

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

21-23 OCT-CTWG Conference
22 OCT-USCG Aviation Day-GON
25 OCT -TRCS Meeting
28 OCT-USCGA Observatory Open House
15 NOV-Senior AHI Training
22 NOV-Cadet AHI Training

ANNUAL CITRUS FRUIT FUNDRAISER



Members who have not picked up their sales packages should see Maj Rocketto as soon as possible. Forty-nine cases have been sold by eight senior member as of this date. Two other members have made donations in lieu of sales.

CADET MEETING NOTES

18 October, 2011

submitted by
C/Capt Brendan Flynn

Maj John Lesick, CTWG Director of Cadet Programs, spoke to cadets on a number of topics. First, he talked about National Cadet Special Activities. Maj Lesick told cadets about when applications begin (Nov 1), the online application process, the red light/green light approval system, specific and general requirements, and interviews. He reminded cadets to fill out everything on the application, including emergency contacts, to make sure they submit it, to make a copy of the form when they are done, and to remind their squadron commander to approve the application. He said that cadets should know their ribbons and cadet oath before their interview. Another tip Maj Lesick gave cadets is to apply for as many activities as possible.

Maj Lesick also talked to cadets about the DDR program. He said they can use it as a recruiting tool.

Finally, Maj Lesick discussed examples of ways the military views CAP experience favorably.

Former cadet George Abbiati talked about Air Force ROTC (Reserve Officer Training Corps). He also answered cadet questions on college.

C/A1C Paquin held a AE lesson on Aerospace Module 3, Chapter 2. This lesson focused on weather elements, including winds, the Beaufort Scale, the wind chill index, microbursts, temperature, and pressure.

C/SMSgt Daniels lead an AEX lesson on temperature and temperature conversions.

Capt Sanders, USCG, discussed the Coast Guard Aviation open house from 0900-1300 this Saturday (Oct 22). It will take place at the AVCRAD (at the airport on Tower Ave, with a

Cobra and Huey outside the building). Uniform of the day is BDUs (not Blues). If you do not have your uniform yet, wear “dress casual;” khakis, shirt, and tie.

Capt Wojtcuk reminded prospective and new cadets to work on the requirements listed on the elephant page and dress nicely for meetings.

Maj Rocketto urged cadets to sell fruit. He told cadets they made a good showing at the rocket contest, but a winner has not yet been announced.

Maj Noniewicz congratulated cadets on their performance at the rocket contest.

2011 COMMANDER'S CUP ROCKETRY COMPETITION

The CTWG Commander's Cup Rocketry Competition was held on Sunday, 17 October after a one day delay due to high wind forecasts. Two squadrons participated in the launches: Stratford (three cadets and two seniors) and Thames River (twelve cadets, four seniors, and seven parents). Over 60 people were present counting the members of the sponsoring organization, CATO.

Due to the continuing high winds, the smallest possible engines were used and few rockets were lost to the missile eating trees south of the range and the two meter high brush to the north.



Bourque's Bullpup

Highlights of the day were the very large scale model of the Saturn V constructed by Stratford as a group project, the near mid air collision between missiles launched by Cadet Daniels and C/Capt Flynn of Thames River, and, in the best olde-tyme traditions of US rocketry, the launch pad “explosions” of rockets built by Cadets Schultz and Trotichaud, also of Thames River.

Thames River members present were C/Capt Flynn, and Cadets Bourque, Daniels, Chartier, Trotochaud, Brouillard, Ray, Meers, Cathcart, Paquin, Johnstone, and Sanders. Maj Noniewicz and Rocketto, Capt Farley, and Lt Looney represented the seniors. Parents included members of the following households: the Sanders, Brouillards, Flynns, Troutachauds, Schultzes, Paquins, and Bourques.



Capt Flynn and Sgt Schultz attach ignition wires.

Since the launch schedule was shifted because of weather, some squadrons could not attend. The representatives of the two squadrons present voted to extend the time limit. Squadrons which still wish to participate in the contest must bring their rockets to the CTWG conference on 23 October. The rockets will be judged, winners selected, and prizes awarded at that time.



TRCS Rocket Team

USCG AVIATION DAY

USCG Capt. Sanders, father of Cadet Sanders has announced that the US Coast Guard will sponsor an aviation event at Groton Airport on Saturday, 22 Oct, from 0900 to 1300.

Visiting aircraft include the following: HC-130 (Elizabeth City), MH65C (Atlantic City), MH60 (Cape Cod), HC144 (Miami), HU25 (Cape Cod) and a Civil Air Patrol aircraft. The CG also hopes to have Coast Guard Auxiliary aircraft and local civilian staff pilots in attendance as well as members from the Ice Patrol. You will have the ability to talk with pilots and Coast Guard Cadets.

