



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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SCHEDULE OF COMING EVENTS

October

18-19 OCT-Corporate Learning Course
21 OCT-ML/AE-Blues
25 OCT-Cadet Ball
25 OCT-ACUT-Middletown
28 OCT-ES-BDU's

Long Term Planning

15 NOV-BCUT-Middletown
22-23 NOV-Unit Commanders Course
06-07 DEC-Training Leaders of Cadets Course

QUAKER HILL RIFLE CLUB JUNIOR PROGRAM OPENS

The opening of the 2008-2009 season for the QHJRC has been set for Friday, 24 October at 1800. Interested Cadets who wish to work on qualification medals in rifle marksmanship are urged to contact Coach Jennifer Sloan at jennslo@msn.com.

DEADLINES DEADLINES DEADLINES

The following event requires advance planning. If you wish to attend, you must meet the deadline date.

Veteran's Day Weekend Trip to DC

Deadline: Sunday, 19 October, midnight.

The trip will depart the trailer on Saturday, November 8 at 0700 and we plan to return on the evening of Tuesday, November 11th. We will be lodged at Bolling AFB and spend a full day at the USMC Museum, Quantico, VA and the NASM Annex-Dulles. If also plan to visit the NSA Museum, and either the Ordnance Museum, Aberdeen, MD or the Air Mobility Museum at Dover AFB, time permitting.

An Air Force Association Grant covers transportation. Lodging will be \$20/night for three nights. Estimated cost is \$100-\$125.

Numbers are limited to the carrying capacity of the vehicle. Participation may be limited. We regret that no female Cadets can participate since we will not have a female Officer on this trip.

If you wish to go, send me your full name, address, CAP ID number, and social security number. We must secure lodging at Bolling and get or AF Liaison Officer to cut orders so we will require all of that information.

CADET MEETING MINUTES 14 OCT, 2008

Lt Scanell called the Squadron to attention and led them in the Pledge of Allegiance and the Cadet Oath.

Maj Bourque conducted PT testing.

Capt Rocketto reminded the Squadron that today is the 61st anniversary of the breaking of the sound barrier by Chuck Yeager flying the Bell XS-1.

Currently, the Mar Phoenix explorer is examining saline deposits on Mars with the hope that the information gleaned will reveal more details about Martian water formations. Phoenix is in the fifth month of a mission originally planned to last three months. However, the onset of the Martian winter and the concomitant reduction in the solar energy which powers the vehicle will soon end the project.

The USAF reports that the 41st Expeditionary Electronic Combat Squadron flying EC-130H Compass Call Hercules has accumulated 10,000 hours of combat flying in Afghanistan. The Squadron is tasked with the interception and disruption of enemy communications.

SAFETY MEETING

The Senior and Cadet components met in concert on 14 October to discuss safety issues. Capt Noniewicz, the Squadron Safety Officer put together a program which touched on a number of critical issues. He opened the meeting with the CAP Safety Pledge.

SM Madore, a licensed EMT, explained the first aid treatments for bleeding, fractures of the extremities, and impalement. The three primary types of bleeding were described and appropriate actions were explained. A demonstration of splinting of the forearm was made.

Maj Bourque, our Ground Team Leader gave an overview of the steps and precautions necessary to undertake a mission: obtain a weather report and information on the incident which precipitated the mission, dress appropriately, consider terrain, animal, and vegetable hazards, carry necessary materials and supplies for navigation, sustenance, and make due allowances for hazards at the crash site.

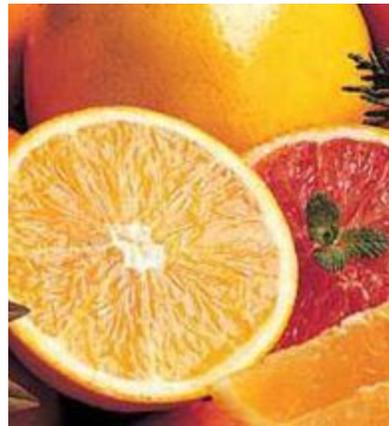
At this point, the Cadets were dismissed for other activities and special topics pertaining to aviation were discussed.

LtCol Wisehart led a discussion on personal safety minimums and the go-no go decision. The Tactical Risk Management Matrix and the "I'm Safe" checklist were reviewed. Officers were reminded that most accidents are the result of a chain of circumstances, a chain which can be broken if one considers personal factors, aircraft conditions and performance, weather, and the nature of the mission when making a go-no go decision.

Maj Neilson demonstrated key items which might be carried for personal survival. These items included signaling devices, fire starters, knives, personal flotation devices, and first aid materials. The care of the *Nomex* in the flight suit was discussed.

Captain Noniewicz concluded the session by reviewing weight and balance and evaluation of the data in the aircraft flight manuals.

CITRUS FRUIT FUND RAISER

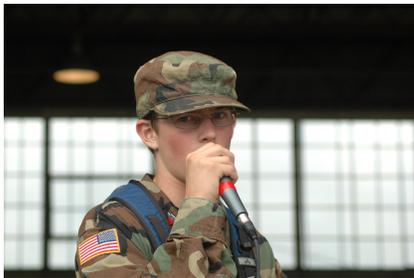


The material for the fund raising drive has been distributed to any member at the last two meetings. You are all urged to do your utmost to make this event a success. If you need advice on selling or more invoices, contact Capt Rocketto

USCGA LECTURE

Cadet Andrew Molinari and Capt Rocketto attended the lecture on planetary formation at the Coast Guard Academy on Thursday last. Prof. William Herbst of Wesleyan explained research which sheds light on the formation of planetary systems.

The research focused on the strange behavior of a star, KH 15D in the constellation *Monoceros*. The object has a peculiar 48 day fluctuation in brightness. Prof. Herbst explained the process by which it was discovered that KH 15D was a double star system surrounded by a disc of one millimeter sized particles. The variability in light resulted from the periodic occultations which occurred whenever one of the orbiting stars passed behind the disc of solid particles. These particles are akin to the one mm sized particles found in rocky meteorites. These particles have been dated and they are some of the oldest matter known, remnants of the formation of our solar system. The importance of this discovery is that we now have some insight into the early stages of the formation of a planetary system.



Cadet Andrew Molinari

Cadet Molinari asked three pertinent and well formed questions and is commended for his spirited participation in the after lecture question and answer session

OLD RHINEBECK TRIP

Four members of TRCS joined 19 CAP members from Stratford, East Granby, and Hartford at the Old Rhinebeck Aerodrome in New York.

The Thames River contingent consisted of Maj Bourque, Capt Rocketto, Chief Molinari, and Cadet Schlauder.

Old Rhinebeck is most noted for its weekend airshows which feature original aircraft and replicas from the early days, World War I, and the barnstormer era. They also maintain a four building museum which houses about two dozen aircraft on static display and a variety of engines and artifacts.



Cadets Schlauder and Molinari Join Other Cadets for the Airshow.



SPAD in Flight

Fokker Climbs Out



Mr. King "Curries" His DeHavilland Tiger Moth

SQUADRON CLOTHING FOR SALE

We have Squadron marked hats and tee shirts available for sale at \$10 each. Contact Capt Rocketto if you are interested.

