

# Civil Air Patrol

Auxiliary of the United States Air Force

## Marco Island Composite Squadron

Florida Wing - Unit #SER-FL-376

P. O. Box 225, Marco Island, FL 34146-0225

**MEDIA RELEASE – May 2008**

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## Civil Air Patrol Cadets Celebrate a Milestone

At the May 8th Civil Air Patrol Meeting, the Marco Island Composite Squadron celebrated a significant milestone. At that meeting, Cadet Deryck Kuper was presented the Billy Mitchell Award by Squadron Commander LtCol Lee Henderson. Cadet Kuper is the first Marco CAP cadet to receive this prestigious award and the accompanying promotion to C/2Lt.

Since the formation of the Cadet Squadron in 2005, no cadet had risen past non-commissioned rank and none has achieved the Squadron's Billy Mitchell award until now. The award honors the late Brigadier General Billy Mitchell, aviation pioneer and supporter of an independent Air Force for America. The award is earned after completing specific requirements of the cadet program. It is certified and awarded only by CAP National Headquarters.

On hand to witness the award and promotion were cadets C/Amn Chris Andrews, C/SSgt. Ian Waters, C/CMSgt. Chris Sajdak, and C/A1C Adam Brown, along with many of the CAP Senior Members. During the ceremony, Capt. Pat Lammersfeld, Deputy Commander of Cadets, described Kuper's achievements leading to the award.

C/2Lt. Deryck Kuper will now be the officer/mentor to the other cadet members and will assist them in progressing through the program.

The Marco Island CAP cadets meet at 6:30 pm each Tuesday evening in the CAP hangar at the Marco Island Executive Airport located at the end of Mainsail Drive off Collier Blvd. south of Tamiami Trail East. For further information, contact Capt. Pat Lammersfeld at 389-9498.

The senior members of the Marco Squadron meet at 7:00 pm the first and third Mondays of each month at the same location.



Squadron Commander LtCol Lee Henderson presented the Billy Mitchell award and promotion to C/2Lt. to Cadet Deryck Kuper.



Other cadets attending the ceremony are shown shown left to right:  
C/Amn Chris Andrews, C/SSgt. Ian Waters, then C/CMSgt (now C/2Lt.) Deryck Kuper, C.CMSgt. Chris Sajdak, and C/A1C Adam Brown.