CT075 Cadets should attend in their blues and make sure you have your ID ON YOUR PERSON. If you are a prospective cadet, you will be given a note so you can attend but come dressed in "Sunday Best" - no jeans or tee shirts!!!!

Family members of CAP members may also attend. They would like a head count soon, so you should email Capt Wojtuck if you plan on participating.

There will also be a lunch provided for \$8.50 per person. If you are interested, please Capt Wojtuck know in the email and bring the money to this Tuesday's CAP meeting.

**COAST GUARD FIXED WING PLANES
YOU WILL NOT SEE AT GON ON
SATURDAY!**

A TRIBUTE TO PAST COAST GUARD AVIATION



*Douglas
RD-2
Dolphin*



*Grumman
JRF-3 Goose*



*Grumman
J4F-1 Widgeon*



*Consolidated
PB4Y-2G
Privateer*



*Grumman
HU-16E
Albatross*

*Convair
HC-131E
Samaritan*



*Fairchild
C-123B
Provider*

USCGA OBSERVATORY OPEN HOUSE

The USCG Academy Observatory is holding an open house on 28 October, 2011 from sunset to 2200. Their 20 inch telescope will be available for observations. Family and friends are invited.

A cloudy skies date is 04 November. If in doubt about the weather, call Lt Jennifer Konon at 860 444-8635.

The Observatory is located at 391 Taugwonk Rd, Stonington, CT.

This is a great opportunity to enter into direct communion with some of the wonders of the cosmos and ought not be missed.

*When I Heard the Learned Astronomer
A Poem by Walt Whitman*

*When I heard the learn'd astronomer,
When the proofs, the figures, were ranged in
columns before me,
When I was shown the charts and diagrams,
to add, divide,
and measure them,
When I sitting heard the astronomer where he
lectured with
much applause in the lecture-room,*

*How soon unaccountable I became tired and
sick,
Till rising and gliding out I wander'd off by
myself,
In the mystical moist night-air, and from time
to time,
Look'd up in perfect silence at the stars.*

SENIOR MEETING

18 October, 2011

George Abbiati visited and reported on his experiences as an aeronautical engineering major and USAF ROTC student at Worcester Polytechnic Institute. Abbiati praised the squadron for providing him with the basics in aerospace studies and Air Force customs and traditions, emphasizing the importance of aerospace as a part of the ROTC curriculum.

Maj Rocketto outlined the similarities and differences among CAPR 60-1 (CAP Flight Management) and FARs Part 61 (Certification: Pilots and Instructors) and Part 91 (General Operating and Flight Rules). In general, FARs rule except when 60-1 demands more stringent operating procedures.

AMERICAN HEART ASSOCIATION CPR PROGRAM

Lt Stauffer will direct AHA training in CPR for seniors on 15 November and cadets on 22 November.

FLAG POLE REPAIRED

Our flagpole was downed by Hurricane Irene. It is now back up. Lts Looney and Stauffer made the repair and erected the pole.

AEROSPACE CURRENT EVENTS

*AIAA Designates Bremen Airport as Historic
Aerospace Site*

The American Institute of Aeronautics and Astronautics named Bremen Airport in Germany as an historic aerospace site and dedicated a marker this month. The airport dates from 1909 and Henrich Focke and Georg Wulf found the Focke-Wulf company there in 1924. In 1936, the Fw 61, the first fully operational helicopter made a successful maiden flight at Bremen.

NEW THREE KILOMETER SPEED RECORD



The speed record which Howard Hughes set in 1935 was broken last week by Will Whiteside in a modified Yak designated 3U. The former record, actually set by a Hughes H1 replica in 2002 was exceeded by 102 mph for an average speed of 407 mph. The record is for a piston powered aircraft under 6,600 pounds over a three kilometer course. The Rumanian built Yak was powered by a Pratt and Whitney R-3000 engine set the record at Bonneville, Utah.

CARAVAN COMPETITOR



Quest Aircraft has entered into the market with a competitor for the highly successful Cessna

Caravan. The new aircraft, the Kodiak features a Pratt and Whitney PT-6 turbine engine, G1000 avionics, and STOL performance.

VESTA SURVEY



The *Dawn* survey satellite has returned startling images of the protoplanet Vesta. Vesta, and a sister protoplanet, Ceres, orbit in the asteroid belt between Mars and Jupiter but have a different classification due to their larger size which resulted in a distribution of materials significantly different from those on the smaller asteroids. However, a complete differentiation was halted by the gravitational field of Jupiter so the material makeup of the protoplanets yield important data about the early days of the solar system. *Dawn* will spend a year surveying Vesta and then head for Ceres.

