

CIVIL AIR PATROL

NINER magazine

serving NER's nine wings

SUMMER 2014



CAP soaring attracts attention

Mary Feik to be at conference



Cadets meet Gen. Colin Powell



Col. Dan Leclair
Commander

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Vice Commander/North

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Vice Commander/South

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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 2014



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ON THE COVER

PA Cadet Robert Hawranko and Certified Glider Flight Instructor Earl Binder soar over Fredericksburg, PA in a Blanik TG10. The Northeast Region Glider Academies in Vermont and Pennsylvania were featured in Soaring magazine. PAGES 8-9. Photo/Capt. Kevin Irish.

Aviation legend and CAP Col. Mary Feik is one of the special guests at the joint NER-Connecticut Wing Conference in October. PAGE 4.

The New Hampshire Wing Color Guard provided a cordon for World War II veterans visiting the WWII Memorial in Washington, D.C., and got to meet former Secretary of State, Gen. Colin Powell. From left, the cadets are: C/MSgt Tyler Reid, Hawk Cadet Squadron; C/2Lt Christopher Cashman, Highlanders Cadet Squadron; C/CMSgt William Dio, Concord Composite Squadron. PAGE 10. Photo/2nd Lt. Darlene Cray.

NH REENACTS 1944 WING MANEUVERS

EVENT FEATURES 'SPOT LANDING' CONTEST AND WWII CAP MEMBER

GILFORD, NH – The New Hampshire Wing celebrated the 70th Anniversary of its first Wing Maneuvers on June 14 at Laconia Municipal Airport -- by holding a “spot landing” competition, just as the Civil Air Patrol did back in 1944 at the same airport.

The celebration was part of the airport's 3rd annual Open House event, Wings, Wheels and Water.

The “spot landing” competition featured pilots from six Northeast Region wings -- Connecticut, Massachusetts, Vermont, Pennsylvania, Maine and New Hampshire. The winner -- Lt. Mike Nesshoever from Vermont -- landed the CAP Cessna 182 closest to the reference line (15 feet in Nesshoever's case).

Special guest Henry Munroe, 87, who attended the Wing Maneuvers 70 years



Wing Commander Col. Bill Moran with World War II CAP member Henry Munroe and New Hampshire State Sen. Andrew Hosmer, who presented a proclamation from Gov. Maggie Hassan, declaring June 14 as Civil Air Patrol Day. Photos by Capt. Bruce Neff.



AT RIGHT: 'Spot landing' winner Lt. Mike Nesshoever with trophy presented by Henry Munroe.

ago as a CAP cadet, presented the trophy. Munroe is a New Hampshire resident who will receive the Congressional Gold Medal for his CAP volunteer service during WWII. He served in CAP from 1942 to 1944, and then went on to serve as a military policeman in the war.

“I think it's marvelous that

they're doing this, and I think it's good for the kids these days,” he told news media. “Our generation was just waiting to go to war at this time 70 years ago.”

Wing Commander Col. Bill Moran said the wing was honored to have Monroe “join us for this memorable occasion” and “proud to have

a Congressional Gold Medal winner in the state of New Hampshire.”

Pilots who competed were:

- VT: Lt. Michael Nessoever (15').
- MA: Maj. Alan Bugos (21').
- NH: Maj. Kevin Madore (25').
- ME: Lt. Michael Barnard.
- PA: Maj. Jack Weckerie.
- CT: Capt. Johnny Burke.

WWII VERMONT CADETS SAVED ARMY PLANE CRASH VICTIM

MONTPELIER, VT -- Two World War II Civil Air Patrol cadets were honored June 20 for their role in rescuing an airplane crash survivor in 1944.

Peter Mason and Rolland Lafayette received the state police's search-and-rescue award in a ceremony at the Statehouse.

The Associated Press reported that both were high school students and members of the Civil Air Patrol when they were pulled out of class to look for the wreckage of a B-24 bomber that had crashed on Camels Hump,

the odd-shaped mountain featured on Vermont's commemorative quarter.

AP reported that James Wilson, then a 19-year-old crew member, had been sleeping in the back of the plane when it clipped the 4,083-foot mountain during a routine night training mission. He was the only survivor of the 10-man crew. It took nearly 41 hours for the first rescuers arrive. It was mid-October and there was snow just below the summit of the mountain.

“We got there about sun-

down,” said Mason, 86, a retired scientist now living in Pasadena, California.

Lafayette, 85, a retired educator and businessman who still lives in Waterbury, VT, added: “We started hollering, hello, hello, hello,” and then they heard Wilson cries.

It was Mason's father, Vermont Wing Commander William Mason, who pulled five cadets out of Waterbury High School to help in the search.

“None of the cadets were dressed or equipped to spend the night on the mountain, let alone care for a severely in-

jured airman, yet they did the best they could and it proved to be enough to save Wilson,” said the commendation.

The ceremony was an opportunity for the rescuers to catch up with Wilson's two children, Polly and Jeff, and some of the descendants of the other rescuers.

“We wouldn't be here,” Polly Wilson, of Denver, told Lafayette, the AP reported.

James Wilson lost both hands and feet after the crash, but he went on to become a lawyer in Denver. He died in 2000 at age 75.

THANK YOU! NORTHEAST REGION VOLUNTEERS

Commander's Message by Col. Dan Leclair

MBWA (Management by Walking Around) is a large part of my management ethic. It gets me out of the office and with our cadets and adult members out in the field. My fact-finding missions give me a chance to see the great work our members are doing and gives me a chance to understand not only what is happening in the field but to allow members to ask me questions as to what is going on at region and at national headquarters.

