



Missions for America

*Semper vigilans!*  
*Semper volans!*

## The Coastwatcher

Newsletter of the Thames River Composite  
Squadron  
GON

Connecticut Wing  
Civil Air Patrol

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

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### SCHEDULE OF COMING EVENTS

#### MAY

16 MAY-Westover Trip  
19 MAY-(Blues)-Aircrew Training/Mod 3 Class  
26 MAY-Aerospace Seminar-TBA

#### FOR FUTURE PLANNING

20 JUN-Rocketry Contest  
27-28 JUN-RING Air Show-Quonset, RI  
4-11 JUL-CTWG Cadet Encampment  
10-18 JUL-NER Staff College  
19-30 JUL-NER Cadet Academy  
16-17 OCT-CTWG Conference and Cadet Ball

### CADET MEETING MINUTES

12 May, 2009

The meeting was called to order by C/2Lt Scannell. For the first time, drill was held on the dedicated hardtop near the airport terminal building.

Cadets continued work on the construction of rockets for the 20 July contest.

Cadet Andrew Molinari was awarded a recruiting ribbon.

Cadet Timothy Plourde was awarded the coveted National Rifle Association Distinguished Expert Badge. He is the third member of the CTWG to achieve this honor, the highest level of rifle proficiency in the NRA junior smallbore program.



*Cadet Plourde Received Distinguished Expert Badge from Col Kinch*

Capt Rocketto discussed the current plight of general aviation as it has been effected by the economic recession and unfavorable publicity.

This date marks the 83rd anniversary of the first flight of the semirigid airship *Norge* over the North Pole. Capt Rocketto noted the controversy about whom achieved this feat first, Richard Byrd and Floyd Bennett or the crew of the *Norge*. Expedition leader aboard the *Norge* was Roald Amundsen, first to reach the South Pole.



*The Airship Norge, Courtesy of Fiddler's Green*

## THAMES RIVER CAPTURES RIFLE CROWN

The Thames River Composite Squadron riflemen captured the Wing championship, firing a score of 538 narrowly defeating the Meriden Silver City Squadron which carded 526 points. Hartford's Royal Charter Squadron placed third with a 497.

Thames River Cadet Airman First Class Timothy Plourde was high gun with a score of 196. Cadet Chief Master Sergeant George Planeta of the Silver City Squadron earned second place honors with a 195. Airman First Class Andrew Molinari placed third with a 186.

Also shooting for Thames River were C/SMSGts George Abbiati and Shawn East and C/Amn Michael Herzog.



*TRCS Rifle Team*

## COMMANDER'S CALL

Col Kinch convened the meeting at 1900. He reported plans to bring the GA-8 Airvan to Connecticut in June for training aircrews and noted that anyone interested in operating the hyper-spectral scanning system must first take the online course and meet certain other requirements.



*Gippsland GA-8 Airvan*

Col Kinch reminded the Officers that the CAP ground handling program must be completed by all aircrews and operations personnel and that the CAP EO course is also required. Both may be found online at eServices.

Officers were also reminded to check the bulletin board for upcoming expiration dates on medicals and emergency service credentials.

Two volunteers with home repair experience are needed to peruse the list of spring building maintenance problems and develop a list of material needed to complete the projects. A field day date for building maintenance will then be set.

Officers were reminded that June 30th is the date upon which we must face the Cadets in a bowling competition.

Capt Noniewicz conducted a safety briefing covering three main issues. Flight training should include review and practice for unusual situations. The onset of hot weather increases the danger of dehydration. Signs of dehydration were discussed and aircrews were cautioned to consume sufficient water, especially on the long LISP missions. Finally, mention was made of road flooding dangers and the insidious effects of water covered road surfaces.

Capt Rocketto recalled that the date marked the anniversary of the flight of the semi-rigid airship Norge over the North Pole.