RAF TORNADO FLEET HITS MILLION HOUR MARK

During a sortie in Afghanistan on 27 June, 2011, a Tornado flown by 617 Squadron, "The Dam-busters," logged the one millionth hour of fleet operations. The prototype first flew in 1974 and Tornados entered combat in the First Gulf War. They specialized in low altitude attacks on runways, a mission which they repeated in the 2003 Iraq War. The aircraft serves in the German and Italian Air Forces as well as the RAF.



Tornado Fleet-1,000,000 Hours and Counting

Special News Feature

75TH ANNIVERSARY OF JPL

On October 31, 1936 near Pasadena, California, a group of Caltech students tagged the “Suicide Club” initiated a series of rocket experiments which led to the development of jet assisted take-off (JATO), the Aerojet Corporation, and NASA's Jet Propulsion Laboratory.



*The “Suicide Club” at Arroyo Seco. From left to right: Rudolph Schott, Apollo Smith, Frank Malina, Edward Forman, and Jack Parson
(NASA/JPL photo)*

Their noisy pyrotechnics, caustic and odiferous chemicals, and occasional explosions caused *Caltech officials to banish their on-campus experiments and exile them to the remote Arroyo Seco.*

The “clubs” leader, Frank Malina, was working on his Ph.D dissertation under the legendary Theodor von Karman. Another early associate was a brilliant Chinese student, Hsue-shen Tsien, who,

during the McCarthy era, was stripped of his security clearances, detained, and eventually returned to China where he fathered Chinese rocket development. Their efforts were also supported by Nobel laureate Robert Millikan and the controversial meteorologist Irving Krick. In 1938 Hap Arnold visited Pasadena, instituted a long and fruitful relationship between the Air Force and von Karmen, and provided funding for the experimenters at *Arroyo Seco!*

During World War II, a “Suicide Club” spin-off, Aerojet, developed JATO and many of the US rockets from the Aerobee to Titans and Deltas and the Space Shuttle Orbital Maneuvering Engines.

JPL achieved its most notable successes in space exploration. Its remarkably long and successful series of unmanned probes: The Rangers, Mariners, Voyagers, Mars Rovers, and the contemporary Dawn have set the standard for data acquisition and space navigation.

Malina, the theoretician of the group, became the first Director of JPL. Under his direction, JPL developed one of the first series of sounding rockets. He left JPL in the 1940s to take up a post with the United Nations. Like Dr Tsien, Malina was investigated by the FBI for possible links to the Communist Party. Made wealthy by his investments in Aerojet, Malina turned to art and literature and moved to France.

Rudolph Schott worked with Aerojet on JATO. On August 6, 1941 at March Field, California, a Ercoupe piloted by Capt. Homer Boushey demonstrated the efficacy of JATO in reducing take-off distance. Some weeks later, they removed the aircraft's propeller. Schott used his pickup truck to tow the Ercoupe aloft where the rockets were fired. This may be the first time a US aircraft flew solely with rocket power.



First JATO Take-off
(NASA/JPL photo)

Apollo Smith was a long time employee of Douglas Aircraft except for a leave of absence during the war to aid in organizing Aerojet. He was instrumental in the design of tail-less aircraft culminating in the production of the F4D Skyray interceptor for the US Navy. During the final phase of his career, he was Supervisor of Aerodynamic Research at Douglas.

Edward Forman was a boyhood friend of Jack Parsons. Forman's speciality was mechanics and he did much of the machine work on the early designs of the "Suicide Club." When the war ended, seeing no future for the military sponsored rocket research, he sold his stock in Aerojet at a pittance and worked for a number of explosive firms, ending his career at Lockheed.

Jack Parsons, a pioneer in solid state rocket fuels, became involved in the occult and under the influence of Aleister Crowley, a central figure in the world of black magic, became a leader of the Los Angeles coven. He associated with many of the early science fiction writers and had an interesting relationship with L. Ron Hubbard, the founder of Scientology. Cultism aside, no less a figure than Theodor von Karman once stated that Parson's research into solid propellants made missiles such as Polaris and Minuteman possible. In 1952, Parsons died of injuries suffered when an explosion occurred in his Pasadena residence.



Sikorsky HO3-S-5 Dragonfly



Sikorsky HO4S, the Sikorsky Model S-55



Sikorsky HH-3F Pelican at GON

COAST GUARD ROTARY WING AIRCRAFT
YOU WILL NOT SEE AT GON ON
SATURDAY!



Sikorsky HNS-1 Hoverfly
First CG Helicopter



Sikorsky HH-52 Seaguard Assigned to the Ice Breaker Westwind