



Missions for America

Semper vigilans!
Semper volans!

CADET MEETING MINUTES

13 April, 2010

The Cadets planned a debate to be held next week which will examine the social and economic impact of the war on terror.

Lt Wojtcuk reminded the Cadets that membership is not one dimensional but requires active participation in a wide range of Squadron activities.

Cadet Orlando reported on the New York Wing visit to her school on Fishers Island, NY. The NYWG sent an aircraft and several officers to acquaint the students with the CAP program and missions.

C/MSgt Abi Wojtcuk was awarded the Doolittle Achievement Ribbon and promoted to C/SMSgt.

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

April

- 19-23 APR DC Trip #2
- 20 APR BDUs-Cadets-Rocketry/Testing
Seniors-Emergency Services Train.
- 24-25 APR SLS Course-Stratford
- 27 APR BDUs-Cadets-Color Gd/Team Build
Seniors-Duty Briefing-Personnel

For Future Planning

- 07-09 MAY Great Starts Bivouac-Camp Rell
- 15-16 MAY TLC Course-TBD
- TBA-MAY Joint Danielson-TRCS Activity
- 18-26 JUN NESA Camp Atterbury, Indiana
- 24-25 JUL NER SAREX Competition
- 31 JUL-7 AUG CTWG Encampment
- 09 OCT CTWG Olde Rhinebeck Trip (tentative)
- 22-24 OCT CTWG Conference



The newly minted C/SMSgt Abi Wojtcuk uses a telescope to find out if there are General's stars in her future.

Cadet Abbiati renders his first salute as a C/SMSgt.



C/MSgt George Abbiati was awarded the Doolittle Achievement Ribbon and promoted to C/SMSgt.

C/CMSgt Lexie Wojtcuk earned the Mitchell Achievement and was promoted to C/2Lt. A formal presentation of the Mitchell will be held in the near future.

Cadet Abi Wojtcuk reports to Capt Noniewicz for presentation of her new insignia.



C/2Lt Wojtcuk presents new insignia and new responsibilities to C/CMSgt Flynn.

C/SMSgt Brendan Flynn was awarded the Goddard Achievement Ribbon and promoted to C/CMSgt. C/2Lt Lexie Wojtcuk passed the First Sergeant's torch to C/CMSgt Flynn.

Cadets Flynn and VanDevander were commended for their contributions to the future "Favorite Aviation Movie" article.

SENIOR MEETING

13 April, 2010

Commander's Call

Squadron Commander Paul Noniewicz reported on the CTWG Squadron Commander's meeting. A new alert procedure has been established. Credit cards are planned for aircraft refueling. An ETHOS mission is planned for next week and volunteers have been requested. Finally, Wing plans to supply "air cards" which will allow mission scanners to transmit data from the aircraft laptop to the customer immediately upon landing.

Cols Doucette and Kinch reported on a visit to the new US Coast Guard Sector Long Island Sound Command Center in New Haven. The Center is equipped with the latest tracking and observation

equipment. Col Kinch and Col Doucette explained the capabilities of CAP aircraft to support the Coast Guard mission and discussed how the Coast Guard and CAP might better coordinate Long Island Sound SAR activities.

Lt Looney reported that the Cadet trailer was free of mold after the removal of contaminated ceiling sheet rock and insulation. The roof has been repaired and we await another rain storm to check the integrity of the roof. A leak in the supply trailer has also been eliminated. Replacement of sheetrock and insulation will commence in the near future.

Lt Dickinson highlighted key points from the CAP safety newsletter, *The Sentinel*. He then presented a video on the correct procedures to use when positioning aircraft in hangars and on the ramp.

Lt Owens reported on the new website and asked members to take a look at the beta version and email suggestions to him at: spatch709global.net. The new website address is: <http://capct075.web.officelive.com/default.aspx>.

Maj Rocketto reported on current events and aviation history, featured in a separate section of this newsletter.

He reported that we have found a donor for the concrete base for the flagpole and satellite antenna.

NATIONAL EMERGENCY SERVICES ACADEMY



CAP is running two back-to-back sessions of the National Emergency Services Academy in June. Cadets and Officers are invited to participate and train in both air and ground search and rescue specialties.

Courses will be at all levels in Ground Search and Rescue, Incident Command and Staff specialties, and Air Crew positions. Each school runs for one week. Enrollment fee is \$180. CTWG is planning on providing transportation to the Camp Atterbury, Indiana training site.

For more information, interested Cadets and Officers should go to:

<http://nesa.cap.gov/GSAR.htm>.

WORK PARTY

10 April, 2010

Lt Looney led a work party to remove the damaged ceiling tiles from the Cadet trailer. Participating members were LtCols Kinch and Bergey, Mrs. Bergey, Maj Bourque, Capt Noniewicz, Lts Miller, Cadet Van, Mrs. Looney, and Zach Looney.

DANIELSON BENEFIT PASTA DINNER

11 April, 2010

Majs Bourque and Rocketto attended the Danielson Cadet Squadron Benefit Spaghetti Supper at the Pachaug Outing Club. Salad, pasta, meatballs, and sausage were served in abundance by Cadet waiters. Desert was white or chocolate cake. Raffle tickets were held and approximately 25 items ranging from coupons for pizza to a electric winch were offered. An estimated 100 diners participated.

AVIATION CURRENT EVENTS AND HISTORY MILEPOSTS

Current Events

FAA Chided by NTSB on SAR Coordination

The National Transportation Safety Board (NTSB) has recommended that the Federal Aviation (FAA) improves its procedures for

communication and coordination of search and rescue operations in the event of a downed aircraft. Five cases were cited as examples of information possessed by FAA employees were not properly passed to the Air Force Rescue Coordination Center.

