



*Semper volantis!
Semper vigilans!*

COMMANDER'S CALL MINUTES
11 SEPTEMBER, 2007

Maj John DeAndrade received a Commander's Commendation Award for his work while serving as deputy commander of the DeKalb, Georgia squadron in 2005 and 2006. During that period, DeKalb was selected as the best senior squadron two years running.

73X will be washed and waxed at Chester Airport. A half dozen senior members are needed. The plan is to fly the aircraft to Chester and transport the work party in our squadron van.

The Coastwatcher

The Periodic Newsletter of the Thames River Composite Squadron
GON
Connecticut Wing
Civil Air Patrol

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Schedule of Coming Events

September

- 15 SAT Field Day/ACUT Training/O Flight
- 18 TUE Regular Meeting Night (Blues/ML)
- 22 SAT Rocket Launching
- 25 TUE Regular Meeting Night (BDU)
- 29 SAT 73X Wash and Wax

October

- Harwinton Fair 5-7 October
- AOPA Convention 4-7 October
- Cadet Ball 27 October

IMPORTANT REMINDER

THE SECOND FIELD DAY

A second field day will be held on Saturday, the fifteenth of September to prepare the new trailer for occupancy. All members are urged to report at 0800 with work clothes and tools. Work will focus on ramp construction, installing insulation, trailer skirting, and cleanup. A safety stand down will also be conducted.

CADET MEETING MINUTES
11 SEPTEMBER, 2007

S/M Wojtcuk supervised testing with excellent results. Senior members will review the tests during the next meeting.

A suggestion was made that testing also be conducted on PT night for those who have already passed their physical tests. This was accepted and cadets can plan on testing on either the first or second meeting of the month.

Money for the Cadet Ball is due by next week. Contact S/M Wojtcuk to make arrangements.

Col Kinch distributed computer discs containing photographs from the summer encampment.

Cadets Alexis Wojtcuk, Jesse Brohinsky, and George Abbiati were presented with the Radio Operator Authorization Cards.

LtCol Mattheu Valleau, the Deputy Wing Commander and Director of Communications, met with the cadets and discussed wing activities, the rocketry competition, and uniforms.

ROCKET LAUNCH DAY

The squadron will hold a rocket launch day on Saturday, the 22nd of September. New members who have completed their rockets, members who built rockets but did not launch them at the Wing Rocket Launch Day, and members who have completed multistage or load carrying rockets will be given an opportunities to launch. The event is tentatively scheduled to begin at 0900 on the ballfield at Montville High School. This field is located on the southwest corner of the school grounds.

GROUND OBSERVER CORPS REDUX

The mystery aircraft in Edition 1.3 was the Piaggio 180 Avanti, an Italian twin engine turboprop utilizing a canard wingform and pusher propellers. The aircraft is unique in that all three horizontal surfaces provide lift and the unusual fuselage design also contributes to the lift. The aircraft is powered by a variant of the extremely popular Pratt and Whitney Canada PT6 turboprops. First flown in 1986, over 100 have been produced and are commonly used as corporate transports or in fractional ownership schemes.

This week's aircraft, of Swiss ancestry, bears an interesting relationship to the aircraft featured in Edition 1.2 of *The Coastwatcher*. It is also powered by a variant of the ubiquitous P&W Canada PT6. What is the aircraft and what is the relationship?



AVIATION JAPE OF THE WEEK

Two aged vultures, unable to complete the annual migration in the traditional manner, decided to fly south by airline. At the baggage check point, the counter attendant noticed that each of them were carrying a dead 'possum. He asked the vultures if they wished to check them through as baggage. "No thanks," replied the first vulture, "they're carrion."

PROGRESS ON NEW TRAILER

Thirteen members and squadron friends met at the trailers on Saturday, the 8th, to prepare the new trailer for occupancy. Although there was a lot of switching around, the work parties focused on four tasks. Andy East and Steve Heard led a group in constructing the first section of the decking which connects the two trailers. New member Jay Farley and Cadet John Holt moved the flagpole to its new location. Wojtcuk to the fourth power (Father, Mama, Lexie and Abi) worked with Willi Lintelmann and Bill Wholean, cleaning the new trailer. Col. Kinch, Tom Wisehart, Ed Miller, Rob Wilkens, Keith Neilson, and Steve Rocketto labored on digging the trench and installing the electrical conduit.



The project is well underway and will continue this coming Saturday, September 15th starting at 0800. Come for all of the day or part of the day. Your contribution will be appreciated.

