



# AIR TRAILS

**CAP-WESTERN NEW YORK  
GROUP NY-024**

**FEBRUARY/MARCH/APRIL 2010**

**Volume 10, Number 2**



***CADET of the YEAR— C/Maj. Mary Zielonka, TAK Squadron, receives the 2010 Western New York (NY) Group Cadet of the Year Award from NY Wing Commander Col. Jack Ozer (left) and WNY Group Commander Maj. Larry Skerker. (CAP Photo by Lt. Col. George L. Fillgrove)***

# TAK SQUADRON TAKES TOP HONORS AT WNY GROUP MILITARY BALL

DEPEW – TAK Squadron is the best squadron in the Western New York Group for 2010.

In addition to taking top honors, the squadron's cadets and senior members swept numerous awards at the Annual Western New York Military Ball in late January at Salvatore's Restaurant.

## **Here is a summary of the activities and accomplishments:**

Jamestown Composite Squadron provided the Color Guard.  
Lt Col. Paul Maze was the Master of Ceremony.  
Chaplain (Lt Col.) Ken Wood provided the invocation.  
Col. Ozer had a few remarks to the group.  
The "Year in Review" was presented by Lt Col. Charles Jones.

## **Service awards were presented to these Senior Members:**

**20 Years** – Capt. Frank Chiarella, Niagara Falls Composite Squadron;  
Lt. David Nadeau, Dunkirk Flight; and Maj. John Risio, Niagara Falls Composite Squadron.

**25 Years** – Capt. Robert Smith, Niagara Frontier Senior Squadron.

**45 Years** -- Lt Col. Janet Schachner, TAK Squadron.

## **Cadet awards**

Presented by Maj. Ellen Maternowski, WNY Group Cadet Programs Officer, with the assistance of Maj. Skerker and Col. Ozer.

Earhart Achievements were presented to:

C/Capt. Tim Anger, TAK Squadron.

C/Capt. Megan Macdonald, Jamestown Squadron.

C/Capt. Erika Snell, Jamestown Squadron.

## **Solo wings**

C/Lt Col. Bronson McGee, Jamestown Squadron.  
C/ Lt. Scott Matner, TAK Squadron (not in attendance).  
C/ A1C. Devin Sampson, Niagara Falls Squadron (not in attendance).

Western New York Group Solo Flight Scholarship was presented to  
C/MSgt. Matthew Miller, TAK Squadron.

Western New York Group Cadet NCO of the year was presented to  
C/CMSgt. Patrick Conte, Niagara Falls Squadron.

Western New York Group Cadet of the Year was presented to C/Maj.  
Mary Zielonka, TAK Squadron.

### **Senior awards**

Yeager Award -- SM Rachel Fillgrove, WNY Group; Lt. Doug Justham,  
Jamestown Squadron; Capt. Mike McCain, TAK Squadron; and Lt. Mike  
Seeley, Jamestown Squadron.

Staff Officer of the Year – Lt. Col. John Galuski, Niagara Frontier Senior  
Squadron.

Senior of the Year – Maj. Randy Anger, TAK Squadron.

Squadron of the Year was presented to the TAK Composite Squadron.

### **Mitchell Awards**

C/Lt. Joanna Wharton, Southtowns Squadron.  
C/Lt. Philip Wharton, Southtowns Squadron.  
C/Lt. Matthew Czerniewski, Niagara Falls Squadron.  
C/Lt. Michael Albert, TAK Squadron.  
C/Lt. Dylan Ekes-Erckert, TAK Squadron.  
C/Lt. Christopher Erckert, TAK Squadron.  
C/Lt. Scott Matner, TAK Squadron.  
C/Lt. Raphael Torres, TAK Squadron.  
C/Lt. Nathan Warnock, TAK Squadron

### **Earhart Awards**

C/Capt. Tim Anger, TAK Squadron.  
C/Capt. Matthew Buerger, Niagara Falls Squadron.  
C/Capt. Megan Macdonald, Jamestown Squadron,  
C/Capt. Erika Snell, Jamestown Squadron.

## **Status of a Few Former Cadets**

Matthew Buerger- Class of 2014 Air Force Academy.  
Bradley Heberle- Class of 2014 Air Force Academy.  
Christopher Ganczewski- Class of 2012 Air Force Academy.  
John Lewczyk- Graduated 2010 Air Force Academy.  
Jonathan Sanfilippo- Grad- Emery-Riddle 2<sup>nd</sup> Lt USAF.  
Christopher McKimmie-Honor Grad USAF Basic Training.  
Austin McCain- ROTC Scholarship RIT Rochester.  
Terrance Johnson- Japan.  
Corey Paden- Utah.  
Josh Terry- Wyoming.  
Abigail Wharton- Okinawa.

