



Mission for America

*Semper vigilans!  
Semper volans!*

# The Coastwatcher

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

S. Rocketto, Editor

website: <http://cap-ct075.com/default.aspx>

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## SCHEDULE OF COMING EVENTS

### April

29 TUE Blues-Parent's Night

### May

2 FRI-Squadron O Flights-GON

3 SAT-USAF GTE

6 TUE-PT-Staff Reports Due

10 SAT-ACUT

13 TUE-BDU

20 TUE-Blues-Moral Leadership

27 TUE-BDU

30-31-1 June-Ground Team Training-Danielson

### For Future Planning

14 JUN-SAT Wing Rocket Competition

4-13 JUL Encampment

19 JUL SAREX

20-24 JUL AIAA Power Plant Conference

25 JUL-03 AUG NER Cadet Academy

## CADET MEETING MINUTES

22 April, 2008

C/MSgt Molinari led the Cadet Squadron in the Pledge of Allegiance and the Cadet Oath. A uniform inspection was held.

Meeting time devoted to preparing displays for the Wing Conference and Rocketry Contest.

## PARENT'S NIGHT

This Tuesday, 29 April, is Parent's Night. Families of Cadets and Senior Officers are invited to attend.

We will start at 1830 with a Cadet muster. During this time, parents will meet with the Senior Staff for a discussion of future Squadron activities. We request that at least one parent of each Cadet be present. The Squadron presentations from the Wing Conference will be on display.

After the muster and meeting, we will conduct an awards ceremony. Recent promotions will be recognized and the Cadets of the Cycle will be honored. A Change of Command ceremony for the Cadet Squadron will also be held.

Refreshments will be served. Anyone who will provide food should email Lt. Robin Wojtcuk at [heartandsoul@snet.net](mailto:heartandsoul@snet.net) or phone at 889-5086.

## WING CONFERENCE PRELIMINARY REPORT

Seventeen Squadron members attended the Wing Conference on 26 April and ten remained for the evening dinner and ceremonies.

The Cadets won the Aerospace Display for the second year running. Seven of our Senior Members were honored as the outstanding Officers of the Year for their meritorious performance in Squadron duties.

A more complete report will be forthcoming in the next issue.

## ORIENTATION FLIGHTS SCHEDULED

The Squadron will conduct a series of Orientation Flights on Friday, 02 May, from LanMar South at Groton. Home schooled Cadets will be scheduled early in the day. Cadets attending public schools will fly in the late afternoon.

Cadets will receive instruction about the specific purposes of the flight, aerodynamics or meteorology or navigation. Aircraft and ramp safety will be reviewed and life vests will be fitted. One Cadet will occupy the right seat or Observer position and one Cadet will ride in the Scanner seat outbound. During the flight, they will be expected to perform flight crew duties. The aircraft will then land at another field and the Cadets will exchange position and duties for the return flight.

The flight will be conducted in a Cessna 182T, N771CP equipped with the Garmin 1000 "glass cockpit."

Slots are still open so if you wish to fly, contact Lt Wojtcuk or Capt Rocketto as soon as possible.



*"One Charlie Pop"*



*Garmin 1000 Navigation Display*

## SEARCH AND RESCUE MISSION LAUNCHED

As our meeting drew to a conclusion last Tuesday, we received orders to launch a SAR mission based upon reports that an emergency locator beacon was transmitting a distress call in the vicinity of the Ellington Airport. Within one half hour, Thames River Composite Squadron launched an aircraft crewed by Majors John DeAndrade and Keith Neilson and a ground team led by Maj Bourque and consisting of Capt Rocketto and C/MSgt Michael Molinari.

The aircraft conducted an aerial electronic search as our ground team and teams from the 103rd Composite Squadron out of East Granby and the Northwest Hills Composite Squadron out of Torrington converged on the revised location near Bradley International Airport.

Signal reflections made acquiring lines of position on the beacon difficult and both the FEDEX shipping operation and the Honda facility just south of Bradley were electronically searched. Signal strength was reanalyzed and the teams headed towards Windsor Locks, just east of the first site and just past midnight, the beacon was located in a boat in a driveway in a residential area on the west edge of Windsor Locks/

Police were notified, the owner of the boat was awakened and the beacon was silenced. Our crew returned to Groton arriving at 0230, Wednesday.



*CAP Van*