History Milestones

17 APR, 1987-Lt Tom McClay, the first US Coast Guard Flight Officer, is assigned duty on USCG Grumman E-2C Hawkeyes flying with Coast Guard Early Warning Squadron One (CGAW-10).



18 APR, 1942

Started eventful mission to Tokyo. Left ship at 10:40 A.M. (G.C.T.) on first bomber take-off in war, 800 miles from first objective with 200 gal shortage of gasoline and increasing 200 miles in distance.

With these words, First Lieutenant Eugene McGurl, Navigator, Aircraft #5 opened his diary account of his part in the Doolittle Raid.



**Crew #5 (40-2283) - l to r,
Lt Eugene F. McGurl, Capt David M.
Jones, Lt Denver V. Truelove,
Lt Rodney R. Wilder, Sgt Joseph W.
Manske**

Crew #5



USAF Museum Display-Doolittle Raid

FLYING UNDER BRIDGES **L'ENVOI**

This week, the editor of *The Coastwatcher* received an advanced uncorrected proof copy of *Fighter Pilot: The Memoirs of Legendary Ace Robin Olds* by Christina Olds and Ed Rasimus. A flamboyant maverick, Olds had a remarkable career as a West Point All-American, triple ace in two wars, outstanding Wing Commander and Commandant of Cadets at the US Air Force Academy.



Scat XXVII at the USAF Museum. Olds named all of his aircraft after a West Point roommate, Scat Davis, denied pilot training due to color blindness. This is the aircraft in which Col Olds and Lt Stephen Croker destroyed two MiG-17s on 20 May, 1967. Lt Croker retired from the USAF as a Lieutenant General.

While still at West Point during World War II, he was enrolled in flight training at Stewart Field, Newburgh, NY. In his words, "One Day Lt Hacker (his instructor) and I got crazy and flew under every bridge on the Hudson from Albany to New York. The aircraft was a Beech AT-10.



Beechcraft AT-10 Wichita

A little later in the book, Olds alludes to an incident concerning Dick Bong who is reputed to have looped around the Golden Gate Bridge. There are references to Bong both admitting to the incident and denying it. It is true, however, that three other pilots flew under the Golden Gate at that time. The culprits were in Lockheed P-38s, the same type of aircraft flown by Bong. Bong earned the Congressional Medal of Honor and finished World War II as the highest scoring US ace with 40 victories.



The Experimental Aircraft Association Museum's restored Lockheed P-38L carries the markings used by Richard Bong.

At the time of the reputed "looping of the Golden Gate," Bong was based at Hamilton Field near San Francisco, a Fourth Air Force Base under the command of Maj. Gen. George Kenny. According to a story in the National Aviation Hall of Fame's website, National Aviation Hall of Fame, Bong was engaged in some low level antics including a low level pass down Market Street. An irate housewife, who was not amused, complained and the complaint reached General Kenny, who may have been amused. Bong was

called to the General's office and received the following orders:

Monday morning you check this address out in Oakland and if the woman has any washing to be hung out on the line, you do it for her. Then you hang around being useful - mowing the lawn or something - and when the clothes are dry, take them off the line and bring them into the house. And don't drop any of them on the ground or you will have to wash them all over again. I want this woman to think we are good for something else besides annoying people. Now get out of here before I get mad and change my mind. That's all!

The list of bridges passed under seems endless. Storey Bridge in Brisbane was violated by Aussies flying Commonwealth Aircraft Corporation Boomerangs, the first fighter built in Australia. The Ballachulish and Isle of Skye spans in Scotland have been subjected to "pass unders."

St. Louis, Missouri, richly endowed in aviation lore, is a favored venue for pilot pranks. The Eads and McKinley Bridges, not to mention the Arch itself have been targeted by flat-hatters. This is entirely fitting. It was St. Louis businessmen who sponsored Lindbergh on his New York to Paris flight and as previously mentioned, Lindbergh, himself, pulled off a low pass under a Columbia River Bridge.

Two other reports have come in. One, from the father of a Cadet relates that, as a youth, he lived near a small airport. In his words, "Between our house and the runway was a set of high tension lines. Planes frequently would fly under these lines.. I remember one surplus P 51 in particular. We got to think that it was no big deal."

Another pilot related that a sport out in Arizona was rat racing, two or three light aircraft in trail, low across the desert and slaloming around the

high tension pylons. He mentioned that this ought be done early in the day, before the onset of turbulence induced by the heated surface of the desert.

Well, this epic has gone on far too long but you have only yourselves to blame for sticking with it to end. But I have been researching the bridges of Madison County. There are eight of them, all covered and all on the National Historic Register: Roseman, Holliwell, Cedar, Cutler-Donahoe, Hogback, and Imes. Hmmm! Now where is my sectional chart and plotter.....?

FAVORITE FLYING MOVIES

The response has been good and the following movies were named as favorites, either over-all or for a good scene or two: *Twelve O'Clock High*, *The Right Stuff*, *The Great Waldo Pepper*, *The Battle of Britain*, *The McConnell Story*, *Flyboys*, *The Sound Barrier*, *The High and the Mighty*, *Airport*, *Airplane*, *Strategic Air Command*, *Tora, Tora, Tora*, *Memphis Belle*, *Top Gun*, *We Were Soldiers*, *The Blue Max*, and *Forever Young*.

Our most distant correspondent, Johan Visschedijk, a noted aviation expert in The Netherlands, has entered his selection but he also recommended that we take a look at a spectacular low level flight by Bö 105 helicopter in a German valley. The web address is:

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=aoWQd8pcvek>



Is this one of the rare Boeing/Carson built Bö 105 Executaire helicopters?

