



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

NOVEMBER

20-22 NOV-Danielson November Bivouac
24 NOV-Emergency Services BCUT-BDUs
27-28 NOV-Orientation Flights (Tentative)
27-28 NOV-Senior Flight Training (Tentative)
28 NOV-TRCS Rifle Training

FOR FUTURE PLANNING

01 DEC-BDUs
02 DEC-CTWG Holiday Party
08 DEC-Blues-Character Development/Ldrship
15 DEC-TRCS SUI Inspection/IG Visit
18-20 DEC-Danielson Bivouac
22 DEC-Squadron Holiday Party
29 DEC-NO MEETING

CADET MEETING MINUTES

17 NOVEMBER, 2009

Lt Farley and the Cadets went over the material in Module Six, Spacecraft.

Lt Wojtcuk conducted an informal session on CAP knowledge pertaining to leadership. The Cadets formed two teams and attempted to answer the questions which were posed in the same format as the game show, *Jeopardy*.

Maj Rocketto distributed CAP "Liability Release Forms" to the Cadets. Any Cadet wishing to participate in the rifle safety and marksmanship program on 28 November must have their parents fill out and sign one of these forms.

Maj Rocketto explained the prerequisites which a Cadet needs to solo an aircraft and work towards a private pilot certificate. A letter is being prepared for parents to explain the details of what must be done, what the Squadron proposes as a training program, and the cost.

IMPORTANT WEBSITE ADDRESSES

The Squadron website is at:
<http://cap-ct075.com/default.aspx>.

It contains portals to the **ES 116** test and a wealth of important information.

If you plan on taking an **aerospace test or a leadership test**, first go to:
<http://www.capwyhq.org/drupal-5.0/?q=node/296>.

This site contains an excellent set of practice tests with answers supplied.

If you need **OpSec Training**, go to
<https://tests.cap.af.mil/opsec>.

CURRENT EVENTS

Atlantis has been successfully launched and is carrying six crew member and 15,000 kg of supplies to the International Space Station. The Shuttle System will be used five more times before decommissioning.

NASA's *Dawn* space probe has entered the asteroid belt on an eight year mission whose main purpose will be to examine Vesta and Ceres, two of the larger bodies in the swarm of objects between Mars and Jupiter. The spacecraft body is about six feet long but its solar panels extend out to 60 feet.

In order to maneuver, *Dawn* uses an ion propulsion system in which electrical charges accelerate ions from a xenon fuel supply. The thrust is miniscule, about 0.004 pounds. This means that it would take about four days to accelerate from zero to 60 miles per hour. However, the fuel is only consumed at the rate of about one half pound per day. This means that the 1000 lb of fuel will last for about six years. So although the acceleration is low, by using continuous thrust, the vehicle can achieve very high speeds.

HOLIDAY CHEER FOR OUR TROOPS

The Squadron is putting together holiday baskets to ship to some troops stationed in a combat zone. Several Cadets know of military personnel to whom we might send these gifts.

For the next two weeks, the Squadron is seeking donations for the gift packets. The following are some of the items which are recommended: socks, foot powder, insect repellent, baby wipes, razors and shaving cream, tooth brushes and tooth paste, beef jerky, power bars, hard candy, chewing gum, microwavable popcorn, powdered presweetened drink mix, cookies, dried fruit, nuts, DVDs, CDs, paperback books, and eye drops. Items should be non perishable.

Bring your donations to the Squadron over the next two weeks and the articles will be packaged and shipped in time for receipt during the holiday season.

SCANNELL EAGLE SCOUT INVESTITURE



C/2Lt Jonathan A. Scannell, Thames River Composite Squadron Cadet Commander, received his Eagle Scout Badge at a Court of Honor held at St. Mary's Church, Jewett City, on 14 November.

Lt Scannell achieved the primary rank of Tiger Cub in September of 1998 and Tenderfoot Scout in 2003. On the path to Eagle, he earned 32 merit badges, became Senior Patrol Leader of Troop 20, attended national and international jamborees, and was named a Brotherhood Member of the Order of the Arrow.

The ceremony was attended by Majs Bourque and Rocketto, Lt Wojtcuk, and Cadets Alexis and Abigail Wojtcuk, Brendan Flynn, and Kyle Hall. Former Thames River Cadet Jesse Brohinsky sang "The Eagle's Flight" accompanied by his father William Brohinsky on guitar.

