

Missions for America

Semper vigilans!
Semper volans!



The Coastwatcher

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

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SCHEDULE OF COMING EVENTS

11-13 NOV-Great Starts Weekend Encampment
15 NOV-TRCS Meeting
18 NOV-USCG Observatory Open House
22 NOV-Cadet AHI Training
29 NOV-Third Annual TRCS Bowling Tourney

CADET MEETING NOTES

08 November, 2011

submitted by

C/Capt Brendan Flynn

The meeting opened with a uniform inspection. Cadets were reminded to check the squadron calendar to make sure they know what uniform to wear. If you are unable to check the calendar, then call other cadets you know or go to your flight sergeant or element leader.

Cadets participated in squadron pictures.

C/TSgt Bourque taught a class on servant leadership. He discussed why leaders are servants first and leaders second, aspects of the mission and the team, and examples of boss-like versus servant leadership.

C/2Lt Wojtcuk talked to cadets concerning the USCGA cadet mentoring program, which will fully begin in January (after Thanksgiving break, finals, and Christmas break). The Coast Guard cadets will introduce themselves on the November 15 meeting.

The cadet cadre discussed the forthcoming USCGA Cadet Mentoring Program.

Cadets who have not been promoted yet should know it by heart by the next meeting, to which they must bring a written copy of the cadet oath.

The chain of command was explained. If a cadet has a problem, he/she must go to his/her flight sergeant or element leader first.

In an awards ceremony, Cadet Jeff Bourque received the Rickenbacker Achievement and was promoted to Technical Sergeant. C/Capt Brendan Flynn was recognized for completing the model rocketry program and the lateral "Leadership Officer" Achievement.

Cadet Bourque reports for his promotion.



C/Capt Flynn salutes Maj Noniewicz upon accepting his award

SUBMARINE MUSEUM/RIFLE CLINIC
DOUBLE HEADER



McDonnell-Douglas AGM-84 Harpoon anti-ship missile greets visitors at the Submarine Force Museum.

Six members of our Squadron attended the tour of the Submarine Force Museum and the *USS Nautilus* on Saturday, the 5th. Attendees were Cadet 1Lt Wojtuck, Cadets Stout and Brouillard, SM Wojtuck, Mr. Brouillard, and Maj Rocketto.

Another half dozen reported to the Quaker Hill rod and Gun Club in the afternoon for a lesson in firearms safety and a session of smallbore rifle marksmanship. The firing was conducted at 50 yards on the outdoor range. C/Capt Flynn, C/2Lt Wojtuck, and Cadets Meers, Andrew Bourque, and Jeffrey Bourque participated under the supervision of Maj Rocketto assisted by SM Wojtuck and accompanying parents.



Cadet Meers qualified for the Pro-marksman certificate and the two Bourques earned Marksman certificates.

USCGA OBSERVATORY OPEN HOUSE

The make-up date for the USCG Academy Observatory Open House is Friday, 18 November from sundown until 2200.

SENIOR MEETING

08 November, 2011

LtCol Wisehart reminded department heads that the SUI will be on 20 December, the same day as the annual squadron holiday party. Department heads were asked to check out their latest copies of their SUIs and update them.

Maj Noniewicz conducted a safety briefing based upon topics in the latest issue of the *Safety Beacon*. Subjects covered stove, heater, and chimney safety and the ever popular topic of deep fried turkeys.

LtCol Bergey led a discussion of aircraft accidents, primarily caused by pilot distraction at critical phases of flight.

Maj Noniewicz urged the officers to attend the 29 November bowling night in order to demonstrate to the cadets that old age and cunning always defeats youth and innocence.

Capt Farley discussed the format for the 2012 training schedule which included one unstructured night per month to work on individual projects, specialized training for observer and scanner candidates, interaction with cadets, participation in the AEX program, and aerospace education programs.

AEROSPACE CURRENT EVENTS

Boeing 727 Mods to Compete with Airbus 320neo

Boeing executives have finally decided that the repeatedly improved 737 will get a series of new features to keep it competitive with the Airbus 320neo in the single aisle passenger aircraft market. Some observers of Boeing argue that they were slow to decide whether to go to a new aircraft or modify a proven one.



The major change will be to use 68 inch diameter fans but this will entail adding about eight inches to the nose gear to achieve ground clearance. The original stubby turbojet 737, dubbed “Fat Albert,” had its nacelles modified from a round cross section to a flattened bottom to accommodate turbofans. The more efficient engines will decrease fuel consumption and their increased weight and drag will be offset by the 737's lighter weight as compared to the Airbus.



Early model 737, the “Fat Albert,” in the livery of Aerolineas Argentinas. Note the small circular cross section nacelles housing turbojets.



Late model Continental 737 displays its flattened cross section fan jet nacelles and winglets.

