



The Newsletter

POLK COUNTY COMPOSITE SQUADRON

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Congratulations!

On Saturday, December 18, 2010, Major Sharkey Baz was awarded the Wright Brothers Master Pilot Award. This is an award given by the Federal Aviation Administration to a very select number of pilots each year. To qualify, a pilot must have a minimum of 50 years or more of flying experience. During these 50 years the pilot must not have had a revocation of any airman certificate or accident history, Safety of flight is a major factor in this award.

This award was started in 2003 on the 100th anniversary of the Wright Brothers first flight. Out of a population of over 600,000 licensed pilots in the U.S., only 1500 pilots have been awarded this honor.



Commander's Call

By: 1st Lt. James K. Peto, Commander

What's on Jim's mind?

Welcome to 2011! Where has the time gone? It seems just last week it was ... Christmas. I want to wish everyone a healthy and happy New Year. As we press on into another calendar, we can look forward to hopefully achieving our goals for this year.

Some of the goals I have for us in 2011 include getting at least three senior members and six cadets UDF and Ground Team 3 qualified, getting at least one qualified mission pilot and participating in as many community activities as we can to educate the public about our organization and its missions. I'd also like to have our cadets take advantage of the orientation flights (both powered and glider).

Our campaign and support of Wreaths Across America was a complete success. We assisted in laying over 3,800 wreaths at the Florida National Cemetery in Bushnell. I was very proud of everyone that was able to participate.

I plan on inviting Major Joe Leonard to the squadron to share some stories about Civil Air Patrol in its infancy, as he was an original member of the organization. He was our honored guest at the Christmas dinner and said that he was eager to come and share with us.

Sun-N-Fun is fast approaching and it's in our own backyard. Let's represent ourselves, as well as the group and the organization this year with a lot of participation. It's a great time and a wonderful outreach to the community.

The wing conference is also coming up. Registration is up on the wing website, so go ahead and register.

Let's have a great year!

"Life is a culmination of the past, an awareness of the present, an indication of a future beyond knowledge, the quality that gives a touch of divinity to matter." (Charles Lindbergh)

Random Ribbon

Grover Loening Aerospace Award



Awarded to senior members for successfully completing Level III training requirements.



Dress right, DRESS

By: Lt. Col. Roy L. Hall, Deputy Commander for Seniors

While attending the Special Activities Selection Board at Patrick AFB last month, I observed several uniform violations committed by senior members. I will mention them here to prevent our squadron members from making the same mistakes.

The first violation I will entitle the uniform "*Mix and Match*" syndrome. DO NOT wear a combination of corporate uniforms with Air Force uniforms. What I observed was a senior member wearing the gray slacks/blue polo shirt corporate uniform combination together with the Air Force light weight blue jacket. He was also wearing his gray epaulet rank on the jacket. Any civilian outerwear is authorized with the corporate uniform but no Air Force outerwear is authorized.

The reverse is also true, e.g., DO NOT wear any civilian outerwear over the Air Force uniform. If you are going to wear the Air Force uniform, you need to go all the way and also wear an Air Force outerwear garment (as dictated by the weather).

The second uniform violation I observed was a senior member wearing the Air Force A-2 leather flight jacket over his AF style CAP uniform (short sleeved blue shirt/blue trouser combo). He also was wearing metal rank on the epaulet of the jacket. Even the Air Force does not wear rank on the leather jacket. CAP is NOT authorized to wear the

Air Force A-2 leather jacket with ANY uniform combination. Period! CAP does have a black leather jacket that is authorized with the corporate uniform. The only Air Force flight jacket that is authorized for CAP wear is the nomex sage green flight jacket and then it is only worn with the flight suit and only by flight crews.

What made these uniform violations even worse was they were committed on an active Air Force Base. The proper wear of the Air Force uniform by CAP members has always been a sticky point with the Air Force. The wearing of the Air Force uniform is a privilege not a right and can be taken away by the Air Force at any time.

If we as an organization want to continue to wear the AF uniform, we must learn to wear it properly. While the proper wear of the uniform (either CAP or AF) is the command responsibility of the commander at every level, each of us can do our part to speak to a fellow member about any violation you see. Do it nicely... the member may not know any better.

