proud of the cadets and seniors of the Grumman squadron," Commander Maj James Ridley Sr. said. "It was their work that made this possible, and I am grateful."

When the squadron held

its first meeting May 7 after the wing conference, Lt. Col. Michael Mooney, Long Island Group commander, was in attendance to present the entire squadron with the award and the accompanying streamer.



## NJ CADETS VISIT INTREPID

NEW JERSEY -- Delaware Valley Composite Squadron based in Whitehouse visited New York City's Intrepid Sea, Air and Space Museum in April, the Hunterdon County Democrat reported. Cadets enjoyed a self-guided tour of the historic aircraft carrier. They also got to experience the museum's world-class collection of military and commercial aircraft, as well as a submarine, space shuttle and flight simulator.



## PA WINTER EXERCISE TESTS SAR AND SURVIVAL SKILLS 78 MEMBERS FROM PENNSYLVANIA, OHIO AND TENNESSEE PARTICIPATE

Members from the Pennsylvania, Ohio and Tennessee wings gathered Feb. 2-3 in the snow-covered fields outside Friedens, PA to participate in a winter training exercise designed not only to sharpen their search-and-rescue skills but also to teach cold-weather survival techniques.

In all, 78 officers and cadets participated. Experienced members taught skills such as camp setup, fire building, keeping warm and land navigation. Back at the



base, staff members were trained in support positions to help the overall mission.

"It's important to train like this because supervised training under the harshest conditions sets you up to do your

best in any environment," said Cadet Chief Master Sgt. Anthony DeRubeis of Allegheny County Composite Squadron 602. "When I get back to school on Monday, it's nice to know I had a fun

weekend learning important skills."

"I am very proud of all of our members, cadets and adults, who have taken the time this weekend to come out and train for our emergency services mission," said Col. Sandra Brandon, Pennsylvania Wing commander.

"Training like this keeps us ready for missions like the one we participated in this past week in Somerset County for the missing snowmobiler who was found safe."

## MARY FEIK STILL FLYING HIGH AT 88 IN VISIT TO PA

The staff at the Berry Patch Bed and Breakfast in Pennsylvania's Swatara Township have entertained hundreds of guests through the years, but few, they say, have been as interesting as Col. Mary S. Feik, the Lebanon Daily News reported in January.

Feik, at age 88, drove her stick-shift pickup truck from her home in Maryland to Lebanon County to hand out awards that carry her name to members of Lebanon VFW Cadet Squadron 307. The ceremony was held at Lebanon Area Evangelical Free Church. Feik told Berry



**Mary Feik**

Patch staff she enjoyed traveling to CAP events and meeting young cadets, and that she had handed out more than 9,000 awards.

After overhauling her first automobile engine at 13, Feik turned to aircraft engines and military aircraft at 18, eventually teaching aircraft maintenance to crew chiefs and mechanics for the U.S. Army Air Force in 1942.

In addition to logging more than 5,000 hours as a B-29 flight engineer, engineering observer and pilot in fighter, attack, bomber, cargo and training aircraft, she also designed high-performance and jet fighter pilot transition trainers as well as aircraft maintenance trainers.

Not just noted as a pilot but

also as a writer and aircraft restorer, Feik authored pilot training manuals and technical engineering reports for the armed forces, and was a restoration specialist with the National Air and Space Museum's Paul E. Garber Restoration Facility. She was inducted into the Women in Aviation Pioneer Hall of Fame in 1994, and two years later received the FAA's Charles Taylor Master Mechanic Award.

But her proudest moment came in 2003: "My ultimate honor (is) the Civil Air Patrol cadet achievement created in my name."

# WEST POINT GRAD NAMED CONN. WING COMMANDER

By Capt. James Ridley II

Lt. Col. Ken Chapman is the new Connecticut Wing commander, NER Commander Col. Chris Hayden announced in June, with formal installation taking place at the end of July. He succeeds Col. Cassandra Huchko, who stepped down in March. Lt Col Matthew Valleau served as interim commander during



**Lt. Col. Ken Chapman**

the selection process.