### **The following special guests were in attendance:**

Col. Jack Ozer , Commander New York Wing.  
Lt Col. Thomas Carello, Vice Commander, New York Wing.  
Lt Col. Rolland Zavada, former NYW Chief Check Pilot & Director of Standardization & Evaluation.  
Lt Col. Bill Hughes, NYW Director of Operations.  
Lt Col. Diane Wojtowicz, NYW Director of Safety.  
Lt Col. Charles Miller, Finger Lakes Group Commander.  
Lt Col. Norman Greenberg, New York Wing Finance assistant.  
Mr. Kyle Andrews, Treasurer Niagara County.  
Col. Ray Weink, retired USAF (He flew the hump with the Army Air Corps).

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**COLOR GUARD SHINES** – The New York Wing Color Guard Team took third place at the Northeast Region Cadet Competition this past weekend facing competition from 6 other Wings. More details to come. Please join Lt. Col. Steve Samuels in congratulating the team from Long Island Group. You will have the opportunity to see them as they will present the colors at the New York Wing Conference General Assembly.

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**UNAUTHORIZED TRAINING** – It has come to the Wing Commander's attention that several Groups have conducted training, (SLS,CLC, etc.) without getting prior approval. This has resulted in classes not meeting the minimum required training. Additionally, Groups and, in some cases, Squadrons have scheduled training that conflicts with Wing as well as other Group activities. In order to comply with

National guidelines, and to avoid conflicts and wasted effort, no training will be scheduled or conducted without prior approval. Emergency Service training will be submitted to Maj. Darren Cioffi, NYWG Emergency Services Officer, and all other training will be submitted to Maj. Bob Flynn, NYWG Professional Development Officer. Failure to follow these procedures may result in members not getting credit for course participation.

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**MAINE WING ENCAMPMENT 2011** – Maine Wing will hold their 2011 Encampment, August 16-25 (staff dates may vary slightly) at Bog Brook Training Center in Gilead, ME. Cadet staff positions that need to be filled include: Squadron Commanders, Squadron 1st Sergeants, Flight Commanders, Flight Sergeants, Support Staff – to include PAO, Admin, Logistics, etc. To apply for a cadet staff position, cadets must send an e-mail to the Encampment Commandant, Lt. Fellows ([nfellows@mewg.cap.gov](mailto:nfellows@mewg.cap.gov)) listing up to three positions you wish to fill, prioritized, with a brief resume of CAP as well as other pertinent experience and contact information. Deadline for cadet staff applications is 3 June. Please do not submit a CAPF 31 until you have been accepted for a staff position. Senior Member staff positions needed include: Tactical Officers – We need many and you do not have to stay the whole week. We can use all the help we can get in this department. If you are available for just a few days, we can use you. Support staff – to include PAO, Admin. and Logistics. We are especially looking for someone to coordinate food services, not do all the work, just coordinate. To apply for a senior member staff position; please send an e-mail to the Encampment Commander, Capt. Gaddis, ([jgaddis@mewg.cap.gov](mailto:jgaddis@mewg.cap.gov)) listing the positions you wish to fill, prioritized, with dates you are available, and contact information. Please have your applications in by 3 June. Please do not submit a CAPF 31 until you have been accepted for a staff position. If you wish to attend Maine Wing Encampment send a complete CAPF 31 (all information and signatures), CAPF 60 and payment of \$150 made payable to MEWG CAP Cadet Programs through your chain of command, including your Wing Commander, to Maine Wing Headquarters PO Box 5006 Augusta, ME 04332 post marked no later than 22 July.

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**CHANGE IN COMMAND** -- For personal reasons, Lt Col. Mac Brice has decided to step down as New York City Group Commander and

take a position on New York Wing Staff. Col. Jack Ozer personally thanked him for a job well done and welcomed him to Wing Staff. Due to the Growth of the NY City Group and the departure of Lt. Col. Brice, please note the following changes: Effective 5 May 2011, Bronx County will be transferred from New York City Group to South East Group. Effective 10 May 2011, Maj. Paul Zuckerberg will assume command of New York City Group as Group Commander. Effective 10 May 2011, Maj. Manuel Ceja will be appointed Deputy Group Commander, New York City Group. On or about 1 Jan 2012, Queens County will be removed from NYC Group to form Queens Group with Maj. Zuckerberg as Group Commander. On or about 1 Jan 2012, Maj. Manuel Ceja will assume command of New York City Group as Group Commander.

There will be a Change of Command ceremony on 10 May 2011 in Conference Room D, Building 14, JFK International Airport starting at 1930 hours. All are welcome to attend. Please notify Maj. Zuckerberg if you are attending.

