



Missions for
America
Semper vigilans!
Semper volans!

The Coastwatcher

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

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SCHEDULE OF COMING EVENT

08 NOV-CTWG Pilots' Meeting-MMK
08-09 NOV-SLS Course-Meriden
11 NOV-TRCS Meeting
15 NOV-CTWG SAREX-Flight Session
18 NOV-TRCS Meeting
25 NOV-TRCS Meeting

02 DEC-TRCS Meeting-Change of Command
09 DEC-TRCS Meeting
16 DEC-TRCS Annual Holiday Party
27 DEC-03 JAN-Cadet Leadership/NCO School

ANNUAL CITRUS FRUIT FUND RAISER

The selling portion of the fund raiser has ended. Preliminary estimates indicate that approximately 300 cases were sold. The precise amount will be reported to the fruit purveyor and we can expect delivery in early December. At that time, we will need volunteers to unload the truck.

CADET MEETING NOTES

11 November, 2014

Cadets drilled at Groton New London Airport. Cadets were given the opportunity to pass their drill tests, and the remainder of the flights practiced marching.

C/MSgt D. Hollingsworth taught a leadership lesson on chapter 2 of the *Lead to Lead* book focusing on "The Cadet and the Team."

C/2Lt Carter gave a safety briefing on the dangers of floods.

C/1Lt Tynan presented the cadets with a team building activity designed to teach communication.d.

THE MARINES HAVE LANDED

Former Cadet Sean O'Toole visited wearing his new U.S. Marine Corps uniform. O'Toole spoke to cadets. He is awaiting assignment to a Military Occupation Specialty.



Sean O'Toole, USMC

SENIOR MEETING NOTES

11 November, 2014

Commander's Call

Squadron Commander Noniewicz reviewed the requirement for Skills Evaluator Training and listed all SET officers in the Squadron.

He then initiated a safety briefing on cold weather operations. Maj Nielson covered important aspects of air operations and Maj Bourque discussed issues relating to ground vehicles and ground personnel.

Nominations for "Officers of the Year" was discussed and a list of the offices open was passed around. It will be e-mailed to all officers for their input.

Maj Noniewicz pointed out that it was Veteran's Day and noted that one third of our senior members were or are sworn members of the military.

A recap of last week's pilot meeting in Meriden was offered by Maj Farley and appears in a separate section of this issue.

This is the final chance to get a "wish list" item to Lt. Simpson. Send her an e-mail with the items you desire.

The Annual Holiday Part is "pot-luck" and members are encouraged to bring a toothsome delight for the enjoyment of all.

2D Lt Mariano completed an inventory of critical items in our safe-box.

Lt Col Rocketto photographed the CTWG ELT practice beacon and will forward the information to the Wing Communications Officer.

Lt Col Kinch advised officers to become award of the large number of regulation changes which have occurred recently.

Maj Lintelmann made a brief report on Squadron finances and convened a Finance Committee

meeting which was held after Commander's Call..

LtCol Thomas Lytwinczyk, Eastern Group Commander, stated that some Group assignments are open and sought volunteers.

Lytwinczyk also encouraged the recruitment of members of the State Legislature into our Legislative Squadron and noted the importance of their roles regarding CTWG's relationship with the State.

Finally, the Group Commander announced that a Squadron Change of Command Ceremony will be held on 02 December. Lt Col John deAndrade will relieve Maj Paul Noniewicz who has served with distinction for over four years.

RECENT PROMOTIONS

SM Susan Poe was promoted to 2d Lt.

Cadet Matthew Johnstone was promoted to C/CMSgt.



(Above) SM Susan Poe reports to receive her 2d Lt bars. (Below) Newly minted C/MSgt Johnstone, Mr. Johnstone, and Lt Col Lytwinczyk



QUALITY CADET UNIT AWARD **FORMALLY PRESENTED**

Lt Col Thomas Lytwinczyk presented the CAP Cadet Unit Quality Award to Cadet Deputy Commander 2d Lt Susan Poe.

The award recognizes the Cadet performance in a number of areas involving participation: squadron growth and retention, promotion rate, AEX program, and encampment attendance.



DCC Ray accepts the award certificate from Lt Col Lytwinczyk.

TRCS PRIVATE PILOT GROUND SCHOOL

The fourth session of the TRCS Private Pilot Ground School was held on Sunday, 09 November from 1500 to 1700. The course is designed to prepare students for the FAA Private Pilot Written Test.

LtCols Rocketto and Bergey covered ATC clearances, Communications at Controlled and Uncontrolled Airports and Transponders and reviewed airspace limits and VFR requirements, required aircraft and personal documentation, and practiced the phonetic alphabet.