Chapman, a West Point graduate and father of a West Point cadet who was also a

CAP cadet, has been serving as the wing's cadet programs officer. Chapman began his CAP career as a cadet in 1983, eventually earning the rank of cadet lieutenant colonel. His tenure as a CAP cadet was followed by an appointment to the U.S. Military Academy at West Point and eight years of as an officer in the U.S. Army, including a tour of duty as an 82 Air-

borne paratrooper.

Chapman returned to Civil Air Patrol in 2007. He helped to found two cadet squadrons, winning awards and simultaneously serving on wing staff.

After completing the 2013 National Staff College, Chapman was awarded the Gill Robb Wilson Award. His other qualifications include Ground Team leader, mission observer and pilot rating.

# CONN. WING ENCAMPMENT GEARS UP FOR AUGUST RUN GRADUATION TO FEATURE ARMY BAND AND RETIRED GENERAL

NIANTIC, CT – The Connecticut Wing Encampment is making its first appearance since 2011 at Camp Niantic this Aug. 10-17. In January outgoing Wing Commander Col. Cassandra Huchko selected Maj. James Ridley Sr. as the 2013 encampment commander.

Ridley, a command staff experienced veteran of six encampments, began putting together a senior staff made up of Connecticut and other NER wing officers.

After selecting his senior command staff they began the search for a cadet command staff and ultimately selected c/Lt. Col. Stephanie Hyatt as the Encampment's cadet commander.

"We are very excited about this encampment," said Ridley, who is NER plans and programs officer as well as a squadron commander.

"The encampment has 40 cadet staff and 30 senior staff and nearly 100 basic in-flight cadets registered. There are



**102nd Army Band performs in parade.**



**BG (ret) Shepard Stone**



**Encampment Registrar Capt. Robin Wojtcuk meets with Encampment Commander Maj. James Ridley, Sr. during an encampment workshop held in May.**

a lot of activities planned such as an Army Leadership Reaction Course and Water Survival Camp, and classes with experienced guest lecturers from the military, CAP

and civilian aerospace professions."

The encampment graduation will be extra special this year, he said, featuring the 102nd Army Band and

guest speaker Brig. Gen. (Ret) Shepard "Doc" Stone who spent 40 years in the Connecticut Army National Guard aviation medical corps.

# NER GLIDER CENTERS 1ST IN COUNTRY FOR FLIGHTS

## CADETS GET EXPERIENCE OF A LIFETIME SOARING OVER VERMONT

*By Maj. Kristian Bearscope*

It's 9 a.m., 27 degrees outside, no wind. Miniature shards of ice protrude from all surfaces, reaching out to the world as a reminder that nature is a force to be reckoned with. Breaths from six Civil Air Patrol members can be seen as they brush their hands over the top surface of the wing of N358BA, a Super Banik glider used by the Northeast Region Glider Center of Excellence in Vermont to provide CAP cadets experiences of their lifetimes. This morning marks the end of the 2012 season, as the frost on the glider and the breaths of the cadets indicate winter is close at hand.

For Maine cadets, glider season began in May with the first orientation flight weekend.

Getting a chance to soar like an eagle is not an everyday occurrence for most Americans. Being part of a program that offers this inspiring experience for free is a benefit CAP cadets

can claim their entire lives. Memories of traveling to and from the rolling hills of Vermont both on the ground and in the air; the teamwork needed to hook up the glider to its tow plane on the runway and holding on to the glider's wing during take-off; the buzz of a small airport, its planes, people, and pets; the laughter; the camaraderie; the pilots and instructors; and the thrill of flying in a contraption that unfolds out of a box and seems light as a feather are now a part of every cadet that had a chance to go.

"It was a long, hot walk, especially with our backpacks, but everyone was too excited about the gliders to really think about it," says C/ Noah Tiemann, of Maine's 38th Composite Squadron. "When I ran with the glider's wing, I could feel the power of the wind on the glider."

The efforts and dedication of many CAP members made 2012 a success for Northeast Region, whose total glider flights were tops in the country, reports NER Commander Col. Chris Hayden.



*Super Banik glider soars over Vermont. Photo by Maj. Kristian Bearscope.*

## 4 SCHOLARSHIP WINNERS SOLO AT FLIGHT ACADEMY

*by Maj. Penny H. Hardy*

OLD TOWN, ME -- Four CAP cadets -- two from Maine and two from New Hampshire -- completed solo flights at July's CAP Powered Flight Academy here. The cadets were Cailyn Burke and Adam Hathaway of Maine Wing and Erica Tischbein and Brayden Reichenbach of NH Wing. A total of 24 cadets attended the academy.

