

Missions for America
Semper vigilans!
Semper volans!



The Coastwatcher

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

Tower Rd., Groton, CT
<http://ct075.org>

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SCHEDULE OF COMING EVENTS

15 SEP-Advanced Communications Course
15 SEP-CTWG Rifle Tournament
15 SEP-Salem Propbusters Neighborhood Fun Fly
16 SEP-WWI Day at Olde Rhinebeck
21-23 SEP-USAF Compliance Inspection
29 SEP-Wings Over Westerly 1000-1500

10-11 OCT-NER A/S Education Academy
12-14 CT-NER Conference
20 OCT-Commander's Cup Rocket Competition
03 NOV-Basic Communications Course
10 NOV-CTWG Conference-Cromwell
18 DEC-Annual Squadron Holiday Party
25 DEC—1 JAN No Meetings

SQUADRON HATS AND T-SHIRTS

Squadron tee shirts and covers are now available at \$13 and \$10 respectively. Contact Maj Noniewicz if you wish to make a purchase.

CADET MEETING MINUTES

04 September, 2012

by

C/Maj Brendan Flynn

The squadron was divided into two sections. One section, under the direction of C/1st Lt Daniels worked on model rockets. Major Bourque and C/Maj Flynn led the second section in an emergency services training session which covered hot and cold weather injuries.

Flight time was devoted to customs and courtesies.

Maj Rocketto reminded cadets about upcoming events.

Two events occur on Saturday, 15 September: the CTWG Rifle Tournament and the Propbusters Neighborhood Fun Fly.

Cadets who have taken instruction in rifle are eligible to enter the rifle tournament as individuals and members of the TRCS team. If they plan on attending, they should contact Maj Rocketto by email before the next meeting.

Cadets who are interested may attend the Propbusters Fun Fly at the Salem Flying Field. An opportunity to fly a radio controlled aircraft will be offered. Some "Park Fliers" will be raffled off and winners will be able to fly them before the end of the day. The flyer will be sent to all members *via* email.

Cadets who plan on participating in the CTWG trip to Olde Rhinebeck Aerodrome on Sunday, 16 September, should email Maj Bourque immediately.

Maj Rocketto also stated that the material for our annual fund raiser, the citrus fruit sale, has arrived. Meetings of parents, cadets, and senior members will be convened discuss sales techniques and distribute sales materials.

SENIOR MEETING MINUTES

04 August, 2012

The meeting was dedicated to discussing the operation of the GIIEP system, GIIEP which stands for *Geospatial Information Interoperability Exploitation Portable* is described in the literature as a “man-portable, multi-band receiver capable of ingesting a variety of visual and textual data which will enhance CAP's ability to respond to disaster situation and provide annotated and compressed imagery products (both still and video) that can be quickly disseminated to mission partners.”

What this means is that is is a relatively light weight kit which uses either a digital still camera or a digital video camera to capture imagery, process it on a laptop computer, and transmit it to an interested party via either cell phone or hardline.

Sergeant Catherine Keating, Connecticut National Guard, accompanied by Master Sergeant Guy Bradstreet, provided a briefing on the utility of the system when used in light aircraft. Sergeant Keating has been flying with CTWG personnel including members of TRCS on practice missions which explore the capabilities of GIIEP as a tool for gathering information during disaster relief operations.



MSG Bradstreet and SGT Keating-Note the size of the GIIEP manual. We estimate it weighs more than the equipment.

For example, the imagery, still or video has been transmitted to a Connecticut Incident Command Post. Officials at the post are able to get first-hand, real time data on ground situations as they develop. The image is accompanied by geographic coordinates and camera information which enhance its value to the analysts and executives who must determine the best way to deploy rescue and relief assets.

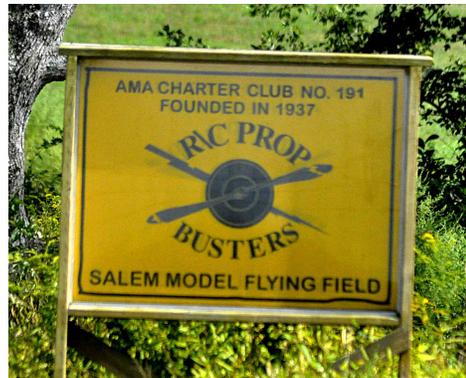
After the powerpoint briefing, the group adjourned to another room in which a complete system was operating. Sgt. Keating then demonstrated the capture of video images and the laptop processing system and discussed the advantages and limitations of the system in actual operational conditions.



GIIEP us a national program and involves not only CAP by also Air Force North and the National Guard. All information gathered is transmitted to a password protected web server in Alabama. This allows the wide spread dissemination of the information to parties who control resources which might be useful to assist the relief workers in the field.

PROPBUSTERS

01 September, 2012



Six TRCS members reported to the Salem Model Flying Field on Saturday last to learn about and to fly radio controlled aircraft. Cadets Brandon Schultz, John Meers, and Justin Ketcham were led by SM David Meers and accompanied by Majors Roy Bourque and Stephen Rocketto.

