



2015 Operations Pre-Conference

Walt Disney World Swan and Dolphin Resort

Orlando, Florida

26 August 2015

Presenter Biographies





Ms. Annie Beaulieu

Annie is a Patient and Pilot Outreach Coordinator for PALS and flies missions with Jim Platz. Her efforts have been focused on Northern Maine where there is a concentration of patients in need of reaching medical facilities.



Lt Col Chuck Bishop, CAP

Lt Col Chuck Bishop is CAP NHQ Communications Engineering Division Head and is currently also serving as the interim ARWG/CC. He has been a CAP member for 45 years and was Spaatz Cadet #219.



Capt Chuck Brudtkuhl, CAP

Captain Chuck Brudtkuhl is CAP NHQ Communications Operations Division Head. He is responsible for the team that conducts the daily CAP National Traffic Net on HF and operates as Triblade 33. He is a retired telecommunications industry engineer with USWest/Quest who specialized in Intelligent Networks primarily using SONET.



Col Jack Buschmann, CAP

Col Buschmann is the CAP National Glider Program Manager as well as a retired Lt Col from the USAF, founding partner and past president & CEO of Meadow Homes, Inc., former History Instructor at the Community College of Aurora, CO. Jack is also past Commander of Colorado Wing, and a 59 year member of CAP. He principally has a general aviation flying background with an ASEL, ASES, and glider experience. Currently he flies an RV-7A that he built from a kit. He is here to speak on "Glider Hot Topics"



Lt Col Cameron Dadgar, USAF

Lt Col Cameron “Glover” Dadgar is the commander of the 549th Combat Training Squadron and still maintains his qualifications in the Viper with the 64th Aggressor Squadron at Nellis Air Force Base. That the 549 CTS/CC, he leads over thirty personnel in providing the world’s most contested, realistic and demanding combat exercise known as Green Flag West. He is responsible for more than 5,000 Joint/Coalition warfighters near-peer, major combat operations training. He is a senior pilot with more than 2,000 hours in training, transport, and fighter aircraft to include the T-3, T-37, T-38, AT-38, F-15, F-16, Saab JAS-39 Gripen, and Panavia Tornado, and is considered a subject matter expert for teaching and training joint warfighters against adversary tactics and weapon systems. Glover is also a former CAP cadet.



Mr. John Desmarais

John is currently serving as the Director of Operations at CAP NHQ where he supervises staff in Critical Incident Stress Management, Communications, Operations Support, Special Missions, Standardization, Evaluation and Flight Operations, Training, the National Operations Center, and the National Technology Center. John joined CAP as a cadet in 1987, and has been a full-time employee at NHQ since May of 1995. He is a qualified ground team leader, aircrew member, and incident commander-level one, and also founded and serves as the project officer and provost for the CAP National Emergency Services Academy (NESA).



Lt Col Robert Ditch, CAP

Dr. Robert Ditch is currently serving as the Director of Emergency Services for the Arizona Wing as well as the CAP Liaison to the International Association of Emergency Managers. Bob is a Retired USAF Colonel that served 32 years in the Air Force Medical Service, planning and directing numerous emergency medical management functions. He was the first U.S. military medical officer assigned to a United Nations headquarters staff, serving a year in Somalia as the UN Medical Director; directing all combat-humanitarian/refugee medical operations, which included him personally directing the mass casualty care/evacuation of the wounded during the October 1993 Ranger battle in Mogadishu, as depicted in the movie Black Hawk Down. He is a 41 year volunteer fire, EMS veteran and licensed and nationally registered paramedic, first-responder and planner and a Certified Emergency Manager with IAEM.



Lt Col Steve Haney, CAP

Lt Col Steve Haney is the CAP NHQ Communications Logistics and Supply Manager. He is a 36 year CAP member and served as the Texas Wing Director of Communications for eleven years. In that capacity he oversaw the largest single communications inventory in CAP and brought it from a failing program on communications freeze to one rated “excellent” by the CAP/IG in the 2008 Compliance Inspection and “excellent” by CAP-USAF in the 2009 and 2010 Survey Audits.



Dr. Michael Hauck

Dr. Michael Hauck was recently appointed Executive Director of the American Society for Photogrammetry and Remote Sensing (ASPRS) -- the Imaging and Geospatial Information Society. ASPRS is a society of academic, government, and commercial organizations and individuals dedicated to helping others make smart, professional decisions through the use of imagery and geospatial information. ASPRS provides standards and best practices, accredited professional certifications, continuing education, technical publications, conferences, awards and scholarships. Its technical divisions advance the state-of-practice in Lidar, photogrammetry, remote sensing, GIS, surveying and mapping sciences, and geospatial analytics.