Wing Wide Pilot Meeting

A Wing Wide Pilot Meeting was held at Meriden airport on Saturday, 08 November. The program was hosted by Maj Roger Malagutti and the Silver City Composite Squadron. A sandwich, salad, and pizza lunch provided by CTWG preceded the meeting.

Wing Commander Colonel Kenneth Chapman offered a “State of CTWG Air Operations” presentation to the 30 assembled pilots. He noted that Connecticut placed second in the Northeast Region to New York in aircraft usage.



Col Chapman answers a question.

Col Chapman then discussed plans for 2015. At present, CTWG has eight aircraft assigned but this will reduce to seven with the departure of 04E for Vermont where it will be used as a glider tow plane. A replacement may be acquired in the spring and Chapman is hoping that this will be a Cessna 182 of the Gippsland GA-8. The number of aircraft assigned to a Wing is a function of usage with 20 hr/aircraft/quarter seen as a minimum.

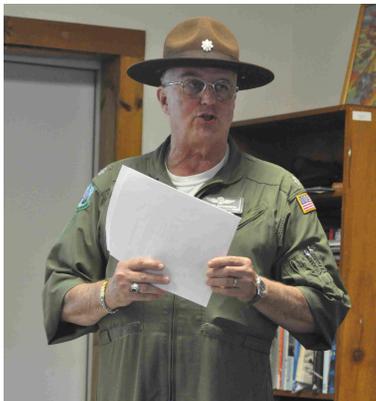
Additional funding has been allocated for pilot and air crew proficiency flights and additional counter-drug assignments may be expected in the coming year. Funding is available for Cadet Orientation Flights and squadrons are encouraged to assure that their Cadets receive the five power flights to which they are entitled. Orientation flights are one of the keys to retain Cadets in the CAP program. Glider flights will commence in the spring. Money is also available to take teachers who are CAP Aerospace Education Members on flights.

The arrangement for glider training was explained. Fundamentally, glider orientation flights have been outsourced to the Connecticut Soaring Association (CSA). The CSA provides a tow plane. The instructors are members of both CSA and CAP.

Chapman noted that the Wing will face a USAF Operational Evaluation and preparations are already in motion to bring our emergency services resources to an even higher standard than already achieved.

A surprise was the announcement that the 2015 CTWG Conference will break with tradition and would be a fly-in at some selected airfield. A range of activities for Cadets and a barbeque will be part of the day long event.

The next speaker was Lt Col Peter “Sandy” Sanderson who chose to lecture on the concept of “professionalism” as a necessary ingredient of a “safe” flight culture. He argued that safety us a top-down process which develops education and training programs to establish high standards for flight operations.



Lt Col Sanderson makes a point about the need for a “culture” of safety.

Col Lloyd Sturges, Director of Operations, was the last speaker and spoke about two areas of concern.

The first was aircraft usage. In the three fiscal years 2012-2014, CTWG registered very high rates on the order of 250 hr/aircraft and led the Northeast Region of two of those years. However, a guarantee of available aircraft depends upon high quarterly usage rates. The 2015 FY may find CTWG with eight aircraft supported by more USAF and grant financial support. This will demand that CTWG pilots fly the airplanes on operational missions, orientation

flights, and pilot proficiency and crew training exercises in order to maintain the size of our fleet.



Col Sturges brings us good news about aircraft availability and charges the Wing with utilizing them to a maximum extent.

The second part of Sturges's briefing focused on the critical subject of submitting the required paperwork for each flight. The paper work demands legible and complete log book and WIMRS entries for each mission. He detailed the steps necessary for each of the forms and emphasized the importance of a timely submission of data. The USAF pays for much of our operations and their rules on the quality, quantity, and clarity of required documentation must be observed in order to maintain their financial support.

AEROSPACE CURRENT EVENTS

Chinese owned Mooney Aircraft has announced the launch of a new two place aircraft powered by a Continental diesel engine. To models will be offered in a variety of flavors: retractable gear, and different engines and are expected to be utilized as a basic trainer or light personal aircraft.



The sleek M10 features the classic forward swept Mooney vertical stabilizer and rudder. (Credit:mooney)

AEROSPACE HISTORY

Lesser Known Aviation Firsts

Everyone knows that Chuck Yeager was the first man to break the sound barrier and wrongly believe that Lindbergh as the first aviator to cross the Atlantic Ocean but there are many lesser known aviation firsts, some of which are listed below. Here are some geographic aviation milestone.

First Manned Flight Across La Manche January, 1785

Jean-Pierre Vlancharde and John Jeffries crossed the English Channel in a balloon.