First US Passenger Flight on Biofuel

A Continental Boeing 737-800 departed Houston for Chicago this week fueled by a blend of an algae-based biofuel and normal jet fuel. The fuel blend is just as costly as pure jet fuel but reduces the amount of emitted carbon dioxide. Alaska Airlines has announced that it will start using biofuel on selected flights within a week.

Boeing Super Hornet Mods to Compete with JSF and Foreign Aircraft in the International Arms Market

Boeing seeks an opportunity to increase its market share in foreign sales. The chief competitors are the US built Lockheed-Martin F-35 Lightning II and a number of other aircraft such as the Dassault Rafale and the Saab Gripen.

After elimination from a possible 126 aircraft purchase from India, Boeing had decided to propose a series of improvements to its F/A-18E/F Super Hornet.

Major changes to reduce drag and increase range will to use over the wing conformal tanks which eliminates the high drag auxiliary fuel tanks carried on pylons under the wings and to developing enclosed weapons pods to replace the underwing and fuselage hardpoints. A further advantage of these modifications will be to reduce the radar cross-section of the aircraft and improve its stealth characteristics.

USCG Officer Scheduled for Next Crew of Space Station

Capt Daniel Burbank, USCG (ret.) with two shuttle flights logged is scheduled to depart Baikonur Cosmodrome aboard a Soyuz FG on November 13th accompanied by two Russian crewmates.

Burbank is a 1985 Academy graduate and rated helicopter pilot. Orville Wright Achievement Award by the Order of Daedalians as the top naval flight training graduate during the period January 1 to June 30, 1988.

Burbank is a native of Tolland Connecticut and holds degrees in electrical engineering and aeronautical engineering.



Capt Burbank and TRCS cadets and officers pose after his lecture on his space shuttle missions given at the USCG Academy in 2007.

Voyager II Keeps Trucking On

Thirty-four years after launch, Voyager II continues to perform its mission of solar system exploration. The probe has entered the heliosheath, nine billion miles from earth. the region where the solar wind meets the interstellar medium. This is about one light day from the sun or about nine billion miles.

Last week, controllers at NASA's Deep Space Network commanded Voyager to switch to its back-up thruster system as an energy saving measure. Engineers can now turn off the heaters to the fuel lines which feed the primary thrusters

and save 12 watts of power, about the same wattage as used by the bulb in a refrigerator. The new configuration will allow Voyager another decade of operation.

AVIATION HISTORY

10 Nov., 1988-After five years of secret operations, the USAF reveals the existence of the F-117A.



Nighthawk, Now Retired

11 Nov., 1956-First Flight of the Convair XB-58A, the USAF's first supersonic bomber.



Hustler framed by the tail turret of a B-52

14 Nov., 1973-The first production McDonnell-Douglas F-15A is delivered to the USAF.



F-15A, Spirit of the Virginia Peninsula, bears the FF tail code of the historic First Fighter Wing, Langley AFB.

16 Nov., 1961-The USAF Detachment 2A, 4400 Combat Crew Training Squadron, deployed to Bien Hoa, Republic of Vietnam initiating USAF involvement in the Vietnam War under the code name, "Project Farm Gate."



T-28D carrying Vietnamese Insignia used by Farm Gate when first deployed to Vietnam.

USCG FLIGHT DECKS

USCG high and medium endurance cutters carry a helicopter detachment and are equipped with a flight deck and hangar. Here are a few examples.



The *USCG Cutter Spencer* (WMEC-905) is named for John C. Spencer, Secretary of the Treasury during the Polk administration. She was built in Middletown, RI and commissioned in 1986. During the event which has come to be known as "The Perfect Storm," the *Spencer* searched for the missing Air National Guard pararescueman and served as the command vessel when Egyptair Flight 990 crashed off Nantucket.



USCG Cutter *Chase* (WHEC-718) is named for Salmon P. Chase, Secretary of the Treasury under Lincoln and Chief Justice of the US Supreme Court. His portrait is on the \$10,000 bill. She participated in coastal patrols and gunfire support missions in the Vietnam War, Persian Gulf operations, and drug interdiction patrols.



USCG Cutter Hamilton (WHEC-715) is named for the first US Secretary of the Treasury, Alexander Hamilton. She was the first US military vessel to combine turbine engines and controllable pitch propellers. Decommissioned in 2011, she now serves in the Philippine navy as *BRP Gregorio del Pilar* (PF-15)



USCG Cutter Bear (WMEC-901) is named after the legendary US Revenue Cutter *Bear*, once commanded by "Hell Roaring" Mike Healy, one of the most colorful of all Coast Guard officers renowned for his service on the Bering Sea Patrol. The contemporary *Bear* was a participant in the Space Shuttle *Challenger* recovery and currently is home-ported in Portsmouth, Virginia.