



Mission for America

*Semper vigilans!
Semper volans!*

The Coastwatcher

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

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

Vol. II No. 6

22 February, 2008

SCHEDULE OF COMING EVENTS

February

26 TUE BDU/Grasso Tech Computer Room

March

04 TUE PT
08-SAT Rocket Building 0900-Noon
11 TUE BDU-Commander's Call
18 TUE Blues/USCGA Lecture
25 TUE BDU

Long Term Planning

12 APR-SAT-SAREX
19 APR-CSRRA High Power Rifle Clinic
26 APR-SAT Wing Convention
28 APR-5 May-USAF Graded Training Event
10 May-SAT-ACUT
21 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

SEAMSTRESS SERVICES

Betty Allard on Fitch Hill Road in Montville offers seamstress services. The quality of her work is excellent and her prices are reasonable. She charges \$2/patch and \$8 to alter slacks. She may be contacted at 848-0894.

CADET MEETING MINUTES

19 February, 2008

Capt. Bourque discussed the issue of space debris.

Lt. Wojtcuk led a moral leadership seminar on the issue of failure and its role in future successes.

Capt Rocketto announced the total solar eclipse which will occur on the 20th and encouraged Cadets to observe the event.

The Cadets were informed about upcoming events and opportunities including the aviation art stamp contest, the summer encampment possibilities, the planned trip to the National Air and Space Museum, and the future of the rifle marksmanship program.

C/MSGT Michael Molinari was honored as our first "Cadet of the Cycle." He was presented with a compass as a prize.



C/MSgt Molinari displays his new compass

Cadet George Barberan won the last Coastwatcher contest with Cadet Dougherty a very close second.

Cadet Shawn East received the Red Membership Ribbon.

Cadet Brohinsky received his Rickenbacker Ribbon and promotion to Cadet Staff Sergeant.



Col Kinch congratulates Staff Sergeant Brohinsky

USCGA LECTURE

Cadets Barberan and Montgomery and Capt Rocketto attended the USCGA lecture by Dr. Phillip Richardson. Dr. Richardson spoke about his research which investigated the interactions between the Indian Ocean Agulhas Current and the South Atlantic's Benguela Current in the vicinity of the Cape of Good Hope. His team's research revealed new information about the formation of vortex rings due to the interaction and may be applicable to gain a better understanding of the heat transfer between polar and equatorial regions.

The next lecture is scheduled for 18 March. Dr. Seth Shostak of the SETI Institute will consider the question "When will we discover extraterrestrials?"

AFA GRANT/NASM FIELD TRIP

Capt Rocketto announced that the Air Force Association has awarded the Squadron a \$250 grant to assist us in our planned trip to the National Air and Space Museum and the new US Marine Corps Museum.

At the present time, we are considering leaving on Monday 14 April and returning on Friday 18 April. Capt Rocketto is investigating the possibility of obtaining billeting at a military base.

All Cadets who are interested should inform their parents. More information will be forthcoming as it becomes available.\

GRASSO TECH COMPUTER LABORATORY

Cadets should plan to complete their OpSec requirements and take the ES 116/117 test at our next meeting on 26 February. We will be going to Grasso Regional Technical School to use their computer facilities.

COMMANDER'S CALL 19 FEBRUARY, 2008

Col Kinch announced changes in Wing administration.

Officers were informed about the April 12th Pre-Evaluation Exercise for the Wing.

We no longer maintain a post office box. All mail should be addressed to Thames River Composite Squadron, 3 Bluebird Dr., Gales Ferry, CT, 06335-1902

The Wing anticipates CT State funding at the \$50,000 level for the next fiscal year. A legislative initiative may also move our oversight group from Public Safety to the Military Department.

We are holding an Officer's Dinner at the S&P Oyster House in Mystic on 29 February. Spouses are invited. Contact Paul Noniewicz if you wish to attend.

Life jackets no longer need be donned by officers for flights departing or arriving at GON. Overwater flights and Cadet flights will still require jackets to be worn.

Capt Noniewicz presented a safety briefing on the concept of patience. The thrust of his presentation is that one must avoid precipitous decisions based upon time pressures. Adherence to standardized procedures and prudent decision making are prime requisites for safe flight.

FNRA GRANT

Captain Rocketto announced that the Squadron has been awarded a \$710 grant from the Connecticut Friends of the National Rifle Association which will be used to continue the Wing-wide Rifle Safety and Marksmanship program.

Thames River Cadets can expect to receive their next opportunity to shoot in April,

WING WIDE TRAINING EXERCISE

Six Squadron officers attended the CTWG training exercise on Saturday, 16 February. Majors Neilson and DeAndrade and Capt Noniewicz served as part of the leadership and instructional cadre. Capt Rocketto and Lts Heard attended the instruction on the new Satellite Data Information System (SDIS) and Lt Mariano received observer training.

GROUND OBSERVER CORPS REDUX

Our mystery aircraft is pictured below. An example is on view at the New England Air Museum.