Also, Capt. Sharon Brana has been selected to become the South East Group Commander. Capt. Brana took over for Maj. Darren Cioffi who has become the Director of Emergency Services for NY Wing. Capt. Brana assumed command at a change of command ceremony March 10, 2011 at SEG HQ. Col. Ozer thanked the selection committee for their work and for those who applied.

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**SOLAR POWER** – Solar Impulse Team of Switzerland said its solar-powered plane is poised to fly to Brussels early next week. The flight represents a milestone in "green" flying, and offers the industry a new option in dealing with surging oil prices. "This airplane, the first to function without fossil fuel and without emitting CO<sub>2</sub>, symbolizes magnificently the great efforts the aeronautical industry is making to develop new technologies for energy saving and increased use of renewable energies," said Arnaud Feist, CEO of Brussels Airport.

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**NEW HANGAR FOR THE AIR FORCE MUSEUM** – Boeing donated \$5 million to the National Museum of the United States Air Force, allowing for the groundbreaking of a new 200,000 square-foot hangar this spring. The hangar will house the museum's Presidential, aerial refueling, cargo aircraft, and a space gallery. It will open in 2014.

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**WOMEN OF AVIATION WEEK** – Frederick Airport (KFDK), Md., earned the distinction of the “Most Female Pilot Friendly Airport in the World, during the 2011 Women of Aviation Week Worldwide in early March. Pilots on three continents introduced 707 girls and women to flying. The Most Dedicated Female Flight Instructor in the World honor went to Cathy Montgomery of Peterborough, Ontario, Canada. Montgomery flew 20 girls and women in her open cockpit Trike in -2 Celsius temperatures to earn the honor. Each year, Women of Aviation Week commemorates historical worldwide achievements of women. 2012 will mark the centennial of the first women to pilot a seaplane, Helene Dutrieu of Belgium, and the first woman to fly across the English Channel, Harriet Quimby of the United States. For more information, visit [www.WomenOfAviationWeek.org](http://www.WomenOfAviationWeek.org).

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**NEW AIR FORCE MOTTO** – Air Force leadership recently approved a new official motto that combines two well know Air Force-related phrases from the 1970s. The new motto, “Aim High...Fly, Fight, Win,” will gradually be incorporated into Air Force presentations, correspondence, materials, and training courses.

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**TALON MARKS 50 YEARS** — Air Force officials gathered March 17 to mark the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Northrup T-38 Talon at Randolph AFB. Originally named the White Rocket, more than 70,000 Air Force pilots have trained on the Talon. The fleet has flown 13 million hours since the original prototype first flew on March 10, 1959. Designed originally as a fighter aircraft, the Air Force instead sought the design as a replacement of the Lockheed T-33. More than 1,187 aircraft have been built and are currently in use by the Air Force, the U.S. Navy, NASA, and as a NATO export fighter called the F-5 Freedom Fighter. The average age of the fleet is 44 years old, and the typical aircraft has logged 15,000 hours when the design was only intended for 7,000 hours. In a related matter, two former South Korean Air Force T-38s have arrived at Holloman AFB, N.M., for regeneration. The rebuilt aircraft will be assigned to Joint Base Langley, VA, to provide dissimilar air combat training for F-22 pilots.

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**NER SAFETY POLICY** — The mission is paramount ... and safety is inextricably linked to mission accomplishment. The hallmarks of a World-Class Air Force are discipline, obedience, and precise execution. Civil Air Patrol is the volunteer arm of a World-Class Air Force. Discipline includes adherence to standards, regulations, operating handbooks, checklists, and task guides. Safety cannot be bypassed for the sake of convenience. Leaders at every level are charged with enforcing existing standards and ensuring everyone applies sound risk management in instances not specifically covered by directives. Commanders and members alike will be held accountable for compliance.

### ***Leadership...Standards...Accountability***

Established in 2006 by Col. Robert Diduch, then Northeast Region Commander and now NHQ Director of Safety, this policy is effective immediately and will continue in effect until further notice. All members must read and understand this policy. It is to be incorporated into all new members' Level 1 training. Also, it must be reviewed with each member when a CAP Vehicle Operator's Permit is issued, and when a CAPF 5 and CAPF 91 checkride is given.

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**SUBMISSIONS WELCOME** – If your squadron has an item of interest for the group newsletter, please e-mail me at [flyboy53@verizon.net](mailto:flyboy53@verizon.net). Thanks to the EAA, AOPA, Air Force Association, Col. Jack Ozer, Col. Robert Diduch, Lt. Col. Charles Jones, Lt. Col. George Fillgrove, Maj. Larry Skerker, and Maj. Ellen Maternowski for contributions to this issue.

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