

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>

S. Rocketto, Editor  
[srocketto@aquilasys.com](mailto:srocketto@aquilasys.com)

C/Capt Brendan Flynn, Reporter  
1Lt Scott Owens, Paparazzi

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### *SCHEDULE OF COMING EVENTS*

21 APR-CSRRA High Power Rifle Clinic  
21 APR-'O Flights for TRCS  
21-22 APR-Corporate Leader's Course  
27 APR-TRCS Officer's Banquet  
28/29 APR-Glider Orientation Flight Trip  
  
04 MAY-Ledyard A/S Festival-Juliet Long  
12 MAY- 'OFlights for the 103<sup>rd</sup> at Simsbury  
12 MAY-ASGH Star Party  
19 MAY-NER TRAEX  
02 JUN-Basic Communications Course  
03 JUN-Squadron Maintenance Day  
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

*17 April, 2012*

*by*

*C/Capt Brendan Flynn*

Cadets practiced drill maneuvers and maintaining correct spacing between flight members while marching in formation.

C/A1C Chartier led an AEX activity entitled "Lost on the Moon. The scenario of this exercise was that the cadets had crash landed on the moon 200 miles from their mother ship and needed to get back. Cadets broke up into flights and were given a list of equipment: things like water, flares, and nylon rope, that they had to rank in order of importance for the journey. C/A1C Chartier compared cadets' ordered lists to a master spreadsheet compiled by NASA.

Cadets exercised teamwork and ingenuity in a game of Capture the Flag.

Capt Wojtcuk advised cadets to purchase a small container of insect spray and store it in a BDU pocket for outdoor activities. Cadets were instructed to check for ticks when they returned home.

Capt Wojtcuk asked cadets to acquire certificates for their EO, OPSEC, and Introduction to Safety on eServices if a certificate is not present in their file at the squadron.

Cadets were informed that they will not be participating in the Search and Rescue Exercise on April 21.

There will be PT at the Coast Guard Academy on April 22 from 1300 to 1630 hours.

Physical Training will take place at the park in Groton beginning the first Tuesday of May.

### **TRCS VISITS LIFE STAR**

*14 April, 2012*

Eleven TRCS cadets, one officer, and ten family members visited the LifeStar Hangar at Backus Hospital in Norwich last Saturday.



*Family Members Mug for the Camera*

The Squadron was briefed by Pilot Sean Rorke, Respiratory Therapist Thomas Bascetta, and Nurse Michael Frakes. They allowed an inspection of the helicopter, answered questions about the mission of LifeStar, and training of crew members.

There are five positions at a LifeStar facility: The flight crew consists of pilots, flight nurses, and flight respiratory therapists. Ground personnel are mechanics and EMS communication specialists. The pilots and mechanics are contracted. Medical personnel are hospital employees.



*Cadets listen to an explanation of LifeStar methodology.*

The LifeStar at Backus operates out of a hangar at the rear of the hospital and has been there for ten years. About 500 flights are made each year



The LifeStar helicopter is a Messerschmitt-Bolkow-Blohm BK-117-A4. The twin-engine aircraft is a very popular air ambulance. The cabin can be easily loaded from the aft end and the medical staff is supplied with a wide range of devices from CPRs and EGGs to patient ventilation units.

### **STAR PARTY**

TRCS members and family are invited to attend a Star Party at Hurd State Park on Saturday, 12 May starting at dusk. The cloud date is 19 May. Dean Kavalkovich, a NASA Solar System Ambassador and the members of the Astronomical Society of Greater Hartford will set up their telescopes and guide the view of celestial objects.

### **SENIOR MEETING MINUTES**

*17 April, 2012*

*by*

*Capt Scott Farley*

The officers discussed lessons learned at the last Danbury training exercise. The primary difficulty was difficulties in communications between base and aircraft. A "high bird" might rectify this problem.

Maj Noniewicz reviewed the new approach to photography which was taught at the workshop held at the 103<sup>rd</sup> Air Lift Wing, Bradley, on

Saturday. The dumping of imagery and GPS data from the cameral to the computer was demonstrated. TRCS will practice these techniques at a training exercise on 21 April.

A new edition of CAPR 60-1 has been posted and flight crews are urged to read it.

### **DXR SAREX**

*14 April, 2012*

Danbury Airport (DXR) was the destination for five TRCS officers who participated in the CTWG SAREX. At the administrative level, Maj Neilson served as Operations Section Chief and Maj deAndrade was Air Operations Branch Director. LtCol Kinch and Captains Lintelmann and Farley were assigned as air crewmen. Groton crews flew two missions each.

The participants practiced a wide range of search and rescue activities: aircraft ground team coordination, air search techniques, communications, and resource management.

### **AERIAL PHOTOGRAPHY WORKSHOP**

*14 April, 2012*

Majs Noniewicz and Rocketto attended a special workshop at the 103<sup>rd</sup> Airlift Wing base, Bradley Airport. Maj Jack Shapiro, Wing Training Officer, established three focal points: training in the use of the CTWG Nikon cameras, transferring imagery to a computer data bank, and an introduction to the Geospatial Information Interoperability Exploitation-Portable (GIIEP-pronounced jeep) system.

