



Missions for
America
Semper vigilans!
Semper volans!

The Coastwatcher

Publication of the Thames River Composite
Squadron
Connecticut Wing
Civil Air Patrol
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30 January 2018

3-4 FEB-Unit Commanders Course Course
06 FEB-TRCS Meeting
10 FEB-CTWG TRANEX
12-16 FEB-ICS 300/400 Course-Mystic
13 FEB-TRCS Meeting
20 FEB-TRCS Meeting
24 FEB-CTWG TRAEX
27 FEB-TRCS Meeting
10-11 MAR-Squadron Leadership Course
17 MAR-Geophysics Lecture
07 APR-CTWG TRAEX
6-8 APR-NER Cadet Competition
17 APR-MIT/Hartford Club-Geophysics topic
28-29 APR-Corporate Leadership Course

CADET MEETING

30 January, 2018

The cadet meeting was cancelled due to a snowstorm.

In the future, The cadet cadre will provide concurrent group training for different skill sets. This is now possible because of the participation of ten senior and cadet sponsor members to provide supervision and instruction. The Squadron will abandon the “one size fits all” model for specialized instruction or activities governed by cadet needs.

SENIOR MEETING

30 January, 2018

No senior meeting was held.

ACHIEVEMENTS

C/MSgt Christopher Munzer has qualified for the Winchester-NRA Sharpshooter badge.

Cadet Sr/A Rhys Thornell has qualified to be a mission radio operator.

MISSIONS

Ice Patrol
27 January, 2018

Maj Noniewicz, Lt Col Kinch, and Lt Spreccace flew the eastern portion of the ice patrol on Sunday.



They encountered some sporty cross-winds. Lt Spreace took a picture of the navigation display. They are heading south down the Connecticut River just past Hamburg Cove and in the vicinity of Essex and have climbed to 2,500 feet in an attempt to get out of some moderate turbulence. The airspeed is 60 knots and the wind, almost directly from the right is running at 57 knots. A crosswind correction of close to 45 degrees right is needed to track south,

NOTES ON THE ICE PATROL



The Connecticut Department of Emergency Management and Homeland Security is the Connecticut Wing's granting agency for Long Island Sound and Ice Patrol missions.

The Ice Patrol covers the navigable waterways and flood prone lakes and rivers. In the current season, very low temperatures resulted in heavy icing and flooding in the Connecticut River

between Hartford and the Sound.

CTWG aircraft report to USCG Sector Long Island Sound and cutters breaking ice. This season, three cutters have been employed.: USCGC Bollard home-ported in New Haven, the Pendant out of Boston, and the the Hawser from Bayonne.

They are 65 foot small harbor tugs and undertake a variety of tasks: search and rescue, law enforcement, and maintaining aids-to-navigation. Their steel hulls make them suitable for light icebreaking. The 500 hp tugs are capable of breaking ice up to 18 inches thick. A Chief Boatswain's Mate is the officer-in-charge.



USCGC Bollard (WYTL-65614)

AEROSPACE CHRONOLOGY & HISTORY

31 JAN, 1951 – Charles Blair flies a piston engine North American P-51C Mustang, *Excalibur III*, on a non-stop flight from New York to London utilizing the jet stream and traveling 3,478 miles in 7 hr 48 min for an average speed of 446 mph.



Charlie Blair's pretty red airplane, Excalibur III, and his pretty red haired wife, Maureen O'Hara



The current record, New York to England, for a jet airliner was set by a jet Boeing 787-9 Dreamliner was set on January 19th, this year and is 5 hr 13 min. The fastest flight was set by a Lockheed SR-71 Blackbird in 1974, 1 hr 54 min.

01 FEB, 1913 – Jeffrey Quill, Supermarine test pilot and veteran of both the Royal Air Force and the Fleet Air Arm is born. He did production test flying for all of 52 variants of the Spitfire



Quill in the cockpit of a Mk.1 Spitfire

02 FEB, 1929 – The Boeing Airplane and Transport Corp. becomes the United Aircraft and Transportation Corp. and within a year incorporates Chance Vought Corp., Hamilton Metalplane Division, Boeing Aircraft of Canada, Stout Airlines, Northrop Aircraft Corp., Stearman Aircraft Co., Sikorsky Aviation Corp., Standard Steel Propeller Co. and Pratt & Whitney Aircraft Co. under its corporate umbrella.



Fred Rentschler, first president of United Aircraft Corporation.

03 FEB, 1859 – Hugo Junkers is born. Junkers pioneered the use of metal for aircraft construction. He was a pacifist and a socialist and pacifist. The Nazis took over his companies and placed him under house arrest.

He died in 1935, about four years before the outbreak of World War II in Europe.

Hugo Junkers



04 FEB, 1946 – First flight of the Republic XF-12 Rainbow. The Rainbow was a Republic bid to stay in the aircraft business after the wartime contracts were cancelled.



Designed for photo-reconnaissance. She carried three compartments for cameras and was equipped with a darkroom so that films might be developed and printed in flight allowing immediate transmission to intelligence units upon landing.

Only two were built. However the Rainbow still holds the world speed record for a piston powered four engine aircraft, 450 mph. In a demonstration flight, a Rainbow flew for Muroc, California to Mitchel Field, New York, taking a continuous 350 foot filmstrip containing 390 photos. The flight took almost seven hours and averaged one photo every 1 minute and 4 seconds.

05 FEB, 1925 – Clyde V. Cessna, Walter Beech and Lloyd Stearman founded Travel Air Manufacturing Company Ltd. Eventually all three went on to found their own companies.



Travel Air 4000

The Trio and Three Aircraft that Bear Their Names



Clyde Cessna and the Cessna 172 Skyhawk



Walter Beech and the V-Tailed Bonanza



Lloyd Stearman and the PT-17 Kaydet

06 FEB, 1938 - First successful in-flight separation of The Short-Mayo Composite. The Composite was an attempt to build an aircraft which would be capable of carrying a profitable payload across the Atlantic Ocean and to destinations in the far-flung British Empire. The problem: No aircraft could take-off carrying sufficient fuel and a profitable payload for such a flight.



Maj. Robert Mayo, Technical Manager of Imperial Airways realized that aircraft can fly safely with more weight than they can take-off with. He ended the problem by proposing that a small long-range aircraft be mounted on top of a large powerful aircraft and the combined power of both would get the pair off the ground. Once in flight, the aircraft would separate and the plane of the top would continue the flight.

Mayo got together with Arthur Gouge, chief designer at Shorts Brothers. Shorts built the C-Class Empire flying boats, the longest range passenger aircraft of the time. A small four engine float plane, the Shorts S.20 Mercury was built and mated to a modified Empire flying boat.

In July, the pair departed from Foynes, Ireland and separated. Mercury under the command of pioneering aviator and navigator, Donald Bennett continued on to Boucherville Quebec. This was the first trans-atlantic east to west non-stop commercial flight by an heavier-than-air aircraft. Mercury delivered 660 pounds of cargo after a 20 hour so minute flight!

07 FEB, 1918 – Lawrence Sperry, the first member of the Mile High Club crashes while testing a Curtiss N-9, modified to fly as a “cruise missile” using a Sperry designed automatic pilot.



Lawrence and Elmer Sperry, pioneers in gyroscopic based automatic controls for aircraft and ships.