Clearly, MBWA takes extra time and effort, but the tangible payoffs it yields down the road make it all worth it. I ask each person I talk with for his or her thoughts about how to improve our processes, policies, and regulations and I get great ideas from this. No one knows how best to make something happen than the people doing it and it sure is nice to have a conversation face to face than receive the same information in an e-mail. So when you see me at an event please let me know what you are doing in our Civil Air Patrol and how we can do it better and if I do not know the answer I will get back with you through your chain of command.



Col. Dan Leclair

This past year has been a busy one for me in putting the staff together to allow the Northeast Region to excel. Col. Joseph Sirois (CV), Col. Edward Burns (CV), & Col. Jack Ozer (CS) are the best command staff I could ever hope for and work hard for the membership every day. The NER staff also is very dedicated in making this organization effective.

We have successfully run two Mission Aircrew Schools, allowing our members to train for aircrew qualifications closer to home this past year and have the same planned next year along with a school for ground

teams. This program is run by our operations team led by Col Braun. Our cadet program has successfully run two Region Cadet Leadership Schools with the same planned for FY15 along with an NER Cadet Completion that will be announced soon. Additional schools this past year have included the Region Chaplain School, two IG Senior Courses, Region Staff College, and assisting at wing SLS, CLC, UCC, and TLC courses.

The NER leadership, the NER wing commanders, and the NER operations staff met earlier this year at our annual Strategic Operations (STRATOPS) gathering to further our region-wide large scale disaster planning. This will allow us to build on the existing plans, in which the Northeast Region has excelled leading the Civil Air Patrol in region disaster planning.

Our cadet flying program is one of the best programs in the Civil Air Patrol. Over 70 cadets solo at our NER National Flight Academies in either Cessna 172s or in gliders every year. Our CFIs and CFI-Gs are outstanding and extremely dedicated in mak-

ing sure that our cadets fly to the highest standards. This year we provided over 2,000 glider cadet orientation rides in five different locations. As great as our cadet flying program has been, we need to do more. Through the leadership of Col. James Linker, our NER glider program leader, we have partnered with the State of Vermont Aviation Office to do a CFI-G training school to take Civil Air Patrol commercial glider pilots to CFI-G this year, and we look to expand this program next year. Additional gliders and tow planes are being sought as well as new Cessna 172s to not only keep our current cadet flying program going but to expand it.

Finally I close with my thanks to all our members of the Northeast Region for all they do for our communities, state, and nation. You provide aerospace education for our members and to external groups, you mentor the next generation of leaders for our nation, and finally are part of the US Air Force Total Force Team protecting the Homeland for over 73 years.

Thank you for your volunteer service to our nation. Well done!

CONNECTICUT HOSTS JOINT REGION-WING CONFERENCE

The 2014 Northeast Region Conference is being held Oct. 17-19 in conjunction with the Connecticut Wing Conference at Sheraton Hartford Hotel in Windsor Locks, CT.

This joint wing-region event

features instructional sessions, an awards ceremony, separate cadet conference, optional senior member professional development courses and a Saturday evening banquet with the 102nd U.S. Army Dinner Band.

Cadets are treated to their own sessions on the afternoon of the 18th and participate in an aerospace education contest and optional visits to nearby New England Air Museum.

The conference is hosting a

number of VIP guests, including World War II aviation engineer/pilot Mary Feik, CAP national commander and vice commander. Conference coordinators are Lt. Col. Jim Ridley Sr., Lt. Col. Joe Abegg and Maj. Robert Rothenberg.

CT WING PARTICIPATES IN MOCK BIOTERROR ATTACK

'Terrorists' with Bio Agents Hijack Small Aircraft with Pilot

By Lt. Col. Stephen Rocketto

Connecticut Wing personnel participated in a joint exercise testing law enforcement reactions to a simulated bio-terror attack at Groton-New London Airport on April 28. The U.S. Army Medical Research Institute of Infectious Diseases (USAMRIID), the Department of Defense's lead laboratory for medical biodefense, conducted the training session.

The scenario postulated landing a small aircraft which had been seized by terrorists who planned to attack local facilities with biological agents. A Civil Air Patrol (CAP) Cessna 182 landed with three Connecticut State Police officers (CSP) posing as terrorists. A second aircraft, a Cessna Citation, served as a training aid for teams of technicians charged with investigating the type of biological agents which might be present.

When the CAP Cessna landed, FBI and Connecticut State Police assault teams placed themselves in the best tactical positions to control the threat. While one terrorist held the pilot at bay, pistol to his head, two others moved across the ramp. Snipers fired simultaneously and "killed" the three terrorists. The as-



Stock training images show law enforcement and hazmat response to bioterrorism.

sault teams then ordered the "pilot," CAP Lt. Colonel John de Andrade, to advance slowly with hands raised. He was handcuffed and detained until it could be determined he was not part of the terrorist organization as well as tested for exposure to the simulated biological agents.

Investigatory teams, isolated from the environment by protective suits, then entered the Citation to secure samples of the suspected biological agents, which were bagged for laboratory analysis.

The military and federal agencies set up multiple de-

contamination stations and a range of specialized vehicles for communications and environmental analysis.

During the exercise, observer/controllers circulated to evaluate the performance and insure the safety of all participants, all whom wore protective helmets and faceplates.