Lt Col John Henderson, CAP

Lt Col John Henderson is Vice-Commander of the CAP National Radar Analysis Team (NRAT). He and his team perform radar analysis for all CAP missing aircraft missions in CONUS, Alaska and Hawaii. John has performed SAR radar analysis on 600+ missions and has been credited with dozens of Saves and hundreds of Finds.



Ms. Sydney Hoffman

Sydney Hoffman serves in the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) Response Directorate as Senior Interagency Liaison for the FEMA Corps Program. FEMA Corps is a historic partnership between two federal agencies providing national service opportunities in the disaster arena for young Americans as they support FEMA's mission. Previously Hoffman served as a Cabinet member for Alabama Governor Bob Riley where she developed and implemented emergency management and national service programs. During this tenure she was heavily involved in Response and Recovery operations for Hurricanes Ivan and Katrina, the Deepwater Horizon oil spill in the Gulf of Mexico, as well as multiple tornado and flood events. Hoffman holds a Master's degree from the Naval Postgraduate School, is a graduate of Harvard's National Preparedness Leadership Initiative, and has published works on resilience which include applying Israeli models of Community Preparedness to the U.S. and structuring community response to long-term electrical grid failure.



Maj Bryan Jones, USA

Maj Bryan Jones, USA, is currently assigned to JTF-N, Fort Bliss, Texas, as the Mission Planner for the New Mexico and West Texas Regional Support team. He is a graduate of North Carolina State University and Webster University and has served over 17 years in the US Army. Major Jones has ratings in the OH-58 A/C Kiowa and the UH-60 A/L Blackhawk, and has combat tours in both Iraq and Afghanistan.



Mr. Josh Keller

Josh is currently the FEMA Region X GIS Coordinator. He has worked in numerous areas within FEMA including Community Relations, Public Assistance, Individual Assistance, Planning, and GIS. Josh is the primary developer of the FEMA Uploader Tools used by CAP.



Mr. Malcolm Kyser

Malcolm Kyser is CAP NHQ Chief of Communications. He has been with CAP NHQ for 20 years after retiring from the USAF as a Communications Superintendent.



Col Dan Leclair, CAP

Col Leclair is currently serving as the Northeast Region Commander, and is the former Maine Wing Commander. Colonel Leclair has served in numerous capacities during his time in both the active duty Air Force and as a volunteer in CAP. He enlisted in 1972 and completed initial training at Lackland Air Force Base in San Antonio, Texas at the Cryptographic Systems School. He had numerous assignments over his career including serving as a cryptographic instructor, and was even 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. He retired from the Air Force in 1992 and returned to Maine in 2000 where he later became active in CAP.



Mr. Richard Leonard

Richard Leonard is the Program Manager for "Team Adam" at the National Center for Missing & Exploited Children (NCMEC) in Alexandria, Virginia. He retired after 32 years in law enforcement with the Prince William County Police Department, VA in 2010 before being employed by NCMEC as a Senior Forensic Case Manager. Richard retired after 25 years of service with the USAF and Maryland Air National Guard flying C-130 aircraft in August 2000. He is currently a Major with the Civil Air Patrol in the Fredericksburg Composite Squadron in Fredericksburg, Virginia. He is a former Commander of VA-108 and is a qualified Mission Observer and Mission Scanner and has been an active member of CAP since 2009.



Col Jim Linker, CAP

Col Linker is currently serving as the Director of the Northeast Region Glider Program. He has also been an active member of CAP at all levels in both the Operations and IG Programs.



Capt Guy Loughridge, CAP

Guy Loughridge's involvement in search and rescue has spanned most of his life. Guy's career in Search and Rescue began in 1980 at age 30 when he joined a search and rescue team in Colorado and was involved in more than 400 ground SAR missions. Guy joined Civil Air Patrol in 2000 and has been a key architect in the creation of today's radar forensic software and in the creation of the National Radar Analysis Team.



Mr. Matthew Lyttle

Matt Lyttle is an Emergency Management Specialist at FEMA Individual and Community Preparedness Division. Before joining FEMA in 2013, Mr. Lyttle served as the Director of Programs at Volunteer Fairfax, a volunteer center in Fairfax County, VA. His responsibilities included disaster volunteerism and youth service. During that time Mr. Lyttle served on the boards of his local Citizen Corps Council and regional VOAD. Mr. Lyttle is a Returned Peace Corps Volunteer, having served from 2008 to 2010 in the northern mountains of Nicaragua. His interest in community development, specifically relating to disaster resiliency, began while working with rural villages that had yet to recover from Hurricane Mitch a decade earlier.



