

Missions for America

Semper vigilans!
Semper volans!



The Coastwatcher

Newsletter of the Thames River Composite Squadron
GON
Connecticut Wing
Civil Air Patrol

<http://capct075.web.officelive.com/default.aspx>

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C/2Lt Flynn, Printer's Devil

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SCHEDULE OF COMING EVENTS

September

07 SEP-Squadron Pictures-Blues-Cadet CD
11 SEP-SAREX
12 SEP-Rifle Marksmanship-Quaker Hill
14 SEP-Cadet PT
15 SEP-Space Shuttle Lecture
21 SEP-Meeting TBD
28 SEP-Meeting TBD

For Future Planning

02 OCT-First Aid Course
10 OCT-CTWG Olde Rhinebeck Trip
22-24 OCT-CTWG Conference
22-24 OCT-NER AEO Conf.- Intrepid A&SM
05-07 NOV-Glider Orientation Weekend
12-14 NOV-NER Conference
TBA-1109 AVCRAD Helicopter Flights

EAA B-17 VISIT

Early Tuesday morning, Thames River Composite Squadron and Experimental Aircraft Association members set up the infrastructure to handle visitors during the stay of the B-17 Flying Fortress *Aluminum Overcast*. Weather was excellent and temperatures reached the mid 90s.



The Aluminum Overcast Departing Runway 23

The TRCS display consisted of an overhead shelter, a table containing CAP informational and recruiting materials and our "Maximum Effort" concession stand from which we sold hamburgers, hot dogs, and soda and informed the public about the role of CAP and our "Mission for America."



Our Booth

Mr. Daniels, Mrs Hall, Keirstin Hall, and Hap Rocketto, our unofficial TRCS auxiliary performed yeoman service setting up the grill and cooking and serving food.

Cadets Paquin, Hall, Ray, and Daniels stood by to assist in any and all duties. LtCol Doucette, Lt Owens, his son Cole, and Maj Bourque contributed time and effort also. Maj Rocketto

took about two dozen interested parties through our C182, explaining the special search and rescue gear which we carry.

The Cadets who attended all received a tour of the aircraft, joined by Cadet Herzog who arrived after school let out.

Wednesday's schedule followed a similar pattern. Maj Bourque ran our concession stand. C/2Lt Flynn's duty station was at the aft door of the B-17 assisting visitors. During lulls in the action, he studied his Latin. Cadets Schultz, Bourque, Bunevich, Schultz, VanDevander, Mrs. Vandevander, and Maj Rocketto rounded out the crew.

Captain Neil Morrison, the B-17 pilot, who flies an MD-11 for UPS, took our Cadets on a walk-around of the Flying Fortress. The Crew Chiefs, Mike Repas and Rich Krikorian also took time to explain some of the mechanical intricacies of aircraft. Repas, a Vietnam vet, learned his trade on a United Airlines apprentice program. Krikorian, retired from the telephone company completed the Connecticut Technical School Systems Airframe and Powerplant course.

A wide range of visitors attended the event. Cadets were able to interact with World War II veterans who landed at the Utah and Omaha beaches on D-Day, a combat engineer with Patton, and a post war ordnance crewman who manned a Navy Martin PBM flying boat.



C/2Lt Flynn says "Arma Virumque Cano."



Cadets Yarning with Vets!

Cadets VanDevander and Bourque at the controls.



Maj Rocketto met Mrs Elsie Nunes, a British war bride, whose husband, Sgt Manuel Nunes, served with he 303rd Bomb Group at Molesworth, the same unit in which Maj Rocketto's uncle served.

At the end of the day, Maj Rocketto was invited to accompany the aircraft to Essex County Airport in New Jersey. The flight took about one hour and followed the coastline, crossing the Hudson at the Tappan Zee. The Major wended his way home in stages: a car to a bus stop, the bus to the Port Authority Terminal in New York, a subway to Grand Central, the Metro North to New Haven, a van to Groton, and his own car back home to Oakdale for a return trip time of six hours.



Captain Morrison expounds on the "greasy wonders" or radial engines and hydraulic systems

OLDE RHINEBECK AERODROME TRIP

A Wing visit to the Olde Rhinebeck Aerodrome is scheduled for Sunday, the 10th of October. Olde Rhinebeck is a veritable flying museum with a wide range of aircraft dating from as early as 1908 and continuing into the early 1930s. The show for Sunday is based on World War I dogfights. In addition, their collection of rare aircraft and artifacts will be on display in a number of buildings on site.

The cost for the trip is \$2 for Cadets and \$15 for Seniors. Food arrangements will be determined, Transportation will be by Squadron Van. A driver is needed if this trip is to take place. Contact Maj Rocketto if you are rated to drive the van and are willing to go.