First Flight in Antarctica February, 1902

Eva was the first of two balloons taken to Antarctica in 1901 on the *Discovery*. The first ascent on February 4, 1902, carried expedition leader Capt. Robert Falcon Scott to an altitude of 250 meters. Veteran Antarctic explorer Ernest Shackleton made the second ascent of the day and took the first aerial photographs of the polar landscape.

First Heavy than Air Powered Flight Across the English Channel July, 1909

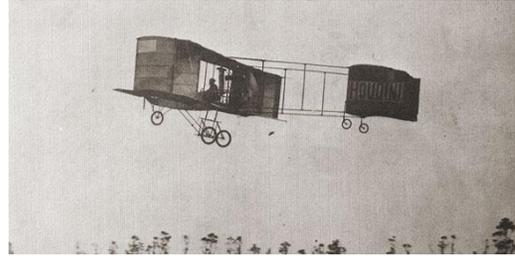
Louis Charles Joseph Blériot made the first flight across the Channel in a time of 36 minutes and 30 seconds.



Period picture celebrating Blériot's flight.

First Flight in Australia March, 1910

Erik Weisz, better known as Harry Houdini, made the first flight of a powered and controlled airplane in Australia at Digger's Rest, Victoria.



Houdini escapes the bounds of earth.

First Flight Across Alps September, 1910

Jorge Chavez, a Peruvian citizen born and raised in France completes the first flight across the Alps. He is fatally injured upon landing.

First Transcontinental Flight Across US September 1911

Calbraith Perry Rodgers, flying a Wright EX named after his sponsor, Vin Fiz, departed Sheepshead Bay, Brooklyn on 17 September. On 19 December, after 84 hours flying time, 75 stops and 16 crashes including a three week hospitalization, he taxied the aircraft into the Pacific Ocean, Long Beach, California.

First Flight Across the Atlantic May, 1919

The Navy's Curtiss flying boat NC-4 made the first flight which commenced at Naval Air Station Rockaway (N.Y) and stopped at Chatham NAS (Mass.), Halifax (Nova Scotia), Trepassey, (Newfoundland), Horta (the Azores), Ponta Delgada (the Azores), Lisbon (Portugal), Ferrol (Spain), and terminated at Plymouth, England. Fifty three Navy ships were stationed along the route as navigation aids and potential rescue vessels. The 4,000 mile journey took 19 days and required 57 hours of flight time.



NC-4 on loan from the Smithsonian Institution to the Museum of Naval Aviation.

The crew consisted of Mission Commander and Navigator, Lt. Cmdr. Albert C. Read, USN and Naval Aviator #24, Pilots Lt. Walter Hinton, USNR, and Elmer Stone, USGG, Flight Engineers Lt. James Breese, USNR and Chief Eugene Rhodes, USN. The Radio Operator was Ens. Herbert Rodd, USNR.

*First Non-Stop Across the Atlantic
June, 1919*

A month after the C-4 crossing, John Alcock and Arthur Whitten Brown flew a modified Vickers Vimy from Newfoundland to Ireland averaging 115 mph on the the 1900 mile, 16 hour flight.

Sixty years later, in celebration of the feat, the Royal Air Force dispatched a an FGR.2, the RAF version of the McDonnell F-4 Phantom. The pilots were Sqdn. LLr. A. |J. H. Alcock and Flt. Lt. W. N. Browne!



First day cover carried by RAF Phantom crewed by Alcock and Browne in honor of the Vimy flight crewed by Alcock and Brown!

*First Non-Stop Across the Pacific
October, 1931*

Clyde Pangborn and Hugh Hendron flew a modified Bellanca J-300 flew from Samushiro, Japan, to Wenatchee, Washington in 41 hours and 13 minutes.



*Miss Veedol replica on display in Japan.
(Credit: Sampsonsimpson)*

*First Flight Over Mount Everest
April, 1933*

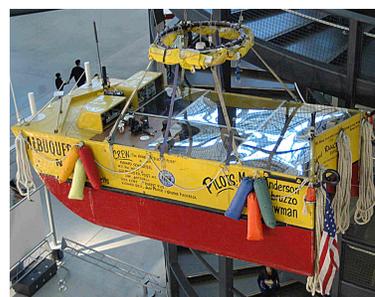
Lord Clydesdale in a modified Westland PV-3 and David McIntyre in a modified Westland PV-6 over flew the the world's highest mountain, just over 29,000 ft above means sea level.



*Westland
Over the
Himalayas*

*First Trans-Atlantic Balloon Flight
August, 1978*

Ben Abruzzo, Maxie Anderson, and Larry Newman flying the *Double Eagle*, cross the Atlantic Ocean in a 137 hour trip, departing Presque Isle, Maine and landing at Miserey, near Paris, France.



*Gondola of
Double Eagle II
hangs at Udvar-
Hazy, National
Air and Space
Museum.*