



Mission for America

*Semper vigilans!  
Semper volans!*

# The Coastwatcher

Newsletter of the Thames River Composite Squadron

GON  
Connecticut Wing  
Civil Air Patrol

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Vol. II No. 22

20 June, 2008

## SCHEDULE OF COMING EVENTS

### JUNE

21 JUN-Trailer Maintenance 0800-1200

24 JUN-PT/Visitation by DCWG

27-29 JUN-Quonset Air Show

### Long Term Planning

4-13 JUL-Wing Encampment

11-13 JUL-Squadron Campout/ES Training

19 JUL-Bradley ANG Space and Aviation Day

21-23 JUL-AIAA AE Conference-Hartford

21-30 JUL-NER Encampment-Otis ANGB

19 JUL-Wing SAREX

20-24 JUL-AIAA A/S Education Conference

10-17 AUG-MAWG Encampment-Ft. Devens

06 SEP-CT National Guard Family Day

07 SEP-Westover ARB Great NE Air Show

27-28 SEP-Squadron Leadership School

16-18 OCT-Nat'l Conference on A/S Education

18-19 OCT-Corporate Learning Course

25 OCT-Cadet Ball

22-23 NOV-Unit Commanders Course

06-07 DEC-Training Leaders of Cadets Course

## CADET MEETING MINUTES

17 June, 2008

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

Lt Wojtcuk explained the Cadet Leadership Feedback Form and the Cadet Promotion Board.

Maj Bourque instructed the Cadet Squadron on the use of notebooks and CAP forms in SAR, communications techniques, and issues involving the media. A demonstration of the audio signal from an ELT was presented using our new practice beacon and an L-Per.

Capt Rocketto emphasized the importance of reading the "Schedule of Coming Events" and planning for them.

Cadets were encouraged to attend the Massachusetts Wing encampment at Fort Devens in August. Contact Maj John Flaherty at [flahertyjohn@msn.com](mailto:flahertyjohn@msn.com).

A major project for this summer will be the installation of a real-time weather satellite system which will receive data from both polar orbiting satellites and geostationary satellites.

Cadets who plan to attend the Quonset Air Show and the July Bivouac must have received credit for the ES116 test. Instructions for taking this test are on the Squadron website.

## QUONSET AIR SHOW

It's a Go for the Show!. We will attend the Quonset Air Show and bivouac from Friday, 27 June to Sunday 29 June. Cadets will serve on the flight line. The cost will be \$15 which covers food and quarters. Attending cadets must have passed the ES116 test.

## ROCKETRY CONTEST RESULTS

Thames River Composite Squadron won The Commander's Cup, emblematic of victory in the annual Wing Rocketry Contest. Our launching team consisted of Cadets Michael Molinari, Lexie Wojtcuk, George Abbiati, and Abi Wojtcuk. An additional rocket was supplied by Cadet Jon Scannell who could not attend.



*Squadron Launch Team  
Lexie-Abie-George-Michael*

In order to earn the honor, the following tasks were accomplished. First, a historical rocket had to be submitted for static judging at the Wing Conference. The Squadron entered Lexie Wojtcuk's Project Mercury Redstone *Liberty Bell 7* which then had to be flown and recovered in flyable condition at the contest.

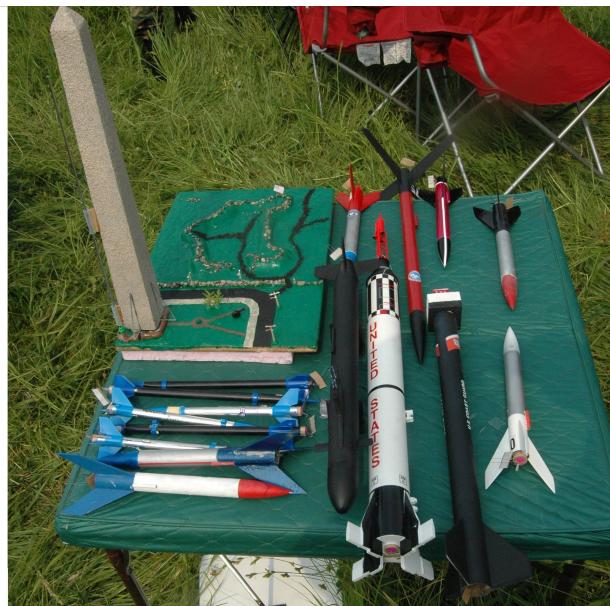
The second rocket entered was an Alpha decorated with a CAP theme and built by a tyro, someone who had not competed in the contest previously. Abi Wojtcuk entered her missile which carried the four CAP core values on its flanks: Integrity, Volunteer Service, Excellence, and Respect. This rocket was judged on construction, decoration, and flight and also had to be recovered in a flyable condition.

Finally, a "scratch built" rocket based upon a squadron theme was also required. We had three competing entries. Jonathan Scannell's red and black model was the most conventional of the three. Lexie Wojtcuk entered a model of a Seawolf submarine complete with camouflaged

masts, and Mike Molinari and George Abbiati constructed a model of the Groton Monument whose launch pad was a diorama of the State Park itself.



*Lexie prepares prize winning Liberty Bell 7 for a launch.*



*Squadron Rockets on Display*

After a discussion, we took a vote as to which one to fly. Since they were judged on uniqueness, flight qualities, and a successful recovery, the decision was difficult. Scannell's model had the best chance of a good flight but the Submarine and the Monument were unique. The Submarine was chosen and flew successfully.

The choice was fortuitous since Scannell's model failed to deploy its parachute and suffered Class A fuselage damage at impact and the Monument flew like a granite monument might be expected to fly. However, its weight and balance properties are being analyzed and it will be reconfigured for a future flight.

Capt Rocketto also launched a model representative of the U.S. Coast Guard. The black fuselage symbolized the hard working buoy tenders and the nose cone was a model of Ledge Light.

To cap the successes of the day, the Wing Aerospace Education section offered a prize to the squadrons which performed best on a twenty question quiz based upon the information needed to successfully complete the requirements for the Rocketry Badge. TRCS scored 100% topping all other contestants.

We were awarded The Commander's Cup and CATO, the amateur rocket enthusiasts who supported the event presented us with a \$20 gift certificate.

The Cadets were accompanied by Col Kinch, Maj Bourque, Lt Wojtcuk, SM Wojtcuk, and Capt Rocketto.



Sub Launch  
(left)

Liberty Bell 7  
Launch (right)



## YEAGER BRIEFING

The Squadron held a briefing designed to prepare Officers for successfully completing the Aerospace Education Program for Senior Members. Capt Rocketto conducted the three hour session and covered salient topics of aviation history, physics of flight, aeronautical knowledge, powerplants, meteorology, and astronomy.

The following officers participated: Rich Doucette, Tom McAvoy, Chris Manners, and Fran Mariano.

## FREE CPR/AED TRAINING

The following article has been edited and reprinted from the June 10th issue of *The Norwich Bulletin*.

Norwich based American Professional Educational Services, the largest American Heart Association Training Center in New England, is conducting a free CPR and AED training on June 28.

There will be two sessions to choose from. The morning session will be 9 a.m. to noon and the afternoon session will be 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. In order to attend one of these classes pre-registration is required as space is limited in each session.

To preregister for the free CPR and AED training please call American Professional Educational Services at 886-1463.

## SQUADRON CAMPOUT/ES TRAINING

The Squadron is planning a weekend bivouac and emergency services training session for 11-13 July. Cadets who wish to participate must have successfully passed the ES 116 test.