CAP's incident commander, Lt. Colonel Mike Heath (Connecticut Wing Emergency Services officer), was pleased with CAP's participation and the overall success of the mission. "We are glad to be part of the team and assist state and federal agen-

cies," said Heath.

Participant agencies included the FBI, Connecticut State Police, Connecticut National Guard, U.S. Army, Connecticut Department of Energy and Environmental Protection, U.S. Department of Environmental Protection, the Connecticut Aviation and Ports Bureau, Naval Investigative Service, and Connecticut Wing Civil Air Patrol. Local fire and police departments also sent representatives as observers. Major Jack Shapiro, Connecticut Wing liaison officer, worked closely with participating agencies in support of the mission.

PA TRAINING PREPS CADETS FOR COLD-WEATHER OPERATIONS

PENN RUN, PA -- Most people were huddling indoors while frosty weather fronts moved through the area. But members of the Civil Air Patrol braved a February wintry

mix of cold, snow and rain during two days of training at Camp Seph Mack near Penn Run, the Tribune-Review reported. Cadets ages 12 to 21 from throughout Pennsylvania

and other states headed to the local Boy Scout camp for the annual training program known as Pennsylvania Wing Winter School West. The cadets learned how to safely

survive winter conditions during an overnight camp in the woods. They also learned how to conduct cold-weather searches for downed or missing persons.

MISSION PILOT STEVE PERTA NAMED NY WING COMMANDER

ROME, NY -- Col. Steven Perta of Rome is the new commander of New York Wing. He succeeds Col. Jack Ozer of Seldon, who commanded the wing for the past four years. Col. Daniel Leclair, commander of the Northeast Region, presided over the Change of Com-

mand ceremony at the Wing Conference, held in May at Lake George, NY.

A 40-plus-year member of the Civil Air Patrol (CAP), Perta has served in a number of leadership roles, including Utica Squadron commander, Rome Utica Group commander, wing vice

commander, wing director of operations, wing director of communications, and director of National Staff College at Maxwell Air Force Base, Alabama. A pilot with over 2000 flying hours, Perta serves as a mission pilot, incident commander, and special missions coordinator.



Col. Steven Perta

PA COUNTERDRUG MISSIONS HIT 25,000 FLYING HOURS PROGRAM GARNERS REGIONAL AND NATIONAL AWARDS

By Lt. Col. Annette Carlson

Counterdrug (CD) Operations in Pennsylvania reached a record breaking 25,000 flying hours last summer, averaging 1,000 hrs/year. Pennsylvania Wing attributes its success to 136 volunteer members who serve on the CD missions from April through August each year.

"It took a great team effort from everyone in the program to reach this milestone," said Lt. Col. Paul Falavolito, director of CD operations. "Safety is always first."

A former CAP Cadet, Lt. Col. Falavolito served in the U.S. Air Force in the 1960s. In 1989, the wing commander asked Falavolito to start the PA Counterdrug program. Trained by the DEA and Customs, Falavolito and the PA Wing CD team flew 301 hours supporting the CD mission in its first year. Congress passed a bill authorizing the military to assist the law enforcement agencies in the war on drugs. Civil Air Patrol, as the auxiliary of the U.S. Air Force, was brought into the picture as a force multiplier.



PA WING CD Team – Lt. Col. Bill Geyer, mission director-west, holds 2013 National Counterdrug/Homeland Security Award for Northeast Region; Maj. Kevin Berry, mission pilot; Col. Sandra Brandon, PA Wing commander; Maj. Eric Schuelke, mission scanner; Maj. Nick Melnick, mission pilot; and Lt. Col. Paul Falavolito, director of PA Wing CD Program and the 2013 National CDO of the Year. Photo by Lt. Col. Annette Carlson.

MOUs were signed by Drug Enforcement Administration, U.S. Customs and the U.S. Forest Service.

Beginning long before the counterdrug season, Falavolito works countless hours preparing members and coordinating training sessions across Pennsylvania.

Falavolito has been twice named National Norm Edwards Counterdrug Officer of

the Year; in 2005 and 2013. He holds five Life Saving Awards for Outstanding Humanitarian Service and three Meritorious Service Awards.

The 2008 PA Wing Compliance Inspection (CI) for the Counterdrug Program received a rating of Excellent with two Commendables. Then again in the 2012 CI, Falavolito and the CD team were awarded a rating of

Highly Successful for Operational Mission Management – the highest rating achievable – with one Commendable noted for the CDO and the CD Program Collectively the PA Wing CD Program has received six Northeast Region and one National Counterdrug Program of the Year awards, and twice received the CAP National Homeland Security Award.

23 RECEIVE NORTHEAST REGION ANNUAL AWARDS

Northeast Region Commander Col. Dan Leclair announced the Annual NER Awards:

- Brewer Award Category 1: C/2Lt Robert Barlow – VT-033
- Brewer Award Category 2: Maj Wendy Mullane – MA007
- Brewer Award Category 3: Lee Woodworth – Non CAP
- Brewer Award Category 4: Alfred Hulstrunk – NER-000
- Historian of Year: Capt Christopher Keenan – CT-001
- Senior Chaplain of Year: Lt Col Daniel Miles – NER-001
- IC Staff Member of Year: SSGT Paul Casalese – NJ-001
- Professional Development Officer of Year: Maj Michael Swavelly – PA-338
- Drug Demand Reduction Officer of Year: SM Gene Westerlind – MA-007
- Cadet of Year: C/Col Abigail Hawkins – PA-025
- Cadet NCO of Year: C/MSgt Nicholas Kuppa – NY-408
- Officer of the Year: Lt Col Herrick Mead – NH-001
- Aerospace Officer of Year: Maj Franklin Porath – NJ-003
- Counter Drug Officer of Year: Lt Col William Geyer – PA- Group 1 37002
- Communicator of Year: Lt Craig Yanta – NJ-092
- Director of Finance of Year: Capt Joseph Bisnov – CT-001
- Public Affairs Officer of Year: Lt Cynthia Girona – PA-002
- Safety Officer of the Year: Lt Jose Rios – PA-080
- Cadet Programs Officer of Year: Maj Robert Motz – NJ-092
- Character Development Instructor of Year: Capt Preston Lawrance – NH-001
- Property Manager of Year: Capt Arthur Stockhausen – NER-001
- Aerospace Teacher of Year: Lt Col Michael Castania- NJ-001
- Inspector General of Year: Lt Col James Fallon – MA-001
- Squadron of Distinction: New Fairfield Cadet Squadron CT801
- Paul Turner Safety Award: Maine Wing

CAP TEACHES AEROSPACE ED TO NH HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS

by Major Penny Hardy

BEDFORD, NH -- During what would normally be spring vacation in late April, 16 Bedford High School students participated in a three day event learning about Aerospace Education with nine STEM (science, technology, engineering and math) flight simulator kits and several field trips.

Students had two hours of instruction from 2nd Lt. John Leahy, Hawk Squadron's AE instructor, and about three additional hours on their own.

SM Dan Caron -- CAP AEM Teacher of the Year in 2013 and a technology/engineering educator at Bedford High -- was instrumental in setting up the course.



2nd Lt. John Leahy, Hawk Squadron AE instructor, works with Bedford High School students, who got to try their hand at flight simulators and then visit an airport for tours and briefings.

Photo by SM Dan Caron

In addition to working with the simulators, the

students toured the Sky Bright Aviation hangar at

Laconia Airport, where they received a pre-flight briefing from retired airline pilot and Winn-Aero flight instructor Bob McCulla.

Other briefings were given by Airport Manager Diane Cooper and a Sky Bright mechanic. Wing Commander Col. Bill Moran briefed the students about the Cadet Protection Program Training and about opportunities available through the Manchester CAP Squadron.

Students toured the FAA TRACON facility in Merrimack and Manchester Airport Air Traffic Control.

While at school, they built electric aircraft for the American Institute of Aeronautics and Astronautics Cargo Plane Challenge to learn about fundamentals of flight.

NEW HAMPSHIRE CADETS HELP CITY'S 'PRIDE DAY' CLEAN-UP

ROCHESTER, NH -- Eight-thirty a.m. came early and cool for more than 200 Rochester residents Saturday, Fosters Daily Democrat reported.

"When we started this morning, the temperature was 35 degrees," said Michael Provost, director of the Rochester Main Street Program. The reason for the

masses of Lilac City residents, subjecting themselves to the almost winter-like climes, was their involvement with Rochester Pride Day. Among the participants were

cadets from New Hampshire Wing's **Highlanders Cadet Squadron**, who enjoyed a cookout at noon with fellow volunteers after the hard work.

NER GLIDER PROGRAM FEATURED IN SOARING MAG

VT AND PA ACADEMIES SPOTLIGHTED IN 2 DIFFERENT ISSUES

The Northeast Region's Glider Academies, held in Vermont and Pennsylvania each summer, has attracted a lot of praise from within the Civil Air Patrol (CAP) for the first-rate soaring experience cadets receive -- some of whom solo during the nine-day flight academy and later go on to get their glider pilot's license.

This outstanding experience has not gone unnoticed outside of CAP. The NER academies were featured in both the November and December 2013 issues of Soaring magazine, published by the Soaring Society of America.

The November issue spotlighted the June academy at Farmer's Pride Airport in Fredericksburg, PA, while the December issue zeroed in on the August academy at Hartness State Airport in Springfield, VT.

The November feature was a first-person account



Connecticut Wing Cadet 2nd Lt. Liz Bell flies a L-23 Super Blanik at the Northeast Region Glider Academy held at Springfield, VT, last August. Photo by instructor Lt. Col. Phil Jones of Pennsylvania Wing.

by PAO Kevin Irish of New York Wing, who reported 16 teens completed the 2013 June session. "(T)here were nine first-year cadets, all of whom completed supervised solos (where the instructor is all but invisible)," Irish wrote. "...The remaining seven were second-year returning cadets, all of whom soloed."

Certified glider flight instructor John Williams penned the December account, pointing to 24 teens descending on the August session in Vermont. Students, staff and flight instructors, Williams noted, arrived from 12 states: Maine, New Hampshire, Vermont, Maryland, Rhode

Island, Connecticut, New York, Pennsylvania, New Jersey, Virginia, Kentucky and Oklahoma, as well as Washington, D.C.

Noting they flew more than 1200 flights, he said: "This created, we believe, the busiest airport in the state of Vermont for the month of August."

At the Vermont academy, Williams said, "we experimented with flying some of our training flights out of neighboring Claremont airport, across the Connecticut River in New Hampshire, where we also received outstanding support from the airport to all the way up to the state's director of aviation, who stopped in for a visit and a briefing."

He went on to encourage Soaring readers: "Look around and see if there's a Civil Air Patrol Glider Program near you, check it out, ask if you can help, and help grow soaring in America."

Continued on next page.



Sun sets on the NER Glider Academy in Fredericksburg, PA. Photo by Capt. Kevin Irish.