Cadets should email Capt Rocketto with the correct identification and answer the following five questions.

1. What is the full name of the aircraft?
2. Where was the company located that built the mystery aircraft?
3. What was the name of the chief designer of the aircraft?
4. In September of 1938, the month in which Germany invaded Poland and started WWII in Europe, the company which produced this aircraft changed its name. What was the original name and what was the new name of the company?
5. Although the aircraft has an official name assigned, what was its nickname?

MEMORIES OF MARCH'S PAST

01/1912-Capt. Albert Berry makes the first successful parachute drop from an aircraft at St. Louis.

02/1952-First Flight of Piper PA-23 Twin Stinson, predecessor of the Apache and Aztec.

03/1959-Pioneer 4, the first U.S. solar orbiter is successfully launched.

04/1936-L.Z. 129, Hindenburg, launched and flown at Friedrichshafen under command of Dr. Hugo Eckner.

05/1913-The 1st Aero Squadron, U.S. Army's first aviation unit, is organized.

06/1918-First Flight of Curtiss-Sperry Flying Bomb, predecessor of the cruise missile and UAV.

07/1963-First Flight of Hughes OH-6.

08/1910-Baroness Raymonde de Laroche is first woman to be issued pilot's license.

09/1949-First Flight of the Avro Shackleton, maritime patrol and anti-submarine aircraft.

10/1948-Herbert H. Hoover, NACA test pilot flying Bell X-1, becomes first civilian to exceed speed of sound.

11/1933-U. S. Navy airship Macon, ZRS-5, christened by Mrs. William A. Moffett.

12/1966-Sir Sidney Camm, designer of Hawker Hurricane and Kestrel, forerunner of Harrier, goes west.

13/1959-Naval Research Laboratory's Aerobee-Hi rocket obtains first UV photographs of the sun.

14/1945-Biefeld Viaduct becomes first target for Barnes Wallis's 22,000 lb Grand Slam bomb.

15/1916-1st Aero Squadron, under Capt. Benjamin Foulois, joins Pershing's punitive expedition into Mexico in pursuit of Pancho Villa.

16/1966-Neil Armstrong and David Scott successfully dock Gemini 8 with Agena module.

17/1947-First Flight of North American XB-45 Tornado, the first U.S. production jet bomber.

18/1945-First Flight of Douglas XBT2D-1, prototype of the classic A-1 Skyraider.

19/1989-First Flight of Bell-Boeing V-22 Osprey.

20/1922-U.S.S. Langley, CV-1, is commissioned at Norfolk, Virginia.

21/1916-*Escadrille Americaine*, forerunner to Lafayette Escadrille, formed in France.

22/1948-First rocket tested at Weapons Research Establishment, Woomera, Australia.

23/1964-Gus Grissom and John Young fly first U.S two man spaceship, Gemini 3, into orbit.

24/1961-August Piccard, pioneer in high altitude ballooning and deep diving submersibles, goes west.

25/1955-First Flight of the Vought XF8U-1 Crusader.

26/1932-First Flight of the Consolidated XP2Y-1 Admiral.

27/1968-Col. Yuri Gagarin goes west in crash of MiG-15 near Moscow.

28/1941-Eagle Squadron becomes fully operational.

29/1958-Clyde Pangborn, who with Hugh Herndon, crewed first non-stop flight from Japan to the United States, goes west.

30/1937-Flying a Sikorsky S-42, Capt. E.C. Musick and crew complete survey flight for Pan American from Pago Pago, American Samoa to Auckland, N.Z.

31/1912-The week-long world's hydroplane competition ends in Monaco.

COMMANDER'S CUP ROCKETRY CONTEST RULES OF ENGAGEMENT

The contest will be conducted in two parts. Launching is scheduled for 21 June. However, we must have our "historical rocket ready for judging at the Wing Conference on 26 April.

Each Squadron may enter three rockets. One will be of historical importance and will be judged on its construction, adherence to historical detail, and a one page essay on why it was selected.

The second rocket must be "scratch built." It must be powered by a B6-4 engine, have a minimum height of 16 inches, a minimum of four fins, parachute recovery, and decorated with a squadron theme.

The third rocket must be constructed by a Cadet who is new to the program, did not compete in 2007, and has not completed the 2nd phase (Titan) of the rocketry program as of 31 December, 2007. The rocket will be painted with a Civil Air Patrol theme of the participant's choice.

Capt Rocketto is organizing the materials for the contest and a rocket building session is scheduled for Saturday, 08 March from 0900 to noon.

CONTESTS AT THE WING CONFERENCE

There will be a number of contests at the Wing Conference on 26 April. We are expected to present a table-top display based on the history of rocketry. We will also do a safety display.

A written test based on the materials in the rocketry program will be offered. It will be timed but will be taken by a *group* chosen by the squadron.

In addition, there will be a speech contest and a drill contest