

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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SCHEDULE OF COMING EVENTS

For Future Planning

Cadet meetings normally start with drill and end with aerospace history, current events, and Commander's moment. Blues are worn on the second week of the month and BDUs at other times. Main topics will be indicated on the schedule below. See website for updates.

16 APR-CSRRA High Power Rifle Clinic
16-17 APR-Orientation Flights
19 APR-Squadron Meeting
26 APR-Squadron Meeting
30 APR-half day (morning) work party
30 APR-01 MAY-Corporate Learning Course

10 MAY-GON airport security program
13-15 MAY-CTWG Great Starts
28-30 MAY-Long Island Sound Patrols
03-05 JUN-Mini-Encampment-Stratford
03-05 JUN-Red Cross Exercise
03-05 JUN-CT/RI USAF Evaluation
21-25 JUN-National AEO School
30 JUN-first draft IG evaluations due
9-16 JUL-RSC-McGuire AFB
9-16 JUL-Reg. Cadet Ldrshp School-Concord, NH
23 JUL-07 AUG-NESA (two sessions)
08-14 AUG-CTWG Encampment
13-20 AUG-Reg. Cadet Ldrshp School-McGuire
17-20 AUG-CAP National Summer Conference
22-24 SEP-AOPA Summit-Hartford
22-23 OCT-CTWG Convention

CADET MEETING NOTES

12 April, 2011

reported by

C/1Lt Brendan Flynn

The meeting commenced with drill. Columns were introduced and flanks, eyes right/left, and to the rear were practiced.

C/2Lt Wojtcuk held a leadership class on "Ethical Decisions". This class included discussions of the core values, knee-jerk reactions, the definition of ethics, the effects of the core values and ethics in leadership and decision making, leaders that exhibited the core values, and ethical traps.

C/1Lt Flynn directed a cadet forum on recruiting. The discussion went over things to tell potential cadets about, such as the Mitchell award, Cadet Program, Emergency Services, National Cadet Special Activities, and flying. Cadets also talked about how recruiting would be good not only for the squadron but for them personally: new leadership positions would open up and cadets who recruit two members would be eligible for the recruiting ribbon.

C/2Lt Wojtcuk gave a speech on "Taking Charge", which used insight gained in a previous interview with Capt Noniewicz. This speech was part of her Flight Commander Staff Duty Analysis, which is necessary for the completion the Flight Commander achievement. Cadet Wojtcuk went over why a leader must take charge deliberately, how to gain the respect of followers, and how to deal with those who do not follow orders.

Cadet Drew Cathcart held a Drug Demand Reduction lesson on performance enhancing drugs. His lesson focused on steroids, which can be legally prescribed or illegally trafficked and taken. He went over common slang names, penalties for illegal possession and trafficking, and side effects.

C/Amn Jeffrey Bourque taught a safety lesson on home fires. He gave some tips on preventing cooking fires, the most common house fires in the United States. He told cadets not leave a hot stove unattended, to keep it clean, to keep flammable objects away from the oven, to make sure water and grease do not mix, and to wear short sleeves when cooking. If a cooking fire springs up, put a lid on the pan or shut the oven door.

Next, Cadet Bourque was assisted by Senior Member and Fire Chief Adam Wojtcuk in explaining the use and proper installation of a fire extinguisher. C/Amn Bourque also went over the second most common cause of American home fires--candles. Keep candles at least one foot away from flammable material, use them under adult supervision, keep them out of the reach of children, and away from air vents and never leave lit candles unattended

ORIENTATION FLIGHTS

09-10 April

Maj Nielson flew two O flights on Saturday with C/2Lt Alexis Wojtcuk and Cadet Lacey Anderson.

LtCol Bergy flew three O flights on Sunday with C/1Lt Flynn and Cadets Ray and Bourque.



Cadet Anderson receives her "First Flight" certificate from Capt Wojtcuk.

FOUR CADETS RECEIVE MARKSMANSHIP AWARDS

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Cadet Barbara Paquin, C/1LT Brendan Flynn, Cadet Brendan Schultz, and Cadet Drew Daniels display their newly awarded National Rifle Association Sharpshooter medals. The Cadets earned their awards through participation in the Wing Rifle Safety and Marksmanship Program and the Quaker Hill Junior Rifle Club.

In addition, C/SSgt Daniels received a medal for coming in 20th in class at the Bridgeport Gallery match and Schultz earned a 15th in class medal.

SENIOR MEETING NOTES

Commander's Call

12 April, 2011

The first weekend in June will be a combination of a USAF evaluation in which Connecticut and Rhode Island will participate. Concurrently, the Wing will participate in a Red Cross exercise

The Corporate Learning Course was announced. A detailed article follows in this edition.