Schweizer 2-33 soars over the Glider Academy in Fredericksburg, PA. Photo by Capt. Kevin Irish.



NY Wing Cadet Matthew Irish takes off with the tow plane and then soars above Fredericksburg, PA. BELOW: Cadet Gabe Abbe in front, Col. Phil Jones in back seat, in Fredericksburg, PA. Both are from PA Wing. Photos by Capt. Kevin Irish.



Continued from previous page.

Williams added: “Did you know the Civil Air Patrol flies over 10,500 glider flights a year? Throw in another

10,500 tow plane flights, or ‘operations’ in FAA lingo, and what airport manager wouldn’t like to add some of that traffic count to their

airport statistics?”

As Irish concluded: “The flight academies offered by the Civil Air Patrol provide a unique and exciting oppor-

tunity for young people to do something many of their peers would never dream possible.”

NH WING COLOR GUARD JOINS VETS AT WWII MEMORIAL

CADETS HONOR VETERANS, MEET GEN. COLIN POWELL

By 2nd Lt. Darlene Cray

It was about gratitude and honor from a younger generation to World War II veterans, who were proud to be remembered!

The New Hampshire Wing Honor Guard was privileged to provide a cordon in support of Honor Flight New England's September flight, "Operation Gratitude".

On September 28 the Honor Guard flew to Washington, D.C. to join Honor



New Hampshire Wing Color Guard members interact with World War II veterans at the World War II Memorial in Washington, D.C.

Flight New England and the 200 World War II veterans

from New Hampshire, Massachusetts, Rhode Island



Some of the New Hampshire Wing Color Guard at the World War II Memorial. Photos by 2nd Lt. Darlene Cray.

NY WING PILOT SPOTS DOWNED AIRCRAFT

GASPORT, NY -- Pilot Capt. Robert Wantuck was on a proficiency flight near Royalton Airport in western New York on July 5 when the airport asked for assistance in locating a downed light-sport aircraft.

"After several orbits I was able to spot the wreckage" in a heavily wooded area just south of the airport, Wantuck said. He notified emergency

personnel who were conducting a ground search. "The stand of trees and foliage were so thick," he said, it would have been difficult for ground searchers to spot. The downed pilot "was trapped in the cockpit."

Emergency personnel extricated the 79-year-old pilot, John Schnabel, who was conscious, and taken by Mercy Flight to Erie County

Medical Center for treatment of multiple injuries, Niagara County Sheriff's Office told news media. (Schnabel, a retired airline pilot, died from his injuries 11 days later.) The sheriff's office said the small, two-seater crashed shortly after takeoff and that the trees cushioned the plane's descent. A backhoe was used to clear a path about 150 yards into the woods so the pilot could be

and New York. The veterans joined 400+ other veterans from other states to see "their" Memorial for the first time.

This was a day filled with joy, sorrow, amazement and stories shared from one generation to another. "We did what we had to do without giving it a second thought," said one veteran when a cadet thanked him for his service.

In addition to honoring and interacting with the veterans, the cadets had the opportunity to meet former Secretary of State, Gen. Colin Powell, and the Marine Corps Commandant, Gen. James Amos. The Honor Guard was to raise its own funds for the flight down to D.C., but when the airlines raised their fares and their funds were a bit short, the Laconia VFW Post came through with a generous donation to make the trip possible.

Most of the cadets were from Hawk Cadet Squadron; others were from Highlanders Cadet Squadron and Concord Composite Squadron.

carried out.

"What was a practice session turned out to be the real thing," said Captain Wantuck, who was doing a practice sector search.

He noted that during a recent SAREX he became aware that funding was available for mission pilot proficiency. "Had it not been for the training made available, I may not have been flying that day."

CAP TRAINS CONNECTICUT SCOUTS IN SEARCH AND RESCUE

DANBURY SQUADRON ORGANIZES SEARCH IN WINTER WEATHER

By Major Peter Milano

REDDING, CT -- Scouts from Powahay District, Connecticut Yankee Council, Boy Scouts of America, were trained in ground search-and-rescue skills in January at Hoyt Scout Reservation in Redding, Connecticut by Civil Air Patrol members from the 399th Danbury Composite Squadron.

A team of search and rescue instructors from the squadron joined 185 Boy Scouts and their leaders from across southwest Fairfield County to test their outdoor winter abilities and learn new skills at Powahay District's annual Klondike Derby, hosted by Troop 53 from Darien, CT. The Klondike Derby requires Scouts to haul their gear on homemade sleds between various learning stations where they are tested and scored based on their performance.

Unit Commissioner Lloyd Sturges (BSA Troop 125) said: "This Klondike Derby is based on the scouts' new Search and Rescue merit badge, so working with Civil Air Patrol is a natural combination." Colonel Sturges is also director of operations for Connecticut Wing.

The goal was "to train scouts in the



Lt. Col. Sandy Sanderson and Maj. Jim Vigar (below) instruct scouts in search-and-rescue techniques at a Klondike Derby.

fundamentals of search and rescue and to provide a learning experience based on teamwork and cooperation," noted Danbury Squadron Commander Major Jim Vigar. Upon entering the CAP station, scouts were given instruction on ground search and rescue. Major Vigar and Lieutenant Colonel "Sandy" Sanderson covered missing person profiles and characteristics along with search signals such as voice commands and whistle signals. First Lieutenant Jeff Jenkins taught line and wedge search methods and how to identify and log search

clues. Cadet Second Lieutenant Kevin Jenkins provided training in identifying and preventing cold weather injuries. Scouts were also instructed on how to avoid becoming casualties themselves during a search-and-rescue mission.