After a briefing on the GPS equipped Nikon D90 and D200, Noniewicz and Rocketto, piloted by SM Jim Skiff, flew a training flight along the Connecticut River north of Hartford and photographed specific bridges. Back at BDL, they downloaded the imagery using a program called RoboGEO which also placed the required geographic coordinates on the image.

The final part of the program was a briefing by Sgt Katherine Keating, CTNG, on the use of the GIIEP system. GIIEP can use either a digital still camera or a digital video camera to capture imagery. The data can then be sent via a computer, cell phone, and phone card directly to the contracting agency.

### **AEROSPACE ED PLANNING MEETING**

*2 APRIL, 2012*

Majs Rocketto deAndrade traveled to Hartford for a luncheon meeting held to discuss a cooperative workshop for aerospace educators involving both CAP Aerospace Education Officers and Connecticut teachers.

Rachael Manzer, President of the Connecticut Science Teacher Association, winner of the CAP National Aerospace Education Teacher of the Year in 2010, and a NASA selectee for Pathfinder 7, a sub-orbital ride in a commercial spacecraft, chaired the meeting. Also attending were Keith Renfro from Hamilton-Sundstrand, Caroline d'Otreppe, Education Director of the New England Air Museum, and Richard Searfoss, STS-90 Mission Commander and a veteran of three space shuttle flights.

The group is considering a number of options running from a multi-day workshop to a mass orientation flight for CAP Aerospace Education Members who are teachers affiliated with CAP but not serving members.



*Maj deAndrade, Shuttle Commander Searfoss  
and Maj Rocketto pose in front of H-S  
spacesuits.*



After lunch, the group toured Hamilton-Sundstrand. Old time aviators recognize Hamilton as the developer of the constant speed propeller but all manufacture has been transferred to France. Currently, the company, part of United Technologies, is active developing and maintaining life support systems for space travel, constructing a wide range of systems for commercial aircraft, and producing specialized pumps and pneumatics systems for industry.



*The Irvin Parachute Company Pin*

*The Switik Parachute Company Pin*



## **AEROSPACE CURRENT EVENTS**

The USAF has reopened the bidding competition of the proposed light attack aircraft. Brazil's Embraer A-29 Super Tucano won the initial bid which was then disallowed after a complaint by Hawker-Beechcraft which submitted a design based upon its AT-6 Texan II.

The Lockheed-Martin Corporation is requesting a USAF C-130J for a month's experimentation on modifications which will increase range and decrease fuel consumption.

Boeing announced a new series of modifications to its 737 MAX version of the world's best selling airliner, the 737. A nose wheel strut extension will allow for the installation of larger engines, fly-by-wire spoilers will reduce weight and mechanical complexity, tail cone modifications will reduce drag over the aft fuselage, and new winglets will improve flight performance. The aircraft will compete for future narrow body sales with the Airbus A320 NEO.

20 APR, 1925-Robert Esnault Pelterie fails in a French court to collect royalties for his invention of the "joy stick."

21 APR, 1951-First flight of Chase XC-123A, the first US jet transport. The aircraft was designed by Michael Stroukoff and was a member of an unusual family of aircraft. The basic airframe flew as a glider, four engine jet, and notably, and successfully, as the piston powered twin engine C-123 Provider.



*XC-123 carrying four jet engines*



*The airframe under tow as the XG-20.*

## **AEROSPACE HISTORY**

### *A Look Back at the Coming Week*

19 APR, 1919-Leslie Leroy Irvin makes first successful free parachute jump from an airplane over McCook Field, Dayton, Ohio. He broke his ankle when he landed. Any person who saves their life by parachuting from a disabled or burning aircraft is eligible to join the "Caterpillar Club."



*The later iteration was the Fairchild C-123B in USCG livery*

22 APR, 1934-William Thaw II, first American commander of the *Lafayette Escadrille* goes West. Thaw was a WWI ace and is credited with being the first man to fly under all four bridges on New York's East River.

23 APR, 1960-Harold Pitcairn, designer of the Mailwing and autogiro pioneer goes West.



*PCA-2  
Autogiro at  
the EAA  
Museum,  
Oshkosh*

*PA-6  
Mailwing at  
Olde  
Rhinebeck*



24 APR, 1967-Cosmonaut Col Vladimir Komarov goes West when the parachute shroud lines of his reentering *Soyuz I* space vehicle become entangled.

25 APR, 1940-*U.S.S Wasp* is commissioned. The *Wasp* is the only aircraft carrier in World War II to launch the aircraft of an ally when it ferries around 50 British Spitfires into the Mediterranean and launches them to assist in the defense of Malta.

26 APR, 1948-George Welch piloting a North American XP-86 Sabrejet breaks Mach One in a shallow dive over Muroc. This is the first recorded time a production type jet fighter exceeded the sound barrier.

## AIRCRAFT CREWED BY TRCS MEMBERS



*In a far off land lost in  
the mists of time Maj  
Rocketto was the  
legendary  
Comandante Sabaco,  
Fuerza Aerea de Guano*



*Look Ma, No  
Rudder Pedals  
ERCO 415-C  
Ercoupe*



*His passengers never complained.  
Cessna 206 Super Skywagon*



*Pinocchio modification of the Beech 18*



*Stearman  
PT-17 Kaydet and  
the remarkable Ed  
Pease*



*Victa Airtourer  
Down Under*