GLIDER WEEKEND IN VERMONT

05-07 November, 2010

The following Cadets have committed to the Glider Weekend: VanDevander, Herzog, Daniels, Chartier, Flynn, Paquin, Hall, Ray, and Bunevich.

If you are on this list and do not plan on going, let me know immediately.

The cost is \$35 but the Squadron will underwrite \$25 so total cost is \$10 per Cadet. This covers room, board, and transportation. **A check for \$10 made out to TRCS-CAP must be tendered to our Finance Officer, Capt Lintelmann by October 1st.**

Plans are to leave on Friday after school lets out and return Sunday afternoon.

Detailed information will follow as we get closer to departure.

SENIOR MEETING

31 August, 2010

Lt Farley conducted a review of the exercise conducted on 29 August. Aircrew members critically reviewed the three sorties and lessons learned. The following items were discussed: camera orientation relative to the airframe, the possibility of ambiguity in target description by assigning agency, speed of delivery of the product to the customer, availability of computers, programs, and compatible cables, and the marking of imagery (watermarks).

The second part of the meeting was devoted to planning the next exercise on 11 September. Two aircraft will be available, a ground team is planned, and hub squadrons will be invited to participate. Training will focus on creeping line searches using the GX55, tasking "on the fly," point based searches, aircrew participation on a ground team, squadron base radio operation, and work on qualifications.

PHOTO SAREX

29 August, 2010/30 August

The Squadron flew four sorties last Saturday and Sunday. Mission objectives were to photograph three designated sites, a dam, powerplant, and incinerator in accord with stipulated instructions from an interested agency.



Powerplant near Danielson Airport

Capt Neilson and Lt Owens flew on Saturday. Crew Two consisted of Capt Noniewicz, Col Kinch, and Maj Rocketto. Capt Petry, Lt Miller, and Col Doucette. The last mission was flown by Capt Noniewicz and Maj Rocketto

TRCS ASSISTS USCG

27 August, 2010

On Friday, August 27th, around 3:20 PM, a crew from the Thames River Composite Squadron, Connecticut Wing, Civil Air Patrol, was flying a Connecticut Department of Homeland Security Long Island Sound Patrol when a marine channel radio distress call alerted them. A small sailboat, about 15 feet in length, had overturned at the west end of New Haven harbor's East Breakwater. A nearby boat reported people in the water and one person on the upturned hull. The Patrol diverted and was on scene five minutes later. By then, the people in the water had been picked up by a dinghy, a powerboat was circling the capsized sailboat as a two masted schooner observed from a distance.



Coast Guard rescue vessel approached overturned sailboat for top left of frame as schooner and dinghy standby.

USCG Station New Haven, located a scant mile away, dispatched a Defender Class Response Boat. Quirky radio reception prevented the Coast Guard Shore Station from communicating directly with

the response boat so the Civil Air Patrol aircraft relayed the the Coast Guard messages between ship and shore.

Within minutes, the Coast Guard craft was on scene and transferring the castaways from their small dinghy to their boat. At that time, the Civil Air Patrol resumed its normal patrol duties.

The CAP aircrew was Capt Thomas Petry, Mission Pilot, LtCol Lawrence Kinch, Observer, and Maj Stephen Rocketto, Scanner-Photographer

USS MASON VISITS NEW LONDON

27 August, 2010

Our LISP mission of Friday heard US Warship 87 transmitting a *securite* message on marine channel 16. A *securite* call is a non-distress message which informs waterborne traffic of potential hazards to navigation. The warship reported off Point Judith and entering Long Island Sound. As our aircraft finished its last circuit, we saw an Arleigh Burke-class destroyer DDG-87, later identified as the the *USS Mason* maneuvering in New London roadstead.



The *USS Mason*, named for naval aviator Newton Henry Mason, a posthumous winner of the Navy Cross in World War Two. She is just over 500 feet in length and displaces 9,000 tons. Main armament consists of an automatic 5 inch rifle forward, two Phalanx 25 mm guns, six torpedo tubes and two sets of vertical launch tubes containing 9 Tomahawk cruise missiles or Standard anti-aircraft missiles. Two Sikorsky SH-60 Sea-hawks are also carried. Powered by four gas turbines, she is capable of exceeding 30 knots.

SPACE SHUTTLE LECTURE

15 September, 2010

Maj Rocketto will escort interested Cadets and Officers to the University of New Haven on 15 September for a lecture. Anticipated departure time will be 1100.

Allan McDonnell, the director of the Space Shuttle Solid Rocket Motor Project at the time of the Challenger disaster. Mr. McDonnell will speak about his recent book, "Truth, Lies, and O-rings: Inside the Space Shuttle Challenger Disaster," at the University of New Haven on Wednesday, Sept. 15th. He will give the same presentation twice: once at 12:15 p.m. and once at 6:00 p.m. Light refreshments will be provided 15 minutes prior to each talk, and an optional dinner is available after the evening talk. The event is sponsored by the University of New Haven, American Society of Mechanical Engineers, and the American Institute of Aeronautics and Astronautics.

