

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 may be indicated on the schedule below. See website for updates.

18 JUN-RST Make-Up  
18-19 -TRCS LISP missions  
19 JUN-Open Cockpit Day-NEAM  
21 JUN-Meeting  
21-25 JUN-National AEO School  
28 JUN-Meeting  
30 JUN-First draft IG evaluations due

09 JUL- Aircrew Tng & Pilot Meeting-Wing HQ  
09 JUL-CTWG Encampment Training-Wing HQ  
10 JUL-WAA Pancake Breakfast  
12 JUL-Logistics Team visit to TRCS  
09-16 JUL-RSC-McGuire AFB  
09-16 JUL-Cadet Ldrshp School-Concord, NH  
14-15 JUL-KC-10 Orientation Flight  
18-19 JUL-TRCS LISP Missions  
21 JUL-P&W Field Trip  
22-23 JUL-Mini-Bivouac  
23 JUL-07 AUG-NESA (two sessions)  
30-31 JUL-TRCS LISP missions  
07-14 AUG-CTWG Encampment  
13-20 AUG-Reg. Cadet Ldrshp School-McGuire  
20-21 AUG-TRCS LISP missions  
17-20 AUG-CAP National Summer Conference  
10 SEP-Multi-Squadron SAREX-Tentative  
10 SEP-Wings Over Westerly Airport Event  
22-24 SEP-AOPA Summit-Hartford  
24 SEP-Cadet Ball-Courtyard Marriott, Cromwell  
22-23 OCT-CTWG Convention

#### *Erratum*

FO Abby Wojtcuk also participated in the AF Evaluation SAREX ground team on 04 June.

#### *Announcement*

*The Coastwatcher* will not be published during the week of 22 and 29 June. The Editor will attend CAP's National Aerospace Education Academy and celebrate the 100<sup>th</sup> year of naval aviation at Naval Air Station Pensacola.

### CADET MEETING NOTES

*15 June, 2011*

*reported by*

*C/1Lt Brendan Flynn*

The meeting opened with uniform inspection. Capt Wojtcuk lead a Character Development class on change. To begin the lesson, cadets talked about

change in their own lives. Capt Wojtcuk discussed controllable and uncontrollable change, slow and quick change. A session ended with a cadet discussion on whether the truth changes, when change is good, and why it is important to manage change.

C/2Lt Wojtcuk presented a lesson on the question, "What is Leadership?". She pointed out the CAP definition of leadership and how to apply it to their own lives. She also talked about various aspects of the leader-follower relationship, including setting group as well as personal goals, setting the example.

C/1Lt Flynn spoke to cadets about the chain of command and NCO support channel. He reminded cadets that, although he and C/2ndLt Wojtcuk had an open door policy, they should take smaller problems to their element leaders, who in turn would go to the first sergeant.

Capt Noniewicz explained an exercise involving an ELT last Friday. He focused on the procedures involved in hunting for an ELT while airborne. Maj Rocketto set up the ELT at the Quaker Hill Rod and Gun Club. The event was witnessed by the squadron rifle team: C/A1C Paquin, C/MSgt Schultz, C/TSgt Daniels, and C/1stLt Flynn.

An awards ceremony concluded the night. C/Amn Bunevich and C/A1C Ray received certificates for the Redstone phase of the Model Rocketry Program. Capt Wojtcuk and C/MSgt Schultz received certificates of achievement for their participation in May's Great Start Encampment. Cadet Barbara Paquin received the Arnold award and was promoted to Airman First Class.



*Cadets Ray and Bunevich display their Redstone Stage Rocket Program certificates*

*Cadet Paquin receives her C/A1C insignia from Capt Wojtcuk and Major Noniewicz.*



*Cadet Schultz and Capt Wojtcuk were presented with CAP Achievement Certificates for their contribution to the Great Starts Weekend.*



### **NEAM OPEN HOUSE**

*Sunday, June 19, 2011 from 10:00 AM to 5:00 PM.*

The New England Air Museum will be running an open house this coming Sunday.