Each cadet received a \$500 scholarship from Daedalian Foundation towards the cost of attending the academy directed by Col. Dan LeClair, outgoing ME Wing commander and incoming NER commander.



*From left: Lt. Col. Greg Curtis, ME Wing; Col. Dan LeClair, ME Wing commander; Cadet Cailyn Burke; Cadet Adam Hathaway; Col. Bill Moran, NH Wing commander and CFI; Cadet Brayden Reichenbach; Cadet Erica Tischbein; Lt. Col. Patrick Testerman, CFI.*

# NJ TEAMS CAPTURE NORTHEAST REGION TITLES

by Capt. James A. Ridley II

NEWPORT, RI – New Jersey Wing teams captured both the color guard and drill team trophies in the Northeast Region Cadet Competition last April at Naval Air Station Newport, going on to represent the region in national competition in July.

The wing's color guard team bested rivals from the Connecticut, Massachusetts, New York and Pennsylvania wings to capture the Col. Julius Goldman Memorial Trophy, while the drill team finished first against Connecticut and New Hampshire to take home the Brig. Gen. Edgar M. Bailey Memorial Trophy.

NJ Color Guard members:

- Cadet Chief Master Sgts. Andrew Collie (junior flag), William Godfrey (senior rifle) and Ian Green (team commander).

- Cadet Staff Sgt. Matt Pearl (junior rifle).

- Alternate – Cadet Master Sgt. Matthew Molineros.

Capt. Robert Motz is project officer.

All are members of the New Jersey Wing's Twin Pine Composite Squadron.

NJ Drill Team members:

- Cadet Maj. Nathan Sanders, team commander, Plain-



NJ Wing color guard and drill team triumphed at Northeast Region Cadet Competition.

field Composite Squadron

- Cadet Capts. Alexandra Dwyer, Bayshore Composite Squadron, and Nicholas Maletto, Walter M. Schirra Jr. Composite Squadron

- Cadet Senior Master Sgts. Andrew Betts, Teterboro Composite Squadron, and Tyler Sizelove, Ocean Composite Squadron.

- Cadet Master Sgt. Edward Juba, Gen. Jimmy Stewart Composite Squadron

- Cadet Tech. Sgt. Jared Malave, Plainfield Composite Squadron.

- Cadet Staff Sgt. Philip Betts, Teterboro Composite Squadron.

- Cadet Senior Airman David DeBenedictis, Jack Schweiker Composite Squadron.

- Cadet Senior Airman Vincent Iannuzzi, Plainfield Composite Squadron.

- Cadet Airmen 1st Class Xavier Counts and LaJuan

Dotch, both Plainfield Composite Squadron.

- Cadet Airman Dickson Camilo, Plainfield Composite Squadron.

Project officer is Capt. Carlos Pineda, Plainfield Composite Squadron deputy commander for cadets, with 1st Lt. Marianne Sizelove, Ocean Composite Squadron deputy commander for cadets, serving as assistant project officer.

“All the teams were impressive,” said Lt. Col. John Flaherty, Northeast Region deputy chief of staff for cadet programs. “It was a good and tough competition in which every cadet had fun and returned to their wings proud of their accomplishments.”

The Pennsylvania Wing Color Guard and the New Jersey Wing Drill Team were recognized with the Lt. Col. Sam Gilmore Trophy for sponsorship, as chosen by the other teams.

Individual color guard awards:

- Outstanding Team Commander – Cadet Chief Master Sgt. Connor Guzda, Connecticut Wing.

- Fleet Foot Award, Male – Cadet Tech. Sgt. John Halling, Mass. Wing.

- Fleet Foot Award, Female – Cadet Staff Sgt. Sharyah Simco, Penn. Wing.

- Highest Written Exam – Cadet Chief Master Sgt. Jonathan Larios, Mass. Wing.

Individual drill awards:

- Outstanding Team Commander – Cadet Maj. Nathan Sanders, NJ Wing.

- Fleet Foot Award, Male – Cadet Staff Sgt. Keo Simonson, NH Wing.