The afternoon was spent conducting mock lost person searches. "We want to give scouts a chance to see what a real search might involve by running this exercise," said Major Vigar. Cadets from the 399th Danbury Squadron went into the woods to pose as lost hikers, leaving clues along the way. Scouts were taken out by troop or patrol and conducted the search based on their newly learned skills. They employed various search techniques, interviewed witnesses, and recorded clues found along the way. Each scout was rotated into the team leader position to ensure they had the opportunity to practice commanding a group search. The skills practiced were done in earnest as scouts were operating in falling snow and temperatures that hovered in the teens.

At the end of the day Major Vigar noted that "the scouts performed well and the 399th was happy to help the Boy Scouts advance their knowledge in search-and-rescue techniques."





Cadet Krupa

CAP TAPS CADET NCO OF YEAR

The Civil Air Patrol has named Nicholas A. Krupa of Cato, NY as its national Cadet NCO of the Year, New York Wing Commander Col. Steven Perta announced.

Cadet Master Sgt. Krupa, also wing and Northeast Region Cadet NCO of the Year, is active with Central New York Group's F.R. Sussey Composite Squadron in Fulton.

He receives the award at CAP's 2014 national conference in August in Las Vegas.



NEW JERSEY WING CHAPLAIN – Paul Rech (above) officially started serving as New Jersey Wing Chaplain last September, NorthJersey.com reported. A chaplain since 1999, Rech joined the Civil Air Patrol in 2008. He served as Somerset Senior Squadron chaplain, then Group 223 and Group 221 chaplain. He has also served as global president for International Chaplains Association, an organization that prepares chaplains for mission qualification, such as First Aid-CPR-AED, emergency radio communication, shelter administration, search & rescue, and counseling.

SENIOR IG COURSE GRADUATES 6

By Lt. Col. James Ridley Sr.

TETERBORO, NJ – Under the direction of the Northeast Region Vice Commander North and former NER Inspector General and National IG Training Officer, Col. Ed Burns, a Senior IG Course was conducted in January at Teterboro Airport, home of New Jersey's Group 221.

Six officers completed the two-day course. Four are current IGs at the region and wing level and the other two are command staff officers. Leading the student list was



Col. Ed Burns instructs students on how to conduct a subordinate unit inspection.

the NER Commander Col. Daniel LeClair, who was joined by NER Inspector General Lt. Col. Donald Blumenfeld, Connecticut Wing Chief of Staff Maj. James Ridley Sr., and three wing assistant IGs, Lt. Col. Van-Hung Porter from Maryland, Maj. Carol McCloud from New Jersey and Maj. Cheryll

Hughes from Massachusetts.

The students were exposed to lessons in processing complaints and inspections, and they delved into case studies of past IG complaints and inspections.

"This was a valuable and unique opportunity for inspectors generals to gain insights and experience," Lt. Col. Blu-

menfeld said. "The presence of the region commander and a wing chief of staff brought another point of view that deepened and broadened our discussions."

The Region hopes to conduct another IG courses during the 2014 CTWG/NER Conference scheduled for Hartford, CT in October.

NY CADETS GET UP-CLOSE WITH LIVING HISTORY

REVOLUTIONARY WAR RE-ENACTORS GIVE SURPRISE DEMONSTRATION

By Major James Ridley II

NORTHPORT, NY – Members of the Leroy R. Grumman Cadet Squadron were treated to a rare glimpse into American history in January, thanks to Revolutionary War re-enactors.

David Mutter, a member of the Long Island chapter of The Brigade of the American Revolution, met the cadet programs officer, Capt. Michele Renneberg, at a school fair ten months earlier and planned a surprise visit.

Mutter, sporting a British soldier's uniform and musket, and a fellow member, dressed an American militiaman, discussed the life of both armies as well as the civilian population on Long Island during



Reenactors prepare presentation on the American Revolution.

the American Revolution.

Mutter brought along a variety of tools and imitation hardtack, the food staple for soldiers of that era, and explained what life was like at the time America gained its independence. They demonstrated the proper loading

and firing of the musket, and posed for photos with cadets.

"This was outstanding," said Deputy Commander Capt. Mitch Sahagian.

"What these guys know about that time in our history is so vast it's like they lived it themselves."

One cadet, while admiring the British uniform, expressed a fondness for the American soldier, not because his was a nicer uniform, but because the cadet was a New England Patriots fan, which brought a little laughter to the evening's presentation.

The Brigade of the American Revolution is a non-profit living history association dedicated to recreating the life and times of the common soldier of the American War for Independence, 1775-1783. Members represent elements of all the armies then involved: Continental, Militia, British, Loyalist, German, French, Spanish, and Native American forces plus civilian men, women and children.

REGION CONDUCTS STRATOPS TRAINING

By Lt. Col. James Ridley, Sr.

TRENTON, NJ – Northeast Region conducted its annual StratOps training in March at Joint Base McGuire-Dix-Lakehurst in New Jersey. Led by Deputy Chief of Staff for Operations, Lt. Col. Joe Abegg, 45 officers representing eight of the region's nine wings were educated on what has transpired and what is being planned in the area of emergency services across all the regions and specifically the Northeast.