LtCol Doucette reported that the Long Island Sound Patrol Operations Plan is being updated. The first patrols will be flown by Thames River on Memorial Day weekend. Groton, Danbury, and Hartford will be the hub bases. Groton will team with Danielson and New Haven.

Senior Member Mark Stauffer was introduced. Stauffer is an active duty hospital corpsman in the US Navy. He has specialized in aviation physiology and while stationed at Norfolk, worked with pilots in the altitude chamber and the Dilbert Dunker. He also is a Virginia Emergency Medical Technician.

Squadron members wishing to either renew their GON security badges or obtain a new one should report to the Airport Manager's office on Thursday, the 10th of May. Renewals are scheduled for 0900. New badge certification will be offered at 1000.

The changes to CAPR 60-1 and 60-2 were discussed.

The safety briefing covered procedures to follow in case of flooded roads.

Lt Looney will lead a half day work party on Saturday morning, 30 April. The main project will be repair of the floor in the Cadet trailer.

LtCol Wisehart reminded members that the annual IG evaluation forms should be submitted as a first draft by 30 June.

LtCol Kinch reminded members that the CAPF 60s on file should be checked for accuracy, completeness, and legibility.

Lt Miller, Logistics, reminded the Squadron that there will be a USAF audit of equipment in July.

CORPORATE LEARNING COURSE

30 April-01 May

A Corporate Learning Course (CLC) will be held at the end of the month.

The Corporate Learning Course (CLC) discusses the relationship the CAP squadron has with the next major echelon of command -- the wing. Specifically, CLC discusses how wing-level operations help to accomplish CAP's three missions of aerospace education, emergency services, and cadet programs. It describes the working relationships wing staff officers have with each other, and their squadron level counterparts.

This course is a requirement for attaining Level III of the CAP Professional Development Program. An email has been sent to each TRCS officer who may need this course.

Interested officers should contact the Wing PDO, Glen Dains at glendains@gmail.com.

NONIEWICZ RECEIVES LOENING AND A PROMOTION

Squadron Commander Paul Noniewicz received the Grover Loening Award for completion of the third stage of the CAP Professional Development Program. He was also promoted to major.



Squadron Commander Noniewicz tuning a CAP radio



(NASA Photo)

SOFIA, registered as N747NA, on a test flight. The open hatch is the aperture through which the 2.5 meter telescope views the target. The aircraft was originally the Clipper Lindbergh of Pan American Airways.

TRCS 3RD ANNUAL OFFICER'S BANQUET
09 MARCH, 2011

The Officers and spouses of the Thames River Composite Squadron convened at the historic Thames Club in New London for their annual dinner meeting. The event was organized by Capts Wojtuck and Manner. After a social hour, the group enjoyed a buffet dinner followed by a tour of the facilities.

Attending the event in formation were LtCol Kinch and Mrs. Kinch, LtCol Wisehart and Mrs. Wisehart, LtCol Doucette and Mrs. Doucette, Capt Manner and Mrs. Manner, Capt Wojtcuk and Mr. Wojtcuk, Capt Petry and Mrs. Petry, Capt Lintelmann and Mrs. Lintelmann, and 1Lt Looney and Mrs. Looney.

Flying solo were Majs Neilson, Mode, and Rocketto, Capt Noniewicz, and 1Lt Miller.

AEROSPACE CURRENT EVENTS

SOFIA Completes First Scientific Flight

NASA's Boeing 747SP flying observatory a German spectrometer high over the central and western United States and recorded data from galaxy IC 342 and the Omega Nebula, two regions known for its young stars. The data are valuable for the purpose of analyzing the physical and chemical processes in these distant formations.

SOFIA, an acronym which stands for Stratospheric Observatory for Infrared Astronomy, flies around eight miles high and is above the atmospheric water vapor that blocks the infrared frequencies from ground based observatories. The instrument which recorded the data is the German Receiver for Astronomy at Terahertz Frequencies (GREAT). A spectrometer breaks the incoming signal down into discrete frequencies which allow detailed analysis of the processes which produced the radiation.

Final Shuttle Disposition Announced but Buran Gets No Respect

NASA has announced that the prototype shuttle *Enterprise* will be transferred from the National Air and Space Museum at Dulles Airport to the Intrepid Air and Space Museum in New York City. *Discovery* will replace *Enterprise* at Dulles.

The Kennedy Space Center at Cape Canaveral, Florida will receive *Atlantis* and *Endeavour* will go on display in Los Angeles at the California Science Center.

The announcement is part of the celebration of the launch of the first shuttle, Columbia, on 12 April, 1981, a mission flown by John Young and Robert Crippen.



Enterprise on display in Florida with Saturn S-1C visible behind.