While observing the flights of a number of different radio controlled scale and free style fixed wing aircraft and helicopters, the cadets saw two aeronautical crashes which called upon their skill in search and rescue. A motor glider had a structural failure and shed a wing while over a cornfield. Under Maj Bourque's direction, the cadets organized a search and rescue team and were dispatched to on a mission in which ground team procedures were used. After two forays into the corn, they returned successfully with the wreckage of the aircraft.

The second incident also replicated a real situation. One of the helicopters had a tail boom strike in which the rotor blades flex and strike the tail boom. The helicopter went down into a separate corn field and plumes of smoke soon arose from the site. One of the Propbusters stationed himself on an observation platform in a tree and directed a fire extinguisher equipped search crew to the site of the crash. As it turns out, the high energy battery which powers the helicopter had shorted and ignited its wrapper. We are happy to report that no corn was injured in the photographing of this event!



Cadets Ketcham and Schultz display the salvaged parts of the motor glider which was recovered from the corn field.

At this point, the Propbusters set up two tables with pot-luck delicacies brought in by the membership. A cornucopia of food, from salads and fruits to pastas and beans to barbecued meats were enjoyed by all.

After the meal, our cadets were given a chance to fly a remote controlled aircraft. Instruction is given by means of a “buddy box.” An aircraft control system operated by the student pilot is linked to a separate “command box” in the charge of the instructor pilot (IP). Both boxes are essentially the same, operating control surfaces and throttle but the IP can assume control at any time if he feels that the student pilot needs assistance.



The Controller

Instructor uses traditional pilot method to explain controls.



C/2ndLt Shultz feels out the controls on the slave box. The master controller is just visible in the foreground.

The Propbusters are affiliated with the Academy of Model Aeronautics and have been in existence for three quarters of a century. The field is equipped with test stands, benches, a small storage shed, and safety equipment.

Their flying field is, appropriately enough, located on the site of the former Salem Airport which operated from 1944 to 1951.



A Sikorsky R-5 helicopter, destined for Fishers Island, waits out the fog at the Salem Airport in 1946.

(Photo courtesy of Paul Freeman's website, Abandoned and Little-Known Airfields)

The 150 member organization are enthusiastic supporters of aviation, many flying manned aircraft, and offer activities open to the public. The next public meeting is scheduled for 15 September and will be a Neighborhood Fun Fly.

QUAKER ROD & GUN CLUB JUNIOR PROGRAM SET TO COMMENCE

Mr. Mark Wujtwicz, coach of the QHR&GC Junior Program has announced that the 2012-2013 training season will open on Friday, 05 October for returning members. Cadets who wish to join are invited to report on Friday, 12 October. The seasonal membership fee is \$25.

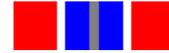
Parents must be present to sign a consent form. Requirements for the first night will be safety glasses, hearing protection, long pants, and hard soled shoes or boots. Firearms and safety orientation will be at 6 P.M.

The program follows the NRA Marksmanship Qualification Course. This consists of Pro-Marksman, Marksman, Marksman- First Class, Sharpshooter, Sharpshooter bars 1-9, Expert, and Distinguished Expert qualifications. All shooters are trained in Prone, Sitting, Kneeling, and Off-Hand positions.

Although this is not a CAP sponsored activity, a number of our cadets participate and have earned NRA marksmanship medals which can be worn

on their uniforms. At the present time, three or our cadets, Flynn, Paquin, and Daniels possess the Expert Award and are striving to earn Distinguished Expert, the highest level of achievement in the program.

NEW TRCS YEAGER AWARDEE



2nd Lt William Humes has completed the Aerospace Education Program for Senior Members and earned the Yeager ribbon.

AEROSPACE CURRENT EVENTS

UofM STUDENT SOARS ON FEET LIKE DUCKS, PEDALS AND GROWS WEARY!

Cash prizes have always been a factor in aviation accomplishments. In 1927, Lindbergh earned \$25,000 Oertig prize for his New York to Paris flight. In 1977 ad 19 Paul MacCready won successive Kremer Prizes of 50,000 and 100,000 pounds for the flights of *Gossamer Condor* and *Gossamer Albatross*. Bert Rutan took the 10 million dollar XPrize for the 2004 flights of SpaceShip One.

Now students at the University of Maryland's A, James Clark School of Engineering are within inches and seconds of winning the 30 year old \$250,000 American Helicopter Society Sikorsky Prize. The competition requires a human powered flight of sixty seconds to a height of three meters while staying within a ten square meter area.

Last week, the aptly name pilot, Colin Gore, a materials science student pedaled the modified quadcopter Gamera II to a height of two feet and hovered for 65 seconds.

