



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

Vol. III No. 3

22 January, 2009

## SCHEDULE OF COMING EVENTS

### JANUARY

27 JAN-BDU-Cadet ES Training

### FEBRUARY

03 FEB-BDU-Commander;s Call  
04 FEB-Wing Squadron Commander;s Call-CAC  
10 FEB-BDU  
17 FEB-Blues  
18 FEB-Wing Staff Meeting  
24 FEB-BDU-First Joint Officer-Cadet A/S  
Education Lecture 1900 hours

### FOR FUTURE PLANNING

TBA APR-Wing DC Trip ((between 10-17 April)  
SPRING-TBA-WESTOVER TRIP  
TBA-APR, MAY, or JUN-Rocketry Contest  
TBA-MAY or JUN-Wing Rifle Tournament  
4-11 JUL-CTWG Encampment  
10-18 JUL-NER Staff College  
16-17 OCT-CTWG Conference

## CADET MEETING MINUTES 20 JAN, 2009

C/2Lt Scannell called the Squadron to attention and led them in the Cadet Oath and the Pledge of Allegiance. A uniform inspection was held.

Capt Rocketto led a discussion about the aerospace education program with special emphasis on the need to study and learn material from the modules in the *Aerospace Dimensions* text.

Capt Rocketto then led a session in which *Module 3. Air Environment*, served as an example of how one might efficiently study the subject matter. The importance of the sections entitled "Learning Outcomes," "Important Terms (and bold-faced words) ," "Questions," "Things to Remember"and "Review Questions" were explained and suggestions were offered on how to utilize them to guide the reading of the text.

Cadets were also advised to go to the following website:

<http://www.capwyhq.org/drupal-5.0/?q=node/296>

This is a link to the Wyoming Wing website which brings up the Canandigua Composite Squadron, New York, aerospace education and leadership practice quizzes. Cadets should do enough of these practice quizzes to feel confident that they have mastered the material. Cadets should plan on passing at least three modules per year.

Promotions and awards were issued. Cadet Annabelle Orlando was promoted to Cadet Airman First Class. Cadet Michael Herzog was awarded the NRA Marksman Rifle Qualification Badge. Captain Rocketto received the A. Scott Crossfield Aerospace Education Master Educator Award.



*Col Kinch and Maj Bourque Pin New Insignia on Cadet Orlando*



*Cadet Herzog Congratulated by Col Kinch After Receiving his Rifle Marksmanship Medal*

Captain Rocketto noted that today was the 72nd anniversary of the flight during which Howard Hughes set a new transcontinental record in the H-1, averaging 332 mph.



*The H-1, now at National Air and Space Museum, Displays its Sleek Lines*

Tomorrow marks the 35th anniversary of the first flight of the YF-16. On 20 January, Lockheed-Martin rolled YF-16 #1 onto the concrete at Edwards Air Force Base for a high speed taxi test.

As test pilot Phil Oestreicher accelerated the aircraft down the runway to its 130 kt test speed and 10 degree nose up angle, two unforeseen problems arose. First, the roll rate was too high for the stick force input. Second, an incorrectly wired exhaust nozzle control allowed the nozzle to close and essentially double the thrust. A pilot induced oscillation resulted and the aircraft continued to accelerate even though thrust was set to idle. The missile on the left wing touched the ground as did the right horizontal tail section. The aircraft bounced on its main gear and was on the thin edge of departing from controlled flight. Oestreicher, recognizing the seriousness of the problem, elected to take off, evaluate the situation, regain control and then returned for a safe landing. A video of this unexpected first flight and of a subsequent gear landing may be found at <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9CrY8gsu7do>.

### **REVISED SCHEDULE** **AEROSPACE EDUCATION LECTURE** **SERIES**

Squadron staff have been working on a new training schedule which will be finalized and published in the near future. One feature will be a bi-monthly lecture or activity on some topic in Aerospace Education. The initial meeting will be next Tuesday and this will be a joint Officer-Cadet activity commencing at 1900. Uniform is BDUs.

### **SQUADRON TEE SHIRTS FOR SALE**

The Squadron has black tee shirts with the squadron insignia on the left breast. These are suitable for wear with BDUs, flight suits or PT dress. Cost is \$10 each. Contact Col Kinch or Capt Rocketto if you wish to purchase some of them.

### **SUGGESTIONS SOLICITED**

The Coastwatcher is interested in receiving suggestions from the readership about how the newsletter may better serve the CAP community. Post your comments to [srocketto@aquilasys.com](mailto:srocketto@aquilasys.com)

## GALES FERRY FIRE DEPARTMENT EMERGENCY SERVICES OPEN HOUSE

Thames River Composite Squadron was one of eight organizations which participated in the the Emergency Services Open House at the Gales Ferry Fire Department on Saturday, the 17th of January.



*Cadets Lexie Wojtcuk and Michael Molinari and Maj Bourque Stand at Our Emergency Services Display.*

Maj Bourque and Cadets Michael Molinari and Lexie Wojtcuk set up a display which presented key aspects of our search and rescue mission. The display consisted of a presentation board illustrating key elements of the ARCHER system, and ground search and rescue equipment. During the event, we not only answered many questions about our mission and passed out informational packets but also demonstrated radio coordination with CAP flight 604 which was engaged in a search and rescue exercise at the same time.

## AIRBORNE SCANNER AND OBSERVER TRAINING

LtCol Wisehart, Maj Neilson, and Capt Noniewicz, LtCol Doucette, and Lt Farley, supervised by LtCol Kinch, flew five sorties on 17 January training both aircrews and ground communicators.

## AIRCREW GROUND TRAINING 20 JAN 2009

Capt Noniewicz conducted an aircrew training session for Scanners and Observers. The session covered important aspects of flight line and air crew operations including CAP call signs, FAA flight plans and the role of the FRO, aircraft audio panels, CAP FM aircraft radios, Flight Service Stations, and ATIS, AWOS and ASOS weather services.

## WHICH AIRCRAFT HAVE YOU CREWED

The Coastwatcher is compiling a list of all aircraft in which Squadron members have served as crew, in any capacity. So far, only seven members have replied but we have a list of over 60 aircraft. Please check you logs and submit your list to [srocketto@aquilasys.com](mailto:srocketto@aquilasys.com).

## CAP OLD TYPES



*Fairchild F-24*



*Stinson 10*



*Piper L-4*