Lt Col Mike Marek, CAP

Lt Col (Dr) Mike Marek is CAP NHQ Communications Plans and Requirements Division Head. He has been a CAP member for 31 years and has previously served as National Communications Team Leader, North Central Region Public Affairs Officer, and South Dakota Wing Chief of Staff, Director of Communications and Public Affairs Officer.



Col Mike Moyer, CAP

Col Moyer is the Delaware Wing Commander and is also employed by FlightSafety International as the Gulfstream V/550 Program Manager. He has significant flight training / checking and flight standards and evaluation experience. Mike is here to speak on the "The Rapid Improvement Team's Charter & Progress"



Maj Justin Ogden, CAP

Maj Justin Ogden has lead the CAP/AFRCC Cellular Forensics Team since 2006. He has been a CAP member since 1993 and has served in Pennsylvania and Arizona Wings. Maj Ogden has worked on over 500 cellular forensics missions.



Maj Richard Ouellette, CAP

Maj Ouellette is currently serving as the Pacific Region Deputy Chief of Staff for Operations as well as serving as one of the lead planners and Liaisons for CAP's participation in the Ardent Sentry exercises, currently focused on an earthquake response in the Cascadia Subduction Zone. Rich joined CAP in 2007, but has been very active since having earned his Senior Pilot Rating as well as moving through the mission qualifications to become an Incident Commander – Level One.



Capt Susan Parson, CAP

Susan is currently serving as the CAP National Stan/Eval Officer. She is also currently employed by the FAA as Special Assistant, Flight Standards Service & Editor, FAA Safety Briefing Magazine. She has significant general aviation ground and flight training experience and will be speaking about "Expectations of CAP Stan/Eval officers".



Maj Stephen Painter, USMC

Maj Stephen Painter, USMC, is currently assigned to JTF-N , Fort Bliss, Texas, as the Aviation Plans Officer and California Regional Support Team. He graduated from the US Naval Academy and has served over 19 years in the Marine Corps as a UH-1N and UH-1Y Huey Pilot with combat tours in both Iraq and Afghanistan.



Mr. Joe Piccotti

Joe Piccotti is the CAP NHQ Chief of Flight Operations. Joe is a retired USAF Lt Col with 23 years of service and over 2,500 hours of flying time, primarily in KC-135s. He is a Command Pilot that flew 3 Combat Tours, and has experience in 10 different aircraft models. He has worked at CAP national headquarters for over 6 years, and his grandfather was a founding member of CAP.



Mr. Jim Platz

Jim is a Director and Co-founder of Patient AirLift Services, and as a volunteer pilot, he has flown over 4,000 missions. Jim is based at KLEW in Auburn, Maine and flies a Cessna 414.



Mr. Terry Raymond

Mr. Terry Raymond is the Chief of the CAP National Operations Center, leading the team of personnel coordinating mission approval for all of CAP. He joined Civil Air Patrol in Louisiana Wing in 1986 where he was the Wing Emergency Services Officer and was also active in the Communications Program, and then became a full time employee at CAP NHQ in 1996.



Col Brian Ready, CAP

Col Brian Ready is the Commander of the Arizona Wing, Civil Air Patrol, United States Air Force Auxiliary, Luke AFB. Col Ready is responsible for establishing goals, vision, objectives and purposes of Arizona Wing by encouraging the achievement of established metrics and program by all units. Col Ready is a qualified Check Pilot and Emergency Service Incident Commander. In addition to his wing duties, Brian also is one of the key team members support cellular forensics missions.



Col James Rushing, CAP

Col Rushing is the former Southeast Region and Tennessee Wing Commander, and is currently serving as the CAP Liaison to FEMA Headquarters as well as the Government Relations Advisor for Southeast Region. He is a Senior Pilot that not only flies for CAP but also Angel Flight, and is an active member of the Aircraft Owners and Pilots Association. Jim has been active in many of the large missions that CAP has supported over the last 15 years including Hurricanes Katrina and Sandy as well as the Deepwater Horizon response, and has been coordinating CAP involvement in the annual Ardent Sentry exercise for several years. He is also an active Incident Commander – Level One.



Mr. Glen Russell

Glen Russell is FEMA's Remote Sensing coordinator, responsible for overseeing imagery collection and interpretation efforts at the Agency. Mr. Russell holds a Master of Science degree in Geographic Information Systems and is a U.S. Army veteran who also previously worked for the National Geospatial-Intelligence Agency and as the Coast Guard Geospatial Intelligence (GEOINT) Program Manager.



