



The Newsletter



POLK COUNTY COMPOSITE SQUADRON

Volume 2, Issue 3 – April 2011



Inside This Issue:

Commander's Call	Page 2
Cadet Promotions	Page 3
Squadron Birthdays	Page 3
Blinks (Web Links)	Page 4
Squadron Calendar	Page 4
Cool History	Page 4

Congratulations!

Florida Wing Vice Commander Lt. Col. Phil Zedonek and Group 3 Commander Maj. Len Goellner pin and pose with Cadet Second Lieutenant Alex Peto, who received his Billy Mitchell Award on April 5th. Many friends and family were on hand to watch him get commissioned into the cadet officer corps. Cadet Peto is the first cadet officer in this squadron in over two years. He was presented with a special challenge coin by the squadron commander, 1st Lt. James Peto.

A Civil Air Patrol member for almost three years, Cadet Peto has grown in his leadership abilities and has served as the squadron's First Sergeant since July 2010. Deputy Commander for Cadets, 1st Lieutenant Christine Colbert says that, "Alex has been an outstanding cadet, and, looking forward to his officer years, I expect him to be one of our finest. I am looking to him to be the best example for future officers in our ranks."





Commander's Call

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

Where has a quarter of the year gone? We're coming up on the busy summer season and we need to make sure we are prepared, whether the government is running or not. Orientation flights for April are in serious jeopardy with the looming shutdown. If there is a shutdown, there will be no O-flights.

I'd like to pass along my heartfelt congratulations to our newest cadet officer, Alex Peto. He has worked hard with our DCC and the other cadets. I hope that he becomes an example to the younger cadets. I'd also like to congratulate the latest addition to the non-commissioned officer corps, David Brown.

The Florida Wing Conference is this month in Orlando, April 15th through the 17th. There will be a new wing commander when it's over. Also coming up fast is the annual Florida Parent Educator's Association Homeschool Convention in Kissimmee. This event is Memorial Day weekend. There will be several chances to serve on a color guard or to help with the DDR activities. Interested members, please let me know via e-mail at jpeto@flwg.us.

Our squadron will be presenting the colors at an upcoming Lakeland Flying Tigers game on June 1st. We will also have a display booth at the stadium showing how we can help during a hurricane or other disaster. On June 4th, we will be at the Orange Dome in Winter Haven for the Polk County Hurricane Expo.

I would like to give a huge shout out to the people that helped strip and wax the floors at the headquarters building. Thanks a bunch to SM Pedro Alicea, SM Mark Lukac, Captain Jenny Richards, C/AB Emanuel Alicea, C/Amn Dakota Branch, C/SSgt Dave Brown and C/2d Lt. Alex Peto.

Live the CAP motto, *Semper Vigilans*, especially these days.

Until next month, remember...

"If we should have to fight, we should be prepared to do so from the neck up instead of from the neck down." (Jimmy Doolittle)

Random Ribbon

Commander's Commendation



Given for outstanding duty performance where achievements and services are clearly and unmistakably exceptional.



BIRTHDAYS
SQUADRONS

5 April – 1st Lt. Al Torres
19 April – C/AB Grant Masters
22 April – C/AB Jacob Newton
28 April – C/2d Lt. Alex Peto
30 April – C/SMSgt Zach Dunlap



April 2011 Cadet Recognition:

Congratulations to the following cadets:

David C. Brown – promoted to Cadet Staff Sergeant, awarded the Wright Brothers ribbon.

Zachary J. Dunlap – promoted to Cadet Senior Master Sergeant, awarded the General Jimmy Doolittle ribbon.

Jeremy A. King – awarded the Neil Armstrong ribbon.

Alexander J. Peto – promoted to Cadet Second Lieutenant, awarded the Billy Mitchell ribbon.





B'LINKS

Squadron Website: www.polkcountycomposite.webs.com

Group 3 Website: group3.flwg.cap.gov

Florida Wing Website: flwg.us

CAP Website: www.qocivilairpatrol.com

CAP eServices: www.capnhq.gov

Attractions

5 Apr – Squadron Meeting (Testing & Ceremonies)

9 Apr – Cadet Orientation Flights (Tampa Executive Airport, HOSS Building)

12 Apr – Squadron Meeting (Leadership Class & Cadet Class)

15 Apr – Florida Wing Conference Begins

17 Apr – Florida Wing Conference Ends

19 Apr – Squadron Meeting (Safety, CPFT & Drill)

24 Apr – Easter Sunday

26 Apr – Squadron Meeting (Emergency Services & Character Development)

This Month In History

1743 – President Thomas Jefferson is born in Albermarle County, Virginia (13 Apr)

1861 – Confederate troops fire on Fort Sumter in South Carolina, starting the Civil War (12 Apr)

1867 – Aviation pioneer Wilbur Wright is born in Millville, Indiana (16 Apr)

1912 – The luxury liner *Titanic* strikes an iceberg and sinks in the North Atlantic (15 Apr)

1942 – The first air raid on mainland Japan is led by General Jimmy Doolittle (18 Apr)

1961 – Russian cosmonaut Yuri Gagarin becomes the first human in space (12 Apr)

1968 – Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. is assassinated in Memphis, Tennessee (4 Apr)

1981 – The first space shuttle flight, *Columbia*, is launched from Cape Canaveral, Florida (12 Apr)

1986 – An explosion at the Chernobyl nuclear power plant causes a meltdown (26 Apr)