- Fleet Foot Award, Female – Cadet Tech. Sgt. Kristina Delp, Conn. Wing

- Highest Written Exam – Cadet Senior Airman David DeBenedictis, NJ Wing.

## 3 NORTHEAST REGION CADETS ATTEND CIVIC LEADERSHIP ACADEMY

Two dozen outstanding Civil Air Patrol cadets interested in politics and careers in public service gathered in Washington, D.C., in February to participate in the Civic Leadership Academy, one of the nation's premier civic

education activities. Three cadets were from the Northeast Region.

The week-long academy included behind-the-scenes tours and briefings at the U.S. Capitol, Supreme Court, State Department, CIA, Ar-

lington National Cemetery and other places of interest in the nation's capital.

Northeast Region participants were from New York Wing:

- Cadet Maj. Robinson Fernandez of Academy Cadet

Squadron.

- Cadet 1st Lt. Max Rogovin of Lt. Anthony L. Willsea Cadet Squadron.

- Cadet 2nd Lt. Jessi Rapelje of Capt. Luke C. Wullenwaber Composite Squadron.

# 10 FROM NORTHEAST ATTEND NATIONAL STAFF COLLEGE

Ninety-seven members from 34 wings in all eight regions honed their skills for executive-level success in May at 2013 National Staff College at Maxwell Air Force Base, Ala. Ten were from Northeast Region.

"It's the largest class in eight years," said Col. Virginia Nelson, National Staff College director.

The training is a requirement for earning the Gill Robb Wilson Award, CAP's highest professional development achievement.

## NER PARTICIPANTS:

### Connecticut Wing:

• Northwest Hills Composite Squadron – Lt. Col. Paul F. Rowen.

• 143rd Composite Squadron – Maj. Thomas W. Lit-

winczyk and Joseph Palys.

• 802nd Cadet Squadron – Maj. Kenneth E. Chapman  
**Massachusetts Wing**

• Hanscom Comp. Squadron – Maj. David A. Druga.

• Westover Composite Squadron – Maj. Raymond J. LaRose Sr.

### New Jersey Wing:

• Raritan Valley Comp. Squadron – Lt. Col. Amy T. Myzic.

### New York Wing:

• Wing Headquarters – Lt. Cols. Robert Flynn and Gerald L. Marketos.

• Flushing Cadet Squadron – Maj. Michael Lee.

• 9th Suffolk Cadet Squadron – Lt. Col. Daniel A. Rogers.

### Pennsylvania Wing:

• Group 3 – Maj. Ryan J. Kelly.

## REGION STAFF COLLEGE RUNS OCT. 19-26 20 COMPLETED LAST FALL'S LEADERSHIP PROGRAM

Region Staff College, which helps prepare members for the challenging responsibilities of senior management, takes place Oct. 19-26, 2013 at JBMDL-McGuire Air Force Base, New Jersey.

"This week-long in-residence college can benefit both your CAP and civilian careers," noted College Director Lt. Col. Tim Kinsella. It's required to complete Level IV of the CAP Professional Development Program. "It doesn't conflict with summer activities. Plus, many employers recognize the value of senior level leadership training. Some employers even give time off to attend and pay expenses."

Twenty senior members from ten wings graduated from last fall's college.

CONNECTICUT: Maj. Janice C. Daviault, Squadron 014, and Maj. Jeffrey S. Travers, Squadron 071.

DELAWARE: Maj. Matthew D. Kimbler and Maj. Catherine H. Twyford.

MASSACHUSETTS: Capt. Richard J. Walsh Jr., Squadron 002.

NEW HAMPSHIRE: Maj. Peter P. Blais, Squadron 054.

NEW JERSEY: Maj. Paul J. Bolognone, New Jersey Wing; Maj. Michael F. Castania, Group 078; Capt. Peter F. MacDonald, New Jersey Wing.

NEW YORK: Capt. William F. Martin III, Squadron 413; Capt. Joseph N. Wolff, Squadron 219; First Lt. Michael J. Woolfolk, Squadron 301.

PENNSYLVANIA: Capt. Ethan U. Davis, Group 007; Maj. Carl L. Kelley, Group 004; Maj. Ryan J. Kelly, Squadron 201; Capt. Andrew R. Natarfrancesco, Squadron 214; Maj. Harold E. Roach, Group 003.