Mr. Gene Saunders

Gene is a retired Captain from the Chesapeake, VA Police Department with 33 years' service including 23 years as Special Operations (SWAT) Commander. He also has 14 years' service in Army National Guard and State Guard, with the 101st Airborne and Ranger units where he achieved the rank of Major. Gene also was a member of Civil Air Patrol for 10 years, commanding a Senior Squadron Ranger unit, and served 4 years as the Commandant of the Middle East Region Staff College and achieved the rank of Lt Col. Mr. Saunders is the CEO and Founder of Project Lifesaver International, and has received numerous awards and commendations for his work including 3 Silver Stars for Valor and the Congressional Medal of Honor Foundation Service before Self Commendation.



Col Carlton Sumner, CAP

Col Sumner is the CAP National Chief of Training and National Balloon Program Manager. He also works for the FlightSafety International as Assistant Director of Training. Carlton is a Professional Pilot as well as Business Director, and is here to speak on "CAP Balloon Operations".



Lt Col Eric Templeton, CAP

Lt Col Templeton joined CAP just after Sept 11, 2001. Lt Col Templeton currently serves as Vice Commander for the ILWG and additionally serves as the Commandant of the NESAs Mission Aircrew School. Outside of CAP, Lt Col Templeton works for the Hyatt Hotel corporate headquarters as a Program Manager in IT Operations.



Mr. George Vogt

George retired as a Colonel from the USAF after having served over 26 years. He was the pilot of a wide variety of aircraft, including the F-16, T-37, T-38, T-43 (Boeing 737), T-41 (C172), C182, and GA-8, and served as an instructor and check pilot in the T-37 and B-737. During my career, he commanded two flying squadrons and was also the Deputy Commander (and interim commander) of the 12th Operations Group at Randolph AFB, TX, supervising seven flying squadrons, two independent control towers, four runways on three separate bases, and a large complex of military operating areas and training routes. His final assignment in the Air Force was Commander of CAP-USAF from 2002-2005, where he began his affiliation with the Civil Air Patrol. George was made a Life Member of CAP when he retired and has been involved in one way or another ever since. George is currently serving as the CAP Chief of Safety, where he sees his role as teacher more than regulator, providing our members with the knowledge and the tools they need to keep themselves and their fellow members safe.



Ms. Catherine Welker

Catherine Welker joined FEMA in 2012 as an Emergency Management Specialist in the Mass Care/Emergency Assistance Section of the Individual Assistance Division. She currently leads FEMA's Reunification Program facilitating a multi-agency workgroup developing and implementing the Multi-Agency Reunification Services Plan Template, managing the National Emergency Family Registry and Locator System (NEFRLS) and working with national and international organizations to develop national reunification resources. Catherine is a member of the National Response Coordination Staff (NRCS).

Before joining FEMA, Catherine worked at American Red Cross Headquarters for two years in the Planning and Evaluation Unit and as a Liaison Officer to FEMA Headquarters. Catherine began her career in emergency management in 2005 at the Anne Arundel County, MD Office of Emergency Management focusing on engaging people with disabilities and others with access and functional needs in emergency planning and she worked as the Exercise, Training and Community Outreach Branch Manager where she coordinated training and a full range of exercises in collaboration with regional, state and volunteer partners.



Col Jerry Wellman, CAP

Col Jerry Wellman is CAP NHQ Communications Education and Training Division Head. He is a 45 year CAP member and most recently served as the Utah Wing Commander. Retired after 40 years as a newspaper editor he is a published author of several books on SAR and communications and authored a column in World Radio Magazine for 20 years.



Col Al "Jethro" Wimmer, USAF

Colonel Van A. "Jethro" Wimmer, Jr. is the Director of Air, Space and Information Operations for 1st Air Force (Air Forces Northern), Tyndall Air Force Base, Fla. Colonel Wimmer is a United States Air Force Academy graduate, class of 1988, and earned his wings at Sheppard Air Force Base, Texas, in 1989 and is a command pilot with over 3,000 hours in the F-16. Colonel Wimmer has served as an F-16 instructor pilot, weapons officer, flight examiner, and mission commander; and has flown over 450 combat hours in support of Operations Desert Storm, Provide Comfort, Deny Flight, Southern Watch, and Northern Watch. Colonel Wimmer commanded the 80th Fighter Squadron, Kunsan Air Base, Republic of Korea and served at Headquarters North American Aerospace Defense Command and United States Northern Command. His most-recent prior assignment was as Vice Commander, Misawa Air Base Installation and 35th Fighter Wing, Misawa Air Base, Japan. He also is a former CAP cadet from the Virginia Wing.



Lt Col Steve Wood, CAP

Lt Col Wood joined CAP in 1996 in the Louisiana Wing. He is an active Mission Pilot and Check Pilot, and holds the Command Pilot Rating. Since 2012 he has served as the Commander of the Green Flag East Squadron, and continues to lead personnel supporting that very active mission as it transitions to being a Wing level program within the Louisiana Wing, supported by nationwide resources. Steve is also an active Incident Commander.