

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

17-18 MAR-Great Starts-Camp Niantic
17-18 MAR-TLC Course (Seniors)-Camp Niantic
17 MAR-Advanced Communications Course
18 MAR-CTWG SAREX
31 MAR-CTWG Pilots Meeting
01 APR-NEAM Space Expo
14 APR-LifeStar Field Trip-Backus Hospital
21 APR-CTWG SAREX
21-22 APR-Corporate Leader's Course
27 APR-TRCS Officer's Banquet
28 APR-Glider Orientation Flight Trip (tentative)
04 MAY (FRI)-Ledyard A/S Festival-Juliet Long
02 JUN-Basic Communications Course
16 JUN-CTWG SAREX
16-17 JUN-Quonset Air Show
23-30 JUN-PAWG RCLS Course
12-14 JUL-Casa Wojtcuk Bivouac
21 JUL-04 AUG-Nat'l. ES Academy

04 AUG-Basic Communications Course
04-05 AUG-Westover Air Show
11 AUG-CTWG SAREX/Cadet Ball
15 SEP-Advanced Communications Course
19-22 SEP-CTWG Guided Training Evaluation
03 NOV-Basic Communications Course
10 NOV-CTWG Conference-Cromwell

CADET MEETING MINUTES

13 March, 2012

by

C/Capt Brendan Flynn

The meeting opened with a uniform inspection.

C/MSgt Bourque held a leadership class on L.E.A.D., an acronym standing for four things a leader must do: Lead, Empower, Aim, and Direct. For each of these leadership techniques, cadets came up with ways by which a leader may employ them, and how followers should take part in the process.

C/Capt Flynn talked to cadets about William Wooldridge, the first Sergeant Major of the Army who passed away on March 5th.

C/Capt Flynn discussed the International Air Cadet Exchange with the cadets.

Capt Wojtcuk led a Character Development session on time management. In the discussion, she talked to cadets about time management problems and techniques under the topics of procrastination, organization, and prioritization. Cadets were tasked with composing a table (to bring next week's meeting) outlining their priorities as urgent, not urgent, important, and not important.

Capt Wojtcuk announced that the uniform for next Tuesday's meeting (March 20) will be Blues. The uniform change is due to a Mitchell Award ceremony for Cadet Drew Daniels.

Maj Noniewicz and Capt Wojtcuk discussed the glider trip to be held on April 28. Cadets attending the event must complete the wing runner course and aircraft handling video found on eServices. Any cadet who is slotted to go on the trip must email Capt Wojtcuk right away if they will not be able to make it.

An awards ceremony concluded the meeting. C/MSgt Jeffrey Bourque received the Red Service Ribbon for two years of service in Civil Air Patrol. Cadet Trevor Sanders completed the Arnold Achievement and was promoted to Airman First Class. Cadets Andrew Cathcart and Thomas Ray both received the Wright Brothers' Award, and were both promoted to Staff Sergeant.



Cadet Cathcart has his insignia pinned on by Mrs. Cathcart and Capt Wojtcuk.

Maj Noniewicz congratulates C/MSgt Bourque.



Mr. Ray pins on Cadet Ray's staff sergeant stripes.

C/AIC Sanders receives his new insignia.



FREE EVENT **NEAM SPACE EXPO**

The New England Air Museum is running a Space Expo on Sunday, 01 April. The theme of the event is "Celebrate the Year of the Solar System." Astronaut Rick Mastracchio, a Waterbury native will be present as will a number of exhibitors.

The event will run from 1000 to 1630.

Maj Rocketto has been given five tickets by the American Institute of Aeronautics and Astronautics and is willing to take five cadets. Plans will be discussed at a future meeting.

FREE EVENT **CSRRA HIGH POWER RIFLE CLINIC**

The Connecticut Rifle and Revolver Association will sponsor a high power rifle clinic on 21 April at the Bell City Rifle Club. Attendees will witness demonstration with the AR-15 rifle, receive instruction, and be given a chance to fire the rifle on the 200 yard range.



Cadet Daniels at Last Year's Event

The Connecticut Junior High Power Rifle Team summer program will be explained and details will be presented on joining.

CAP cadets are invited. A parent should attend. The program is offered at no cost. Details may be obtained from Maj Rocketto. Advance registration must be made by contacting Coach Brad Palmer at palmerpatch@aol.com. This is not an official CAP event.

**CADETS FLYNN AND DANIELS CHOSEN
FOR NCSA**

C/Capt Flynn and C/2Lt Daniels will be attending special National Cadet Summer Activities this year.

C/Capt Flynn has been selected to attend the International Air Cadet Exchange and will be representing us in Australia.

C/2Lt Daniels will participate in the National Honor Guard Academy in Westminster, Maryland.

**NORTH BRANFORD INTERMEDIATE
SCHOOL VISIT**

TRCS visited the North Branford Middle School and made a presentation to a group of Mr. Richard Burke's students who were interested in CAP and aerospace topics. Majs Bourque and Rocketto and C/Capt Flynn and C/A1C Trotochaud represented the squadron

The hour and a half meeting opened with a short history of CAP and an exposition of CAP's three missions: aerospace education, emergency services, and cadet programs.



*Maj Rocketto
explains
Orientation
Flights*

Cadets Flynn and Trotochaud answered questions about the cadet program. Maj Bourque discussed the vocational opportunities offered by aerospace, and Maj Rocketto presented demonstrations of the Bernoulli Principle and the Doppler Shift.