OREGON: TSgt. (Capt) Daniel L. Ash.

RHODE ISLAND: Maj. Eileen M. Rapose, RI Wing.

WYOMING: Kim Alan Nash.

## 35 QUALITY CADET UNITS IN NORTHEAST REGION

Thirty-five Northeast Region squadrons were national winners of CAP's 2012 Quality Cadet Unit Award. Only 194 squadrons across the country earned the honor, which recognizes vibrant cadet programs.

NER-CT-011 143rd Comp Sqdn  
NER-CT-014 Silver City Cadet Sqdn  
NER-CT-022 Stratford Eagles Comp. Sqdn  
NER-CT-801 801st Cadet Squadron  
NER-MA-007 Goddard Cadet Sqdn  
NER-ME-035 35th Composite Sqdn  
NER-NH-014 Lebanon Composite Sqdn  
NER-NH-016 Greater Nashua Comp. Sqdn  
NER-NH-037 Highlanders Cadet Sqdn  
NER-NH-054 Manchester Cadet Sqdn  
NER-NH-056 Hawk Composite Sqdn  
NER-NJ-002 Cumberland Composite Sqdn  
NER-NJ-003 Raritan Valley Composite Sqdn  
NER-NJ-082 Allentown Composite Sqdn  
NER-NJ-092 Twin Pine Composite Sqdn  
NER-NJ-093 Picatinny Composite Sqdn  
NER-NY-116 Niagara Falls Comp. Sqdn  
NER-NY-153 Leroy R. Grumman Cadet Sqdn  
NER-NY-159 Dutchess County Cadet Sqdn  
NER-NY-253 Batavia Composite Squadron  
NER-NY-354 Condor Composite Sqdn  
NER-NY-373 Floyd Bennett Composite Sqdn  
NER-NY-402 Jamestown Composite Sqdn  
NER-NY-422 Lt Anthony L Willsea Cadet Sqdn  
NER-PA-010 Jesse Jones Comp. Sqdn  
NER-PA-080 Chester County Comp. Sqdn  
NER-PA-133 Golden Triangle Comp. Sqdn  
NER-PA-296 Lehigh Valley Comp. Sqdn  
NER-PA-303 Bangor Slate Belt Comp. Sqdn  
NER-PA-338 Nittany Comp Sqdn  
NER-PA-522 Selinsgrove Cadet Squadron  
NER-RI-036 South County Composite Sqdn  
NER-VT-009 Rutland Composite Sqdn  
NER-VT-033 Capital Composite Sqdn



**Great leaders soar**  
after attending Region Staff College

**Oct. 19-26, 2013**

**SIGN UP NOW!**

[www.ner.cap.gov/nersc/](http://www.ner.cap.gov/nersc/)  
deadline Oct. 1, 2013

# VT MEMBERS TAKE LAND-NAV TREK FOR SAR TRAINING

by Capt. David C. May

Vermont's Green Mountain Composite Squadron held an Emergency Services Land-Nav training exercise last October open to all Vermont Wing cadets and senior members. The weekend at Ethan Allen Firing Range in Jericho began with Basic Communications, Health & Safety, Gear Overview, Woodsmanship, Fire Test, and Emergency Shelter Building.

The bulk of the weekend was dedicated to Land Navigation utilizing topographical maps and the UTM (Universal Transverse Mercator Grid System), the standard



**Cadets practice carrying a litter!**

for search and rescue in Vermont.

Cadets and seniors learned

the difference between Lat/Long system and UTM, and how to find a location, plot

the heading and calculate the distance between in kilometers using a topographical map, a UTM grid tool, and a compass.

The second part of search and rescue -- rescuing a victim -- was the topic of a class given by Dave Cutler of Waterbury Back Country Rescue. He spoke of his personal experience in the field and gave hands-on instruction for litter carries with a Stokes basket.

Cadets and seniors stayed in tents and emergency shelters they created.

The last group activity was on the Leadership Reaction Course, designed to challenge both mind and body.