The one-day StratOps training included 15 sessions on a variety of subjects to familiarize wing commanders, wing directors of operations, emergency services officers



Lt. Col. Joe Abegg welcomes the attendees to the StratOps Training.

and others with the latest trends in emergency services, safety and standards as well as the types of missions that CAP is engaged in within the

region for the Air Force and local civilian and governmental agencies such as Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA).

These sessions were presented by both CAP and non-CAP personnel such as U.S. Air Force and U.S. Army senior officers who hold the positions of Emergency Preparedness Liaison Officers (or EPLOs for short) and NER CAP-USAF Liaison officers Lt. Col. Richard Bundgarden and Lt. Col. Scott Kulka.

"This training started 18 years ago and has grown each and every year," noted Lt. Col. Abegg.

"It has become a standard which we have improved upon and has been invaluable in keeping the wings informed on the latest developments both regionally and nationally."

'CISM HELPS YOU COME THROUGH A HARROWING EVENT'

By 2nd Lt. Karl M. Rexer

CHICOPEE, MA – If asked, it's a virtual certainty that those old enough to remember the morning of September 11, 2001, can tell you exactly where they were and exactly what they were doing when two hijacked aircraft hit the north and south towers of the World Trade Center in New York City.

Even more than most, the events of that morning are burned into the memory of 58-year-old Van Don Williams, who was serving as a New York City firefighter at Ground Zero in the aftermath of the attacks.

"That was one of the reasons I became involved with Critical Incident Stress Management (CISM)," he said.

CISM is a crisis intervention program developed by Jeffrey T. Mitchell, Ph.D., in 1974 for use with small groups and is meant to help mitigate the impact of a traumatic incident, facilitate normal recovery processes and restore adaptive functions in psychologically healthy people distressed by an unusually shocking or disturbing event. Very simply, CISM is a supportive, crisis-focused discussion of a traumatic event.



Lt. Col. Van Don Williams

His experience in the aftermath of the terrorist attacks "really impacted me, from a spiritual perspective," Williams said. "I found that not many ministers were really prepared to minister following such a traumatic event."

Williams, a lieutenant colonel who is currently serving as the National Deputy Chief of Chaplains, said he gives six to eight CISM trainings per year. A training last November at Westover Joint Reserve Base in Chicopee, Mass., included CAP members Capt. Al Burnett Jr, 1st Lt. David Burrell, Maj. Andrea Hayden, Maj. Sharon Ingraham, Maj. Paul Kelly, Col. Merrie Knightly,

Lt. Col. Jeanne Magurany, Lt. Col. Daniel Miles, Lt. Col. Adam Ross, Maj. Robert Rothenberg, Maj. Catherine Spaulding, 1st Lt. Mark Swing, Capt. Michelle Williams Swing and Maj. Tommy Wingard from units located in Massachusetts, Maine, Pennsylvania, New York, New Hampshire and New Jersey.

CISM is a small group, supportive, crisis-focused discussion of a traumatic event. It is used in the aftermath of a meaningful traumatic event that has generated strong reactions in victims, witnesses and first responders, where people's usual coping mechanisms have been over-

whelmed causing them considerable distress, impairment or dysfunction. A CISM team typically consists of a mental health professional and specially trained peer support personnel.

"CISM is emergency psychological first aid, it's helping someone that's come through a harrowing event and helping them see the next day," Williams said. "It's a system of interventions that can alleviate some of the suffering following a horrific event."

Williams stressed that CISM is not psychotherapy, nor a substitute for psychotherapy. "You are basically doing triage, you are always assessing which people need help, which people can recover on their own and which people need a higher level of care," he said. "You help people understand that the symptoms they are experiencing are normal following a traumatic event."

Maj. Sharon J. Ingraham, of Minuteman Squadron in Marlborough, Massachusetts, said all CAP members could benefit from CISM training. "I have been on missions myself where the absence of CISM caused a lot of heartache," she said. "You can't have people going on missions and have something traumatic happen, and then come back and not have anyone there for them to talk to."

"It's much needed," Williams concluded. "My hope is that more people will get involved in CISM to assist with CAP, their families and their communities."



CISM class at work on exercises.

NY WING MEMBERS HONE SHELTERING SKILLS

WHITE PLAINS, NY – When hurricanes Irene and Sandy ravaged the eastern seaboard in 2011 and 2012, members of New York’s South Eastern Group (SEG) took action, helping to man local shelters and providing much-needed assistance to displaced residents in the massive storms’ aftermath.

Now, thanks to the Best Practices in Shelter Operations Course held by the Federal Emergency Management Agency at SEG’s Westchester County Airport headquarters in 2013, senior members and cadets were able to hone those skills, making CAP an even more valuable asset for providing disaster relief.

Taught by FEMA Program Specialist Chris Streight and Mass Care Program Specialist James Fumbanks, the course addressed all aspects of sheltering, from determining when and where shelters



FEMA Program Specialist Chris Streight explains fundamentals of sheltering to South Eastern Group members.

are needed, to layout, set up, staffing, management, and shut down. “I have a much better understanding of how to set up a shelter, manage and maintain it,” said Captain Jose Ruiz of the Amelia Earhart Cadet Squadron, who aided in a Yonkers, New York shelter during Sandy in 2012.

Also covered in the work-

shop was the set up and operation of Points of Distributions or “Pods,” centralized locations where the public can pick up life-sustaining commodities following a disaster. In addition, class participants were briefed on the roles federal, state and local governments play in the relief effort during an actual emergency.

The course served to highlight the growing relationship between CAP and FEMA, and CAP’s expanding role in the area of disaster relief, according to Major Jill Silverman, SEG Emergency Services Training Officer.