On the other hand, the Soviet shuttle program completed on *Buran (Snowstorm)* which completed one two orbit unmanned automated flight into space in 1988 and then never flew again. She was stored in a hangar in Kazakhstan which collapsed in 2002 and destroyed the vehicle.

Some of the other *Buran* vehicles survive, Remnants of the program are scattered at other sites. A total of eleven test and flight vehicles were built or partially built but only two survive in more or less complete condition, one outside of Moscow in storage and another at the Baikonur Cosmodrome.



(Rusmilitary photo)

Tarp Covered Buran Prototype Near Moscow

The initial flight test program of the Buran

differed from that of the US shuttle. The Enterprise was launched from a Boeing 747 carrier aircraft whereas the Buran flew its atmospheric test flights after lifting off on its own power using four jet engines.



(RKK Energia photos)

Buran on An-225 Mriya (Dream) Carrier Aircraft



Buran Poised on Launch Stand

Another major difference was that the main engines and boosters were all liquid fueled. The main engines were not integral to the vehicle but were jettisoned after use.

The Soviet Union cancelled the program in 1993.

AEROSPACE HISTORY

A Random Selection of NASA Aircraft

NASA and its predecessor, NACA (National Advisory Committee on Aeronautics) have always operated a diverse fleet of aircraft for testing and experiments. These include a fleet of Northrop T-38 Talons which are used to maintain astronaut flight currency, modified Grumman Gulfstream IIs which simulates the shuttle's powerless descent, and a diverse selection of aircraft which are used to carry out the many programs which fall within the purview of NASA. The aircraft may be based at anyone of some dozen fields at which NASA maintains facilities. Here are a few examples:



*NASA 708
Lockheed U-2 built
as a TR-1A and
converted to ER-2
specifications and
then re-converted
and returned to
USAF as U-2S.*



*NASA 428
Lockheed YP-3A, the first P-3 Orion, re-designated NP-3A and since retired to the National Naval Aviation Museum, Pensacola Florida.*



*NASA 432
Douglas C-54G Skymaster used for program support at Wallops Island Flight Facility.*



*NASA 8
Beech 54 Queen Air used for administrative support at Wallops Island Flight Facility.*



*NASA 515
The first Boeing 737-130 "Fat Albert" was used to conduct a multitude of tests on flight equipment and navigation aids such as electronic flight displays and the microwave landing system.*



NASA SR-71A 844 and NASA SR-71B 831 on the ramp at Dryden Flight Research Facility. They were used for high speed and sonic boom research. Note the unusual cockpit canopy layout in 831.



*NASA 711
The first production Convair 990 Coronado named Galileo was an airborne astronomical observatory. She was lost in a mid-air collision with a Navy P-3.*



*NASA 501
Grumman AA-1 Yankee assigned to Langley Memorial Aeronautical Laboratory for spin experiments.*



*NASA 802
Douglas F5D Skylancer flown by Neil Armstrong as part of the X-20 Dynasoar Project. CAP 007 is "flying chase."
Wakaponeta, Ohio*



*NASA 810
Retired Vought TF-8A Crusader Fitted with a Supercritical Wing
Dryden flight Research Facility Display*



*NASA 430
Short SC-7 Skyvan
The fuselage provides about 1/3 of the lift. This aircraft is also equipped with a "trapeze" device which is extended from the open ramp in the rear and is capable of retrieving parachuting payloads in flight.*



NASA 802

Vought F-8C Crusader used as a digital fly-by-wire test aircraft at Dryden Flight Research Facility.



NASA 520

*Hawker-Siddeley XV-6A (P,1127 Kestrel)
Air Power Park, Hampton, Virginia*

This aircraft was part of the tri-service evaluation by the U.S. Military and was eventually adopted by the U.S. Marine Corps



NASA 008

Boeing RB-52B converted to NB-52B as mothership for air launching experimental aircraft. Note the mission marks and the launch pylon.

Fiftieth Anniversary of Start of Manned Space Race

April 12th, 1961, Baikonur Cosmodrome, Kazakhstan...Yuri Gagarin, a 26 year old Soviet Air Force pilot rode a *Vostok-1* rocket and became the first human being to fly into space and orbit the earth. The 108 minute mission ended when Gagarin abandoned his capsule after reentry and parachuted back to earth.



(NASA Site Image)

Thirtieth Anniversary of First Space Shuttle Launch

April 12th, 1981, Cape Canaveral, Florida...John Young and Robert Crippen ride NASA Orbital Vehicle OV-102, Mission STS-1 into space for 36 orbits. The vehicle, *Columbia*, returned to Edwards Air Force Base on 14 April.



*(Edwards AFB Historical Office Photo)
Columbia's First Touchdown*