



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>

Vol. II No. 16

9 May, 2008

SCHEDULE OF COMING EVENTS

May

10 May-SAT-ACUT
13 May-TUE-BDU/Aerospace Education
20 May-TUE-Blues/Moral Leadership
27 May-TUE-BDU/Ground Team Training
30 May-1 June-FRI-SUN-Ground Team Training

Long Term Planning

Jun-SAT-Wing Rocket Competition (Date TBA)
4-13 July-Wing Encampment
21-23 July-AIAA AE Conference-Hartford
19 July-SAREX
20-24 July-AIAA A/S Education Conference

ERRATA

The date of the *Hindenburg* disaster in last week's *Memories of May's Past* was incorrect. The year was 1937.

Lt Willi Lintelmann received a plaque at the Wing Conference when he was named Finance Officer of the Year. His name was inadvertently left of the list of award winners last week.

Lt Paul Jalbert and Capt William Wholean were not recognized at the ceremony. This will be corrected in a future issue.



Lt Lintelmann accepts his award and is congratulated by Col Kinch

ACUT SATURDAY

Advanced Communication User's Training will be held at CTWGHQ Palmer Hall, Middletown on Saturday, 10 May from 0900 to 1400. Captain Rocketto will be driving. Contact him if you wish to attend. You must hold a BCUT to participate.

CADET MEETING MINUTES

06 May, 2008

C/CMSgt Scannell mustered the Squadron and led the formation in the Pledge of Allegiance and the Cadet Oath.

Capt Rocketto and the Cadet Leadership conducted PT testing.

Lt Wojtcuk conducted testing preparation. Lt Wojtcuk announced that we will conduct an equipment issue at the next meeting.

VISITOR

Anthony Price, an intern in airport management, visited the Squadron on 6 May and interviewed our leadership staff on the scope of Civil Air Patrol activities and their roles in managing them.

GTE SUCCESSFUL

The United States Air Force conducted a Guided Training Exercise for the Connecticut Wing on Saturday, 3 May. Major Keith Neilson directed Air Operations and Capt Noniewicz and Lts Lintelmann and Farley worked as air crews. Captain Rocketto worked in communications and C/TSgt Alexis Wojtcuk worked in both communications and administration.

Lexie Works the Radio Room



A GTE is run to assist the Wing in preparing for the USAF Evaluation which will be conducted next year. A number of Air Force officers and non-commissioned officers observe and assist Wing members as they carry out their tasks with the goal of improving our performance in meeting the required standards.

The original scenario consisted of a report of a missing aircraft which has been on a Visual Flight Rule (VFR) flight from Danbury to Danielson. Due to maintenance issues, CTWG only had only two aircraft available. One was grounded in Danbury due to weather. The other, based at Brainard was VFR capable only and the weather was marginal VFR. We also had two Connecticut ground teams available.

Finding themselves short of assets, the Incident Command Staff under Lt Col Marteka contacted neighboring wings. Rhode Island put two planes on alert awaiting marginal VFR Weather and dispatched a ground team. Massachusetts launched an aircraft from Bedford and New York put a ground team on alert. New York also supplied an experienced Incident Commander to assist Col Marteka who is in training for the position.

The IFR ELT route search was canceled because the Hartford aircraft had a malfunctioning horizontal situation indicator. However, they launched in marginal VFR and monitored for an ELT signal search between Brainard and the Hartford non-directional beacon.

Meanwhile, ground teams started ramp checks at all probable airports. Northwest Hills supplied one team under Lt Col Hull and Capt Graves led a mixed Waterbury-Hartford team. The grounded Danbury flight crew conducted a ramp check and "interviewed" airport personnel as to the capabilities of the missing pilot and aircraft.

A second tasking from Homeland Security came in-to monitor "immigration" demonstrations in Hartford and East Windsor and obtain SDIS imagery. The mission was rejected due to unfavorable weather conditions.

Meanwhile, the inbound Massachusetts aircraft picked up an ELT signal in the vicinity of Putnam VOR and was placed in contact with the Rhode Island ground team which was just crossing the border near Johnston and was in good position to reach Putnam VOR.

The Hartford aircraft, taking advantage of better weather, extended its search southward and also picked up an ELT signal near Goodspeed or Chester airports. One of the ground teams doing a ramp check at New Haven was directed towards these Connecticut River sites.

Air Ops considered that both aircraft just might be tracking the same beacon so messages were sent out coordinating the two aircraft to prevent any possible mid-air conflict. As it turned out, there were two practice beacons. The Rhode Island ground team, directed by the Massachusetts aircraft, located and silenced one at Danielson. The second beacon was located on a boat moored at a marina in Essex. It too was silenced.

But it wasn't over. An emergency blood transfer was ordered and as the weather lifted, the Danbury aircraft made the pickup and flew the package to Brainard.

The preliminary evaluation praised the CT staff on their coordination with other agencies and CAP Wings and, in general, the Air Force Staff found our performance satisfactory. However, there were several communications issues which need to be resolved, we were short on personnel, and we were caught short on available aircraft.

CADET GROUND TEAM TRAINING

The Danielson Squadron is sponsoring a weekend ground training program running from Friday afternoon, May 30 to Sunday June 1. A wide range of activities is planned and intended to get Cadets signed off on many of the requirements for ground team participation.

Cadets must have reached the Curry level in order to participate and have passed the ES 116 test. Col Kinch has approved the following cadets to begin Ground Team Three training: Alexis Wojtcuk, Abigail Wojtcuk, Kevin Roe, Ryan Montgomery, Patrick Dougherty, and Jonathan Scannell.

We will be camping out. Cadets should bring a 72 hour pack. Any cadet lacking equipment should contact Capt Rocketto immediately.

All Thames River Composite Squadron Cadets are strongly urged to participate in order to assist us in meeting our Squadron goal of having a fully qualified ground team in the field by the end of this year. Remember, you must obtain the Curry Award and complete the ES116 test first.

Cadets should go to the Squadron Website at <http://cap-ct075.com/default.aspx> for instructions and easy access to the ES116 test.

PARENT'S NIGHT PICTURES

C/Amn James Wallace receives insignia from Lt Wojtcuk



C/Amn Timothy Ploude salutes the Squadron Commander

C/SSgt Abigail Wojtcuk receives her insignia of rank



C/TSgt George Abbiati reports

C/Sgt Mary Biekert returns the salute





C/TSgt Shawn East returns the salute



Captain Noniewicz congratulated as Safety Officer of the Year

C/CMSgt Jonathan Scannell congratulated by The Colonel



Cadet Programs Officer Roy Bourque promoted to Major



2Lt Robin Wojtcuk receives Personnel Officer of the Year plaque



C/SSgt Molinari accepts Wing Aerospace Display Award on behalf of the Cadet contingent

Capt Rocketto accepts Aerospace Officer of the Year honors from Col Kinch



Major Borque displays Grover Loening Award Certificate



1Lt Edward Miller praised as Supply Officer of the Year



C/MSgt Molinari relinquishes command of the Cadets to C/CMSgt Scannell