



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

JUNE

30 JUN-Cadet/Senior Bowling

JULY

07 JUL-PT

09 JUL-Garratt World Flight Lecture-WST

10-18 JUL-NER Staff College-McGuire

14 JUL-BLUES

21 JUL-BDUS

28 JUL-BDUS

19-30 JUL-NER Cadet Academy

FOR FUTURE PLANNING

05-08 AUG-AEO Academy-Wright-Patterson

14-22 AUG-CTWG Cadet Encampment

12 SEP-Wings Over Westerly

16-17 OCT-CTWG Conference and Cadet Ball

CADET MEETING MINUTES

23 June, 2009

2dLt Godfrey drilled the Cadets in basic marching.

C/2dLt Scannell led opening ceremonies.

The current events and history section is reviewed in a separate article.

Maj Rocketto continued the *Aerospace Dimensions* tutorial on the air environment. A demonstration and discussion of the Coriolis Effect was offered and meteorological instrumentation: thermometers, barometers, anemometers, psychrometers, and radiosondes were examined and discussed.

Col Kinch continued his presentation on customs and courtesies of the USAF which included rendering honors to the National Ensign and superior officers, methods of addressing service members and formation saluting conventions.

TRCS WINS COMMANDER'S CUP IN ANNUAL ROCKETRY COMPETITION

On Saturday, June 20th, the Cadets of the Thames River Composite Squadron based at Groton-New London Airport took first place in the annual competition for the Commander's Cup, the standard for excellence in model rocket construction and flight. This was the second consecutive year for a TRCS victory. The event was held at the Gadbois Farm in Salem and was attended by five squadrons of the Connecticut Wing, Civil Air Patrol. CATO, the statewide organization of amateur rocket enthusiasts supervised the contest.



The Winning Team (front) Cadets Orlando, Abi Wojtcuk and Johnson, (rear) Scannell, Lt Wojtcuk, team adviser, Abbiati, Dougherty, and Lexie Wojtuck holding Snoopy.

The Cadets had to enter rockets in three categories, novice, historical, and scratch-built which were judged on construction, painting, decoration, novelty, and flight. The kit built novice rockets had to exhibit squadron markings. The historical category required an essay explaining the importance of that vehicle in the history of rocketry. The scratch-built rocket had to be based on a theme from mythology or comic characters.

Our historical rocket entries included the North American X-15, the Convair Atlas Booster System, and the Raytheon Patriot air defense missile. A Lockheed SR-71, not an actual rocket craft, was also allowed into the competition.



Col Kinch Ponders Some of Our Entries!

Our scratch built entries were "Snoopy Goes Ballistic" and from the usual suspects who shall go unnamed, an "out-of-the-box" two part vehicle in which a mother ship, which in no way resembled a Boeing B-29, air launched a fair representation of a Bell X-1. Results were similar to last year's "Groton Monument" entry proving that eccentric vision outruns engineering practice and as Hegel pointed out, there is a large gulf between "wishing" and "willing." Nonetheless, that entry takes the palm for audacity.



CATO Safety Officers Discuss Issues Weight and Balance Issues with Cadet Abbiati as Lt Scannell Whispers "We Told You So!"

The winning team members were C/2d Lt. Jonathan Scannell, C/CMSgt Alexis Wojtcuk, C/SMSgt. Shawn East and Abigail Wojtcuk, C/MSgt George Abbiati, C/SrA Patrick Dougherty, and C/Amn Jennifer Johnson and Annabelle Orlando .

SENIOR TRAINING **23 JUNE, 2009**

Lt Farley continued Scanner Training. The topics discussed were strategies to offset the physiological effects of altitude, common search terms, recording observations during damage assessment missions, and crew resource management.

TRCS OFFICERS PREPARE FOR BOWLING FORAY AGAINST CADETS

The TRCS Senior Bowling Coach dispatched an aircrew into the Hudson River Valley Thunderstorm breeding region to recruit Henrik Hudson and members of his crew for our team. Hudson commanded the *The Half Moon*, in the first decade of the 17th century and explored the river now named for him. A popular recreation was bowling and since then, residents of The Valley have said that the thunderclaps were really the sound of the balls cast by the Half Moon's crew striking pins. Their four centuries of experience ought to counterbalance Cadet youth and exuberance.