I spoke to the two members mentioned above about their uniform violations and each of them made the necessary corrections. It was as easy as that.



Cadet Happenings

By: 1st Lt. Christine M. Colbert, Deputy Commander for Cadets

Time Management

Do you want to know a quirky fact about me? I collect Chinese Cookie Fortunes. They are fun to read when you are having a bad day. I love to pull them out every now and again to look though, and find some interesting quotes to inspire me.

Recently, as I was looking through my large collection, I found one that simply said, "Now is a good time to finish up old tasks." That was interesting to me, because I have had some trouble keeping up with a lot of my assignments between school and work and CAP.

Time Management is an important subject in many areas in life. Employers make a point to show employees how to have good time management. Both in High School and in College, you will find College Prep Courses designed to teach good time management. The reason everyone is so interested in time management is because time is always short and things just don't get done. Schedules are made to find a way to organize the time, and then people have to supervise to make sure things get done.

In CAP, we have the same concern. We only meet for two and a half hours a week. That is not a lot of time. During the meeting, we must follow our time restraints. But when we are home, things don't always go as we plan. So we have to practice the same time management skills that we try to teach you at our meetings.

A good suggestion that I will share here: When you get an assignment, write it down. Find some way to organize a schedule, so that everything will get done. Also, give yourself enough time to get everything done. If there is one thing I know, it's that things usually take way longer than you expect them to.

If you properly organize your time, you won't have the stress that you get when you are behind on your work. You also don't have to worry about missing deadlines.

So do yourself a favor and work on getting good at managing your time.

February 2011 Cadet Recognition:

Congratulations to the following cadets:

- David C. Brown — promoted to Cadet Senior Airman, awarded the Feik ribbon.
- Adam D. Evans — promoted to Cadet Senior Airman, awarded the Feik ribbon.
- Jonathan A. Evans — promoted to Cadet Senior Airman, awarded the Feik ribbon.
- Jeremy A. King — promoted to Cadet Chief Master Sergeant, awarded the Goddard ribbon.
- Alexander J. Peto — awarded the Armstrong ribbon.



Squad Birthdays

- 12 December — 1st Lt. Christine Colbert
15 December — Lt. Col. Roy Hall
20 December — Major Sharkey Baz
21 December — Cadet Airman Basic Emmanuel Alicea
27 December — Major Steven Bollens
28 December — 2nd Lt. Warren Bryant
29 December — Cadet Chief Master Sergeant Jeremy King
- 5 January — Major Jon Petersen
11 January — Cadet Airman Basic Pryce Newberg
14 January — Senior Member Heidi Masters
29 January — Major Ken Catello
31 January — Senior Member John Marr
- 3 February — Lt. Col. Larry Wilson
11 February — 1st Lt. Eleanor Marshall
17 February — 1st. Lt. Jay Wingo
29 February — Capt. Robert Newberry



Blinks

Squadron website: www.polkcountycomposite.webs.com

Group 3 Website: group3.flwg.cap.gov

Florida Wing website: flwg.us

CAP Website: www.gocivilairpatrol.com

CAP eServices: www.capnhq.gov

Attractions

- 1 Feb — Squadron Meeting (Aerospace Education & Achievement Testing)
- 8 Feb — Squadron Meeting (Leadership Class & Cadet Class)
- 12 Feb — Group 3 Cadet Powered Orientation Flights (Clearwater Airpark)
- 15 Feb — Squadron Meeting (Safety, CPFT & Drill)
- 21 Feb — President's Day
- 22 Feb — Squadron Meeting (Emergency Services & Character Development)

This Month In History

- 1732 — President George Washington is born in Virginia (22 Feb)
- 1809 — 16th President Abraham Lincoln is born in Kentucky (12 Feb)
- 1902 — Aviation pioneer Charles Lindbergh is born in Michigan (4 Feb)
- 1910 — The Boy Scouts of America is founded (8 Feb)
- 1911 — 40th President Ronald Reagan is born in Illinois (6 Feb)
- 1943 — Guadalcanal is finally captured by U.S. troops after six months of fighting (9 Feb)
- 1950 — The 22nd Amendment is ratified, limiting Presidents to two terms (27 Feb)
- 2003 — Space Shuttle *Columbia* breaks apart over Texas (1 Feb)