A “gore” is a section of a parachute and “Colin” derives from a Scottish word which is turn derives from a Greek word for victory



The 71 lb Gamera II operates in ground effect. Its X-shaped trusses carry four 42 foot-8 inch rotors. (Team Gamera photo)

The Gamera II has been modified by extending the blades and support trusses, improving the transmission, and designing a more ergonomic cockpit.

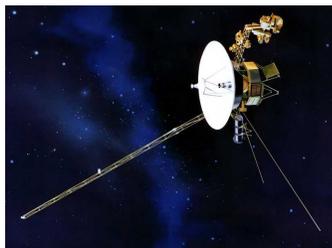
The 40 man Gamera Team is now within 40 inches of their goal and after three years of planning, construction, and testing hope to achieve success in the near future. Their closest rivals appear to be the secretive University of Toronto based AeroVelo engineering team. The best advice to those who strive to earn prizes is intelligent effort and perseverance.

Do you not know that in a race all the runners run, but only one gets the prize? Run in such a way as to get the prize.

I Corinthians 9:24

***And Speaking About Perseverance!
Voyage 1 & 2 Keeps Trucking!***

Equipped with 68 kilobyte computer memories and eight track tape recorders, two relics of the seventies, Voyager 1 and its mate, Voyager 2, enter their 35th year of data collection. Launched in 1977, they are our oldest operating spacecraft.



NASA Artist Depiction of Voyager

After accomplishing their primary missions-Both Voyagers explored Jupiter and Saturn and Voyager 2 continued in a different direction to image Uranus and Neptune-they continued towards the fringes of the solar system, measuring magnetic fields and cosmic ray flux.

Discoveries included volcanic activity on Jupiter's moon Io, and evidence of water ice on Europa and methane rain on Titan, a satellite of Saturn.

At distances of 11 billion and nine billion miles respectively, the signals containing the information collected take 17 and 13 hours to reach earth. Each nuclear powered vehicle has about eight years of usable fuel, enough to get them inter interstellar space.

AEROSPACE HISTORY

Some Historical highlights of the Week

01 SEP, 1924-The U.S. Navy opens a parachute school at Lakehurst, NJ.

02 SEP, 1952-Boeing announces plans to build a commercial jet liner. The Dash-80 prototype of the 707 and the C-135 flies in 1954.



Historic Dash-80 at NASM-UH

03 SEP, 1925-The dirigible U.S.S. Shenandoah, ZR-1, encounters a line squall while making a publicity flight in Ohio, suffers structural failure and crashes. The airship captain, Zachary Lansdowne and seven crewmen perish when the control cab plunges to earth.

The navigator, Lt. Cmdr. Charles E. Rosendahl took command of the bow section. Lightened by the loss of the cab and engines and containing an intact gas bag, the bow was floating but was buffeted by the storm. Through judicious valving of helium and dumping of water ballast, Rosendahl and his men free ballooned the bow to a safe landing.

On 31 August, two days earlier, the Navy had launched another proving flight with public relations overtones. Commander John Rogers and his crew departed San Francisco in the Naval Aircraft Factory's PN-9 bound for Hawaii. They landed some 365 miles short and the navy abandoned the search after eight days. However. They had rigged sails on their erstwhile "flying boat" and sailed towards the Hawaiians for nine days. They sighted Kauai and fortuitously, a submarine sighted them. On 10 September, the crew of the PN-9 came ashore.

These accidents becomes a central issue in Billy Mitchell's charges against the military establishment and lead to his court martial. He publicly opined that "those accidents are the result of incompetence, the criminal negligence, and the almost treasonable administration of our national defense by the Navy and War Departments."

Mitchell then faced a court martial under the 96th Article of War, charged with "insubordination" and that his statements were "highly contemptuous and disrespectful" and inimical "to the prejudice of good order and military discipline."

He was found guilty and suspended without pay and allowances for five years. A year later, he resigned from the U.S. Army.

04 SEP, 1936-Louise Thaden, flying a Beech Staggerwing, becomes the first woman to win the Bendix Trophy, awarded for finishing first in a transcontinental race.

05 SEP, 1934-Wiley Post, pressure suit and flying the Lockheed Vega, *Winnie Mae*, makes his first flight into the stratosphere. Backed by aviation enthusiast Frank Phillips of the Phillips Petroleum Company, he and Russell Colley of the B.F. Goodrich Company designed and fabricated the first practical pressure suit.



*The suit is now under restoration for future display.
(NASA photo)*



Post's Winnie Mae at Udvar-Hazy Annex, National Air and Space Museum

06 SEP, 1948-A DeHavilland DH.108 Swallow becomes the first British aircraft to exceed the speed of sound.

07 SEP 1909-United States Army establishes its first aerodrome at College Park, MD.

08 SEP, 1944-The first combat launch of a V-2, target Paris, is made.

09 SEP, 1978-NASA launches Viking 2 to Mars.

10 SEP, 1960-Maj Rocketto's first solo, Piper J-3 Cub, N42592, Waterford Airport.

11 SEP, 1961-Collett Woolman, founder of Delta Airlines, goes West.