

Missions for America
Semper vigilans!
Semper volans!



The Coastwatcher

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SCHEDULE OF COMING EVENTS

28 SEP-Cadet Ball-USCG Academy
28 SEP-Rifle Safety and Marksmanship Training
29 SEP-Hovercraft Project

01 OCT-TRCS Meeting
05-06 OCT-CTWG Corporate Leadership Course
07 OCT-Hovercraft Back-up Day
08 OCT-TRCS/Blues and Promotions
09-10 OCT-CTWG Unit Commander's Course
12 OCT-Groton Fall Festival-Poquonnock Park
15 OCT-TRCS Meeting
19 OCT-CTWG Field Trip-Intrepid Museum
22 OCT-TRCS Meeting
26-27 OCT-TLC Course-Camp Niantic
29 OCT-TRCS Meeting

CADET MEETING

24 September, 2013

by

C/SSgt Justin Ketcham

The meeting opened with a half hour of drill on the airport parking lot.

C/SMSgt Ray gave an aerospace lesson on Module 2, Unit 1, aircraft engines and instruments.

2nd Lt Timothy Plourde spoke about the opportunities offered to university students by the Reserve Officer Training Corps. Lt Plourde, a former TRCS cadet, majored in material sciences at the University of Connecticut, supported by a four year scholarship from the U.S. Air Force. Upon graduation, he received his commission and has will be sent to Japan as a civil engineer. While awaiting deployment, he is studying Japanese, continuing his physical conditioning, working part time at Groton-New London Airport, and assisting the squadron when asked.



Lt Plourde shares a light moment with Cadets Trotochaud and VanDevander.

Cadets and senior members engaged in a knot tying session led by Maj Noniewicz.



Our newly arrived Texicana, Cadet Carter, considers the intricacies of the bowline and whether or not the jack rabbit goes into the hole or comes out of the hole?



Cadets Jaskiewicz and Conway face a similar problem but the bunny is a Connecticut cotton tail.

The following cadets were promoted. Cadets Daniel and Michael Hollingsworth are now C/Airmen. Cadet O'Toole advanced to C/Senior Airman. Cadet Benitez received his C/Technical Sergeant insignia, Cadet Johnstone earned the Lindbergh Award and is now a C/Master Sergeant, and C/Senior Master Sergeant Ray is now C/Chief Master Sergeant Ray.



Johnstone warily eyes the pins exposed by Maj Noniewicz while Mrs. Johnstone prepares the other insignia.



Cadet Ray reports for his promotion.



Mrs. Hollingsworth and Maj Noniewicz pin insignia on the Brothers Hollingsworth.



Cadet O'Toole prays that Maj Noniewicz remember to put the frog on the pin before he pushes it in to the BDU jacket.



Mrs. Benitez pins C/SSgt insignia on her son.

HOVERCRAFT

The Hovercraft Project, supervised by Lt David Meers and C/1stLt Schultz, will commence on Sunday, 29 September at 1300. A second session, if needed, will be held on 06 October. Participants should bring safety goggles.

SENIOR MEETING

24 September, 2013

Seniors participated in the cadet knot tying class or worked on administrative tasks.

AEROSPACE CURRENT EVENTS & HISTORY

Private Initiatives by Sikorsky and Cessna

Both Sikorsky and Cessna are funding military aircraft developments with the hope that government contracts may develop. This can be risky procedure as Northrop learned with its F-20 Tigershark. In 1975, Northrop built the Tigershark hoping that it simple design, relatively low cost,

and high performance would appeal to foreign air forces.

However, the design was competing with the General Dynamics F-16 and the USAF not only was uninterested in the lower technology Tigershark but saw it as a competitor for sales for the favored F-16. Competition would result in a lower production rate for the F-16 and higher prices so political pressures eventually ended the project at a cost of 1.6 billion dollars to Northrop.

Sikorsky has started final assembly of its S-97 Raider helicopter prototype which will compete for selection as the US Army's "Armed Aerial Scout." The aircraft is based on the X-2 technology but will be a significantly larger machine capable of carrying a fire team and equipment or adaptable to reconnaissance roles.



Sikorsky drawing of the proposed Raider.

The Army has specified performance demands of a 220 knot cruise, 3G turns, and a hover at 10,000 feet at 95 degree Fahrenheit. During a survey in 2012, the Army visited Augusta-Westland, Boeing, Bell, and EADS but found no aircraft that could meet these specifications.

The project is extremely risky given the budgetary problems and competitive designs.

Set to replace the Bell OH-58 Kiowa, the "Armed Aerial Scout" will be a "plum" contact with long-term sales. Sikorsky is hoping, like Little Jack Horner, to stick in their thumb and pull out the "plum."



A New Hampshire National Guard Kiowa

A Kiowa flown by the Chilean Navy.



Cessna has also decided to take risks and formed a new division to develop a low cost jet multi-role aircraft which they believe might have some competitive possibilities with the F-35 Joint Strike Fighter and a swarm of turbo-prop attack aircraft: the Embraer A-29 Super Tucano, Beech's AT-6 Texan II, the Ayres V-1-A Vigilant, and Air Tractor's AT-802U.



Cessna-Textron visualization of the Scorpion.

Cessna is banking on the restricted military budgets of many nations and its own ability to produce an all-round versatile aircraft which is adaptable to many roles from counter-insurgency to ground attack to intelligence, surveillance, and reconnaissance.

The aircraft is powered by two Honeywell TFE 731a and is touted to have an under \$3,000/hour flight cost.

New Crew at ISS

A new crew arrived at the International Space Station yesterday. US astronaut Michael Hopkins and Russian cosmonauts Oleg Kotov and Sergei Ryazansky arrive after a six hour flight in a Soyuz spacecraft.

Officials are now considering the docking time of the Orbital Sciences Cygnus freighter which has been delayed until the arrival of the new crew.