# VT CADET DESIGNS EMERGENCY SERVICES YOUTUBE TUTORIAL

by First Lt. Diana Hayes

SPRINGFIELD, VT -- C/SRA Vincent Moeykens, 13, of Catamount Composite Squadron was excited when the wing director of cadet programs, Maj. Barbara Leary, put out the word that a LAND-NAV exercise open to all qualified cadets in the

Vermont Wing would be held October 26-28. The exercise would require putting together a 72 hour cold weather pack, camping, completing an obstacle course in teams of two, night time fire watches and drills in orienteering skills.

As the date approached, Cadet Moeykens became

concerned that three new cadets had not completed the required GES tests, which would exclude them.

He took action. Midweek before the exercise he sent all members of the squadron an email with a link to a YouTube video he created, titled "How to Get Ground Team Rated in the Civil Air Patrol."

It went directly to his simple, but accurate instructions in exactly how to get to the test requirements and complete the test.

Two cadets went to the YouTube link, followed the material Vincent had posted, took the tests and were "cleared for action" for the upcoming weekend.

# NH AIRCREW SPOTS TREACHEROUS ICE CONDITIONS ON LAKE

by Maj. Penny Hardy

NEW HAMPSHIRE -- At the request of the state Fish and Game Department, a New Hampshire Wing aircrew carried out an aerial survey of Lake Winnepesaukee to determine ice conditions in advance of a popular fishing derby in February.

A large number of anglers were expected to head out on the ice for the Meredith

Rotary Club Fishing Derby, but uneven temperatures and high winds had affected ice formation.

The aerial survey -- flown Feb. 5 by Capt. Jeff Davis, with fellow Hawk Composite Squadron member Capt. Bruce Neff taking photographs -- revealed treacherous ice conditions on some parts of the big lake, including an area of open water near Welch Island.



Photo by Capt. Bruce Neff

# NOTABLES AROUND THE NORTHEAST

## WILLIAMS NAMED #1 INSTRUCTOR



Maj. John Williams was named the number one glider instructor (CFI-G) for New England by the Soaring Society of America, which also tapped him as the number two top instructor in the whole country. Williams is shown with C/MSgt Chris Cashman of Highlanders Cadet Squadron, NH Wing. Photo by Maj. Penny Hardy.

## 'FALLEN VETS' PHOTO PART OF WINNING PA CAMPAIGN

Two Pennsylvania Wing members won top honors in the 2012 national public affairs competition. Maj Kevin Berry and Cadet Senior Master Sgt. Tiffany Trunk won the Maj. Howell Balsem Public Affairs Exceptional Achievement Award, both in the category "Media Coverage of CAP." Berry was recognized for his Carnegie Science Center publicity, and Trunk for her Fallen Vets campaign, which included this photo of her rendering a salute during a Wreaths Across America event. Furthermore, Trunk was the only cadet in the nation to receive a Balsem award.



## REGION HOSTS 4 GLIDER ACADEMIES

Under the direction of Col. James Linker, the Northeast Region holds four week-long glider flight academies each summer. In 2013, the first took place at Farmer's Pride, Fredericksburg, PA. The second was in July at Grimes Field, Bethel, PA. The third and fourth glider academies were taking place in August at Hartness State Airport, Springfield, VT.

## RED CROSS HONORS PA CADET

C/2nd Lt. Jonathan Ritz of PA Wing's York Composite Squadron 301 was honored by the American Red Cross at the 2012 York Adams Counties Hero Award breakfast. He received the Youth Good Samaritan Award, recognizing his volunteer work with the Borough of Jefferson and the Civil Air Patrol, including helping with flood relief.

## ES SKILLS INCLUDE EMERGENCY SHELTER



Two Vermont cadets try out the emergency shelter they constructed during a Land-Nav emergency services training weekend last fall.



## MEMBER CAPTURES MEDIA ARTS AWARD

When Capt. James Ridley II had to prepare a film project as part of his graduation requirements at State University College of New York at Old Westbury, he decided to make something useful - a documentary and recruiting tool for the Civil Air Patrol. What he could not foresee was that it would end up winning one of the college's most prestigious media awards in May - "Best Documentary" in the sixth annual Media Arts Celebration (MAC) Awards program. Ridley is a member of NY Wing's Leory R. Grumman Cadet Squadron. ABOVE: Ridley at the MAC Awards.