UPCOMING RIFLE MARKSMANSHIP

12 September, 2010

A rifle safety and marksmanship clinic will be conducted at Quaker Hill Rod and Gun Club for TRCS and Meridian Cadets on Sunday, 12 September. This event is sponsored by the Quaker Hill Rod and Gun Club and the Connecticut Friends of the NRA. There is no charge.

Cadets will be trained in the fundamentals of safe rifle handling and fire scores which may qualify them to wear NRA marksmanship medals.

The event commences at 0830 and will run to 1500. Lunch will be hotdogs, hamburgers and soda. Uniform is BDUs. More information will be forthcoming.

UPCOMING FIRST AID/CPR COURSE

02 October, 2010

A first aid and CPR qualification course will be held at the East Haddam Fire Department, time to be announced. This course will be part of the mandated Safety Down Day. All Senior Members and Cadets are invited to attend. Cost is \$7 for Cadets. Senior cost will be set at a later date but will be nominal. Contact Lt Owens to sign up for this training.

His email is: spatch709@sbcglobal.net.

CURRENT EVENTS

Planes Without Pilots

Drones on the Southern Border

The Department of Homeland Security announced that a fourth Predator has been added to the fleet flying surveillance over the US-Mexican border and the number is expected to double by year's end.

Kaman K-Max Unmanned Chopper

Lockheed-Martin has submitted a proposal for improving the capabilities of Connecticut's Kaman Corporation K-Max helicopter in its role as an unmanned resupply vehicle. The K-Max tests indicate that it can place its cargo in a 30 meter drop zone after a 200 kilometer flight. However, if necessary, the vehicle can also be manned.

Drones Investigate Hurricanes

NASA will be sending a Global Hawk into Hurricane Earl to gather data as the storm approaches the east coast. The drone successfully overflew Tropical Storm Frank off Mexico last week but the anticipated 115 knot winds in Earl will prove a real test of the capabilities of the vehicle.

AEROSPACE HISTORY

01 SEP, 1924-The U.S. Navy opens a parachute school at Lakehurst, NJ.

02 SEP, 1952-Boeing announces plans to build a commercial jet liner. The Dash-80 prototype of the 707 and the C-135 flies in 1954.



Historic Dash-80 at NASM-UH

03 SEP, 1925-The dirigible U.S.S. Shenandoah, ZR-1, crashes in Ohio. The accident becomes a central issue in Billy Mitchell's charges against the military establishment and lead to his court martial.

04 SEP, 1936-Louise Thaden becomes the first woman to win the Bendix Trophy, awarded for finishing first in a transcontinental race.

05 SEP, 1934-Wiley Post, wearing a Goodrich pressure suit and flying the Lockheed Vega, *Winnie Mae*, makes his first flight into the stratosphere.



Post's Winnie Mae at NASN-UH

06 SEP, 1948-A DeHavilland DH.108 Swallow becomes the first British aircraft to exceed the speed of sound.

07 SEP 1909-United States Army establishes first aerodrome at College Park, MD.

08 SEP, 1944-The first combat launch of a V-2, target Paris, is made.

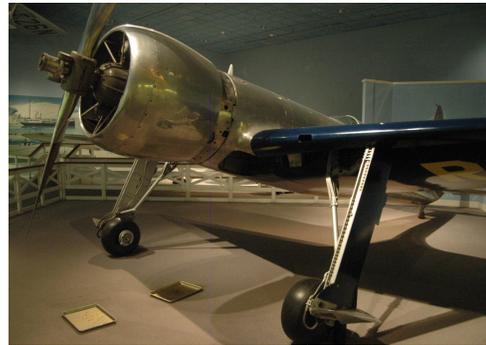
09 SEP, 1978-NASA launches Viking 2 to Mars.

10 SEP, 1960-Maj Rocketto's first solo, Piper J-3 Cub, N42592, Waterford Airport.

11 SEP, 1961-Collett Woolman, founder of Delta Airlines, goes West.

12 SEP, 1938-The Guggenheim Laboratory at MIT commissions a high pressure wind tunnel.

13 SEP, 1935-Howard Hughes sets a new speed record in the revolutionary H-1.



Ultra-streamlined H-1 at NASM-Mall

14 SEP 1944-First scientific data collection flight into eye of hurricane made in Douglas A-20 Havoc. Col Floyd Wood, LtCol Harry Wexler, and Lt Frank Reckord manned the aircraft.



Oh Dear

Photographed by
Lt Owens on our
TRCS Estate
Grounds