The meeting concluded with a briefing on basic

information of how to join CAP and where nearby squadrons are located.

SENIOR MEETING MINUTES

13 March, 2012

Commander's Call

Maj Noniewicz reported details from the last Wing Commander's Call. The 801st Squadron from Fairfield High School won first place. The Wing will run a series of emergency service training exercises starting in April. Members are advised that a restoration of state funding for CAP is the subject of Senate Bill 197.

SM Hanke covered safety topics from the current issue of *The Sentinel*. Hanke led a discussion about the danger of moving and standing flood waters to automobiles. The dangers inherent in portable generators: carbon monoxide poisoning, fire, and electrical shock were also covered.

Capt Lintemann presented a brief report on Squadron finances.

Maj Noniewicz reported that the National HQ audit of our finances and property resulted in a favorable report.

SM Welch discussed details of the Wing's Operational Communication Plan. Call signs and frequency allocations for aircraft, vehicles, and mission base and the protocols for monitoring guard channels were listed.

SM Welch also announced that Basic Communication courses will be offered by Wing in Middletown on 02 June, 04 August, and 03 November. They will run from 0900 to 1300. The Advanced Communication Courses will be held on 17 March and 15 September from 0900 to 1500.

ANNUAL TRCS OFFICER'S BANQUET

The annual Thames River Composite Squadron Senior Officer's Banquet will be held on 27 April, 2012 at the Thames Club, 290 State St., New London. A buffet will feature chicken piccata and pasta, salad, hot vegetables, and desert. Officers are encouraged to bring guests. Dress is casual.

Tickets are \$30 each. Make your reservations with Capt Wojtcuk no later than 10 April.

TRCS SAREX SATURDAY

Senior squadron members will all receive calls to test the Emergency Services Telephone Alert List. Members should follow the instructions in the delivered message. The Call List will be utilized to report mission updates. All mission updates will be prefixed with the phrase, "exercise, exercise, exercise."

Participating members should have deployment bags with necessary personal items and mission materials ready.

The training scenario postulates that a major storm has hit Connecticut and different regions have suffered major damage. Assignments will be issued based on training needs and requests. Contact Capt Farley, the Emergency Services Training Officer with your requests.

AEROSPACE CURRENT EVENTS

X-37B COMPLETES YEAR IN ORBIT

The OTV-2, the USAF's 2nd X-37B has just completed its first year in a 200 mile high slightly elliptical orbit. The spacecraft is about 30 feet long and has a 14 foot wingspan. It is launched vertically by a rocket but glides back to a landing in the same manner as the shuttle.

The first X-37B spent over 200 days in space and returned safely. It will be used for a third launch in the fall of next year.



OVT-1 shortly after landing.

(USAF Photo)

The vehicles have a payload bay about the size of a pick-up truck but the contents have never been specified and the Air Force only says that it engaged in scientific experiments

HIGH ALTITUDE JET STREAM STUDY

Sometime between March 14th and April 3rd, on a clear night, NASA will launch five rockets from Wallops Island Flight Facility in Virginia. The rockets will carry payloads of trimethylaluminum. The chemical, when released at an altitude of 60-65 miles, will interact with electric particles in the thermosphere to produce a "cloud" which will be visible as a soft, white glow. Cameras at Wallops, in New Jersey, and North Carolina will then photograph the "cloud." The movements of the cloud will assist scientists in validating computer models of the little understood upper atmosphere jet streams.

The launches, known as the *Anomalous Transport Rocket Transport Experiment (ATREX)* are expected to occur between 11 PM and 6:30 AM EDT. The "cloud" may be visible in Connecticut towards the southeast.

"CLOUDS" IN SPACE

The ATREX experiment mentioned in the article above is only one of a long line of studies which uses deployed tracer materials to study space phenomena.

One such example is the Barium Ion Cloud (BIC) Experiment which NASA ran in collaboration with the Max Planck Institute in the 1970s. The purpose of the experiment was to study the nature of the earth's magnetic field.

A Scout rocket was launched from Wallops Island to an altitude of approximately 50,000 miles. About a half kilogram of finely divided barium was released at apogee. The barium ionized in the near vacuum and glowed with a purple light, at 4554 angstroms wavelength. Reflected sunlight also illuminated the cloud. Over several hours, the ionized barium arranged itself along a magnetic field line several thousand miles in length and was photographed by a chain of earth stations stretching along a line of longitude between Cold Lake, Canada and Ushuaia, Argentina on the Straits of Magellan.



Cloud approximate one hour after deployment. The earth is to the lower right of the photograph. Ionized barium is the strong glow to the upper left. The weaker light towards the earth is the non ionized material moving earthwards due to gravitational attraction.



BIC Data Collection Equipment

Two spectrometers and two cameras are on the mount. The computerized intervalometers controlling the photographic sequence are mounted in the racks. A shelter housing a 20 inch reflecting telescope is in the rear.

AIRCRAFT CREWED BY TRCS MEMBERS

In the jargon of the newsroom, a "filler" is material used to complete the layout of a newspaper. One of our features in the coming year will be photos and short notes on aircraft crewed by TRCS members.

LtCol Kinch, USAF retired, served as a navigator and here are some of his aircraft.



Douglas C-47D Skytrain at Lackland AFB



Boeing KB-50J at Pima



Grumman SA-16B Albatross at Warner-Robins AFB



Lockheed AC-130A Spectre at Eglin AFB



Lockheed LC-130 Hercules Equipped with Skis