“The opportunity to be trained by FEMA expands our ability to help the community significantly,” she said. “In order for CAP to stay relevant, we need to be aware of additional roles in which we can train and then function when a disaster hits. Hurricanes Irene and Sandy made this abundantly clear. We look forward to more training opportunities like this with FEMA so that we can be an essential asset in times of crisis.”

In terms of FEMA providing these opportunities, according to Program Specialist Streight, “There is an extreme amount of interest in doing this.”

MA SQUADRON COLLECTS 400 TOYS FOR HOSPITALIZED KIDS

CHICOPEE, Mass. -- The Civil Air Patrol at Westover Air Reserve Base had plenty of generous support Dec. 22 for its third annual Toy Drive benefiting the Ronald McDonald house, WWLP News 22 reported.

K-Mart shoppers at the Springfield shopping plaza donated more than 400 toys -- the most ever.

Some 15 CAP members stood outside the store from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. collecting donations from last-minute

holiday shoppers. The gifts go to hospitalized children, whose parents stay at the Springfield Ronald McDonald house during their child’s recovery.

CAP Capt. Brian Freeman told 22 News: “A lot of chil-

dren who are at the Ronald McDonald house don’t really get a Christmas because they’re going through all those medical procedures... it’s good to know you’re bringing a smile to the child’s face.”

STATE BUDGET INCLUDES \$200,000 FOR NEW YORK WING

The 2014-15 New York State budget includes \$200,000 for improvements and overall operations of New York Wing, State Sen. Joseph Griffo and Assemblyman Anthony Brindisi announced in April.

They noted that more

than 2,550 members in 74 squadrons in the wing perform a variety of functions, including helping respond to natural and man-made emergencies, searching for lost or missing children and performing a variety of homeland security-related

functions. The wing also runs education programs for young people that teach leadership and aerospace skills.

“The Civil Air Patrol’s leaders estimate it has saved New York over a million dollars a year performing its vital functions,” said Brindisi,

D-Utica. “Many of the tasks its chapters perform cannot be done by other agencies. It saves local governments time and resources helping to evaluate damage from disasters, or responding quickly when a child is reported missing.”

NOTABLES AROUND THE NORTHEAST



NH COLOR GUARD AT FENWAY

The New Hampshire Highlanders Color Guard presented the colors during the playing of the National Anthem at the Red Sox game on May 31. This is the second year that Highlanders Squadron has been invited to Boston's Fenway Park as guests of Dunkin Donuts Manager Anthony Capone. The color guard is under the direction of Major Robert Gilbert.

Highlanders Color Guard on the Jumbotron at Fenway Park. The cadets, from left, are: Colby Beckwith, Christopher Cashman, Ryan Vachon and Drew Egan.

KING OF LONG ISLAND

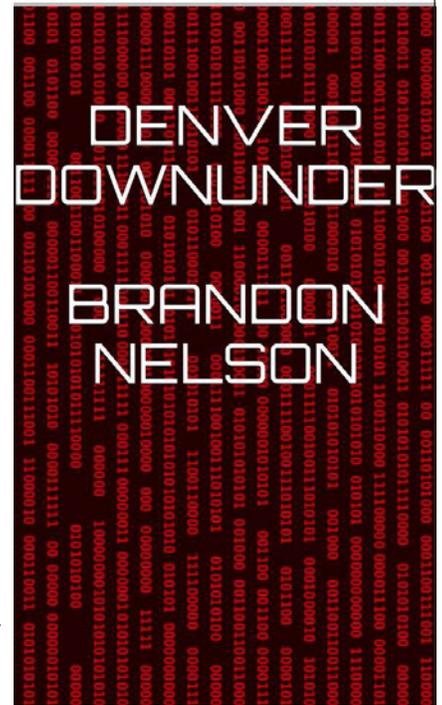


Photo by Maj. Michael Lee

New York Wing's Long Island Group hosted the inaugural King of Long Island Cadet Competition last November, with eight six-person teams squaring off in 10 events. Leroy R. Grumman Cadet Squadron's Delta team (shown above) was one of two teams to share the championship honors. The other was the 9th Suffolk Cadet Squadron team. (From left) Delta Team's Cadet Senior Airman Mitchel Davanzo and Cadet Airmen Richard Robertson and Chase Oliver prepare to serve dinner to the judges for the final round of competition.

CADET PENS THRILLER

PALMERTON, PA -- Brandon Nelson, a cadet in Lehigh Valley Composite Squadron 805, might only be 14 years old, but he had a dream of being a published author and did everything he could to make it happen, reports Times-News. His espionage thriller is now an ebook on Amazon Kindle and he visited Palmerton Area Library in January to promote it. His "Denver Downunder" is written as a screenplay.



Civil Air Patrol Congressional Gold Medal signed into law May 30, 2014 by the President



Honoring CAP's WWII veterans and members

PA CADET HONORED FOR SCOUT AWARD

NORTHAMPTON TOWNSHIP, PA -- You might say, Anthony Prato is batting 1000, reports BucksLocalNews.com. Prato, a Northampton resident and a member of Troop 5, was recognized in March by the township's board of supervisors for earning his Eagle Award, Scouting's highest rank. For his Eagle Scout project, Prato -- also a Civil Air Patrol cadet commander in Pennsylvania Wing's **Willow Grove JRB Squadron 902** -- enhanced the habitat of the declining bat population by constructing bat boxes and placing them on property of the Upper and Lower Southampton Reformed Church and at Nockamixon State Park.