The program includes open cockpits of 12 vintage aircraft. You will be able to climb into the cockpit of the famous Vought Corsair of WWII, the North American F100 Super Saber, the Douglas DC-3 airliner and several helicopters. There will also be a unique opportunity to look inside the passenger compartment of the Sikorsky VS-44 Flying Boat, built in 1941 for trans-Atlantic flight. A full motion flight simulator and two static flight simulators will be open.

There will be the hands on building and launching of water bottle rockets for the enjoyment of younger visitors.

The entire museum and gift shop will be open from 10:00 AM to 5:00 PM. Cockpits close at 4:00 PM.

## SENIOR MEETING NOTES

*15 June, 2011*

Maj Noniewicz reviewed key features of eServices. The method of uploading operations qualification documents was demonstrated and the requirements to maintain currency in scanner and observer were reviewed.

Col Kinch reported on the information which was disseminated at a meeting with the Millstone Nuclear Plant officials. General details of nuclear power generation were explained and the precautions which have been taken to prevent nuclear mishaps were presented.

Col Kinch briefed the squadron on the protocols which govern operational security and emphasized the importance of maintaining care in discussing certain phases of CAP missions.

## SENIOR RECOGNITIONS

TRCS Officers may be eligible for the following awards. They are listed below with an abridged list of requirements. Check *CAPR 35-6* and *39-3* for details. If you believe that you may be eligible, please contact the Professional Development Officer at [rocketto@aquilasys.com](mailto:rocketto@aquilasys.com);

*Senior Observer Wings*: three years CAP observer and 100 hours mission time as a CAP observer

*Master Observer Wings*: five years CAP observer, 200 hours mission time as a CAP observer, 20 sorties as a senior observer on SAR/DR missions.

## WING AIR CREW MEETING AND SCANNER TRAINING

Maj deAndrade, a member of Wing Standards and Evaluation Team, announces that there will be a meeting for all air crew at Wing from 0800-1200 on Saturday, 09 July.

Scanner training will be held from 0800-1600.

Any other Wing members desiring special training should contact Maj deAndrade at [johnnyde9@comcast.net](mailto:johnnyde9@comcast.net).

## AEROSPACE CURRENT EVENTS

### John R. Alison Goes West

*1912-2011*

Maj. Gen. John R. Alison, 98, died Wednesday in Washington, D.C. Alison was a World War II ace whose most memorable exploit was achieved when he and Philip Cochran co-commanded the 1<sup>st</sup> Air Commando Group.

The 1<sup>st</sup> Air Commandos were a composite force consisting of fighters, bombers, transports, gliders, and liaison aircraft. They also introduced the helicopter into combat.



*Sikorsky R-4 Hoverfly entered combat with the 1<sup>st</sup> Air Commandos in May of 1944.*

In March of 1944, Alison led a force of C-47s towing CG-4 gliders in an air assault in Burma. Alison piloted the lead glider. During the Burma campaign they dropped supplies and evacuated the wounded of Orde Wingate's Long Range Penetration Group, The Chindits.



*Alison, Wingate, and Cochran in the China-Burma-India Theatre of Operations*

During the last year, the Air Commandos continued supplying British forces and their support was critical in repelling the Japanese offensive centered against Imphal and Kohima, the doorways to India.

After the war, Alison served in the USAFR, as president of the Air Force Association, and as an officer of Northrop Aircraft Corp. His honors include the Distinguished Service Cross, the Silver Star, the Purple Heart, and the British Distinguished Service Order.

Known as the “Father of the Air Commandos,” Alison was the first inductee into the U.S. Special Operations Commands, Commando Hall of Honor.

Internment will be in Arlington National Cemetery.