A diplomatic message was also forwarded to the British Naval Attache in the Washington Embassy requesting the detachment of Sir Walter Raleigh and his Captains to Groton next Tuesday. As the Spanish Armada approached the coast of Britain in 1588, Raleigh and his Officers relaxed on shore, bowled, and, between frames, planned tactics. Coolness in a moment of crisis and the appropriate utilization of time are commodities which Raleigh and his mates will bring to our competition.

Obviously, the Senior Bowling Team will spare naught in their effort to strike at the Cadet Bowling Team.

EAGLES OPEN HOUSE-ETHOS TRIPLEHEADER

Col Kinch, Capt Noniewicz, and Lt Farley pulled off a triple header over the weekend when they attended the Stratford Eagles Open House at Sikorsky Field in Bridgeport. They brought down our aircraft for display and answered many questions posed by visitors about CAP and its mission.

In addition, they performed ETHOS survey photography on both legs of the flight and spent time analyzing the data obtained.

SENIOR INFORMATION REQUESTED

Senior members are requested to submit the following information to the Professional Development Officer, Major Rocketto at srocketto@aquilasys.com.

1. A list of all LISP and actual SAR missions flown or participated in as a ground team member. If possible, supply the date, mission number, and accompanying personnel. Do not submit training, transport, or CD missions.
2. New members are requested to submit the types of aircraft on which they have served as official crew members in any capacity.

CURRENT EVENTS AND HISTORY

Maj Rocketto offered a short current events presentation on a unlikely star at the Paris Airshow, the Air Tractor AT-802 Counter Insurgency Aircraft. The ungainly 802 is an evolution of Leland Snow's original and eminently successful design for an agricultural applicator.

Snow, almost four decades old, and still active in the firm which he founded, designed his first aircraft while still an engineering student. The present company, Air Tractor, Inc., is one of the bright spots in today's weak economy, with a full card of backorders.

The new model of the 802 is outfitted as a counter-insurgency aircraft and has already seen action against South American narcotics producers. Its virtues are its low price, its maintainability, and its robust construction.

Air Tractors are historically employed by agriculture for aerial application of seeds, fertilizer, and chemical agents for pest control and by many governments for aerial fire fighting. Snow outdoes Henry Ford who used to brag that you could have any color Model A you wished, as long as it was black. He offers two color

schemes. The agricultural Air Tractor is offered in yellow with black trim and the fire fighter is the traditional red. One can only guess at the livery in which the COIN Air Tractor will be offered.

The Squadron also celebrated the first flight of the Douglas A4D Skyhawk, one of the many successful designs by the prolific Ed Heineman. Heineman was also responsible for the Douglas produced SBD Dauntless, A-20 Havoc, A-26 Invader, A-1 Skyraider, A-3 Skywarrior, F3D Skynight, F5D Skyray, and the D558 Skystreak and Skyrocket research aircraft.

GROUND OBSERVER CORPS REDUX

A PANTHEON OF HEINEMAN ATTACK AIRCRAFT



The A-20 Havoc Also Flew as the P-70 Night Fighter



The A-26A Counter-Invader, sometimes known as a B-26K and not to be confused with the Martin Marauder, displays Air Commando Livery at Hurlburt Field, This plane is most likely an On Mark Conversion.



A Skyraider's Folded Wings Reveal Not Only Its Naval Heritage |But Also Six Hard-points On Its Port Wing. It's Early AD Designation Led to Its Popular Name, Spad.



A Late Model A-4N With Its Characteristic Hump Which Carried Electronics Sits Poised On the Ramp. Heineman's Genius Produced a Light Weight Aircraft Under Cost and Meeting or Surpassing Design Specifications. Its Diminutive Size Led to Its Nickname, Tinker-Toy.



An EA-3B at the National Security Agency's Vigilance Park Honors Aviators Who Died Collecting Signal Intelligence. A Similar USAF Version is the B-66 Destroyer.