*The 1<sup>st</sup> Air Commando insignia features a mule clutching a kukri in its mouth. The Kukri is the traditional weapon of Wingate's Gurkhas. The mules were flown in to serve as ground transport*

## GOODYEAR BLIMP CRASHES IN GERMANY



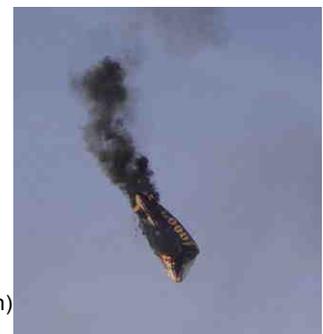
*The Spirit of Safety II moored to a portable mast*

One of the Goodyear blimps, ironically named *Spirit of Safety II* (G-TLEL) crashed while approaching Reichelsheim Airport on Sunday, June 12<sup>th</sup>. The airship was engaged in a publicity flight with three passengers when a fire reportedly broke out in the gondola. The pilot maneuvered the aircraft towards the ground and enabled the three passengers to jump out. The loss of weight caused the balloon to rapidly rise and the pilot was unable to escape.



*Flames envelope the gondola of G-TLEL*

*In a amazing feat of airmanship, the pilot dives for the ground, giving his three passengers a chance to escape.*



Photos by DPA/Press Association)

*The Spirit of Safety II* was one of two blimps which Goodyear leased. They are about 125 feet lone and contain around 20,000 cubic feet of helium. Power is supplied by two 80 horsepower engines. The second blimp, *Spirit of Safety I* has been grounded pending the outcome of the accident investigation.

This was the fifth time Goodyear lighter than air ships have crashed and the second time fatalities resulted. The first occurred in 1919 when the *Wingfoot Air Express* crashed through the roof of the Illinois Trust and Savings Bank killing a crewman, two passengers, and ten bank employees.

In the decade between 1995 and 2005, *Eagle (N10A)*, *Spirit of Akron (N4A)*, and *Stars and Stripes (N1A)* were all involved in non-fatal accidents. *Eagle* was deflated while moored, *Spirit of Akron* suffered a failure of a control, and a thunderstorm pushed *Stars and Stripes* into trees and power lines.

### **FORMER P&W B-17 TEST AIRCRAFT CRASHES IN ILLINOIS**

The B-17G, *Liberty Belle*, was destroyed in the course of an emergency landing near Aurora, Illinois on Monday, June 13<sup>th</sup>.

The aircraft was once operated by Pratt and Whitney Aircraft as a “five engined” test vehicle. The P&W T34 turboprop was installed in the nose and could be flown on this one engine alone. After the tests were completed, the aircraft was donated to Connecticut Aeronautical Historic Association, the fore-runner of the New England Air Museum. On October 3, 1979, a tornado struck the Windsor Locks area and another aircraft was lifted into the air and dropped on the B-17, breaking its back.

Col Lawrence Elman, a former Manchester Squadron member mentioned that the conversion to a test aircraft entailed moving the flight deck back from forward of the top turret to the bomb bay. When Tom Reilly restored the aircraft, the entire process had to be reversed. This was in addition to splicing the fuselage back together which had been broken forward of the empennage!



*As a P&W test aircraft, the B-17 demonstrates the power of the T34 engine, cruising on it alone with all four Wright Cyclones feathered. As a boy, the Coastwatcher editor once saw this aircraft overfly New London.*



*Before the tornado struck, the T34 removed, N5111N sits on exhibit at the southeast side of Bradley Airport.*

The wreckage was purchased by the Florida based Liberty Foundation and transported to Kissimmee where the the noted aircraft repair specialist, Tom Reilly, restored it. The Liberty Foundation then placed it on the summer air show circuit.

The aircraft has just departed Aurora Municipal Airport with seven on board captained by John Hess, a Delta Airlines Captain and First Officer Bud Sittic, a retired Delta pilot. Together, they had logged 28,000 hours of flight time and that experience was put to immediate use when they detected smoke in the cockpit. Within 100 seconds, they made a successful wheels down landing in a corn field and evacuated the aircraft. Their efforts to stem the blaze proved useless and soggy ground prevented the swift arrival of the fire engines. One minor injury occurred but the aircraft was destroyed.



*The fire is no longer controllable by the crew with their meager fire fighting equipment.*  
(Photo by Dan McHale)



*The wreckage, still burning, is viewed by emergency responders.*  
(Photo by NBC5)

## AEROSPACE HISTORY

14 June, 1919 - John Alcock and Arthur Brown pilot a Vickers Vimy from Newfoundland to Ireland, marking the first non-stop crossing of the Atlantic Ocean by aircraft.



*The Smith Brothers Vimy on Display at Adelaide Airport, South Australia.*



*Carefully Examine This Commemorative Postal Cover Which Celebrates the 60th Anniversary of the Alcock-Brown Flight*

15 June, 1921 - Bessie Coleman receives her *Federation Aeronautique* license and becomes the first black woman aviator.

16 June, 1930 - Elmer Sperry, inventor of the gyrocompass and aircraft stabilization systems goes West.



*1917 Kettering Aerial Torpedo, the Bug, built by Douglas-Wright. Orville Wright was a consultant on the project and Elmer Sperry designed the control and guidance system*

17 June, 1951 - The US Navy issues a contract to Convair for the XF2Y-1 Sea Dart, a delta wing, jet powered, hydroski fighter prototype.



*Pylon Mounted Sea Dart at San Diego Air Museum.*

18 June, 1952 - NACA's H. Julian Allen publicly announces the "blunt body" reentry vehicle shape which uses a detached shock wave to retard heat transfer from the atmosphere to the vehicle.



*Blunt bodied Apollo 15 Command Module Edeavour which returned the all-USAF crew consisting of Col. David Scott, Lt. Col. James Irwin, and Maj. Alfred Worden to earth after a successful landing on the moon.*

19 June, 1894 - The extraordinary engineer, Frederick W. Lanchester, publishes his "theory of circulating air flow" which after Ludwig Prandtl's mathematical confirmation, becomes the chief tool for airfoil design.

20 June, 1937 - Pilot Valerie Chkalov, Navigator Alexandr Belyakov and Flight Engineer Georgi Baidukov fly a Sukhoi designed, Tupolev constructed ANT-25 from Moscow to Vancouver, Washington, the first flight from Europe to North America over the North Pole.

### **A CONTINUING SALUTE TO NAVAL AVIATION ON ITS 100TH BIRTHDAY**

*THEY CARRY AIRCRAFT BUT THEY DON'T LOOK LIKE AIRCRAFT CARRIERS .....*



*USS Forrest Sherman DDG 98*

*This Arleigh Burke Class guided missile destroyer is named after an naval aviator and Chief of Naval Operations.*



*USS Mason DDG 87*

*This ship is named for the crew of the previous USS Mason (DE-529), the first ship in the US Navy with a predominantly black crew.*



*USS Massachusetts BB-59*

*A Vought Kingfisher is visible on the stern catapult of Big Mamie, a South Dakota class battleship moored in the shadow of the Fall River Bridge/*



*USCGC Chase WHEC 718*

*The high endurance cutter chase is named after Salmon P. Chase, Governor of Ohio, Senator, Secretary of the Treasury, and Chief Justice of the Supreme Court whose portrait appears on the \$10,000 bill.*



*USS Pigeon ASR 21*

*A catamaran hull offers lots of space to carry two deep submergence rescue vessels.*



*USCGC Harriet Lane WMEC 903*

*The Medium Endurance Cutter is named after the niece of President James Buchanan, a bachelor. She served as First Lady of the United States. Note the HH-55 resting of the heli deck.*



*USS McClusky FFG 41*

*The Oliver Hazard Class fast frigate is named after C. Wade McClusky Enterprise Air Group Commander (CAG) at the Battle of Midway.*



*USCGC Bear WMEC 901*

*The Bear is the namesake of a famous revenue cutter commanded by the legendary Michael Healy on the Bering Sea Patrol. Note the cavernous helicopter hangar.*