



Mission for America

*Semper vigilans!
Semper volans!*

The Coastwatcher

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

website: <http://cap-ct075.com/default.aspx>

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Schedule of Coming Events

December

09 SUN East Eagle Scout Ceremony
11 TUE Squadron Meeting/CC/Testing (BDU)
18 TUE Squadron Party
19 WED CTWG Staff Meeting
25 TUE Christmas Day/No Meeting

EAST EAGLE SCOUT CEREMONY

Cadet Shawn East invites Squadron members to attend his Eagle Scout Ceremony on Sunday, 09 December, at 1300 at the Quaker Hill Rod and Gun Club. Scouts are requested to wear their uniforms. Cadets who are not Scouts should wear blues. If you plan on attending, please notify Cadet East by 01 December. E-mail should be sent to andreweast@msn.

SQUADRON PARTY

The Squadron will hold a Christmas party on Tuesday, 18 December commencing at 1900. Lt Wojtcuk is in charge of food. Contact her at heartandsoul@snet.net if you wish to contribute food. Dress will be civilian informal.

WORK PARTY

A work party will convene at the trailers on Saturday, the 8th of December to finish the skirting. We will start at 1000 and plan on finishing by 1300. Refreshments will be provided and all are invited.

CADET MEETING MINUTES

04 December, 2007

Capt Bourque conducted PT testing.

Lt Wojtcuk supervised written tests and study.

Capt Rocketto explained the radian as a method of angular measurement and the use of mil-dots to estimate range.

C/MSgt Molinari was awarded a CTWG baseball hat for his achievement of Ground Team Member III qualification.

Col Kinch informed all Cadets that they must complete the OpSec on-line instruction in order to qualify for mission status.

QUIZ OF THE WEEK

1. OS2U stands for "Observation-Scout Model 2-Vought. Why was U assigned as the designation for Vought built aircraft? Would not "V" make more sense?
2. What is the designation (letters/number code) for the U.S.S. North Carolina?
3. On what river is that ship floating?"
4. What is the caliber of the gun employed by the A-10?
5. What is the name of the East Hartford Airfield which used to be operated by Pratt and Whitney?
6. What previous mystery aircraft in this column employed a large central stabilizing float as its main landing gear component?

ANSWERS TO THE LAST QUIZ OF THE WEEK

1. What is the official name of the “Statue of Liberty? Liberty Enlightening the World
2. Our “Lady of the Harbor” holds a torch aloft with her right arm. Her left arm holds a tablet. What is engraved upon the tablet? July IV MDCCLXXVI
3. Last week's edition carried a picture of the nose art on the S-39, the emblem of CAP Coastal Patrol 2, at The New England Air Museum. Refer back to this picture and enlarge it. You will see that it is a picture of a bird bombing a U-boat. The crew of the U-boat refer to it as “Der Blue Hen.” What is the significance of this reference to a blue female chicken? The Blue Hen is the state bird of Delaware where CPB2 was located. They were fighting birds and a Delaware's Revolutionary War soldiers were identified with this fierce bird.
4. Identify the “mystery aircraft of the week. The mystery aircraft was the Vought OS2U Kingfisher.
5. Why is the North American-Rockwell Lancer called “the Bone” by its crews. The Lancer is the B-1 or B-One.
6. Republic Aircraft used the name Lancer for one of its early aircraft. What was this aircraft? P-43
7. The predecessor of Republic Aircraft was named after a famous Russian born aeronautical engineer. What was his name? Alexander P. DeSeversky
8. Sherman Fairchild of the Fairchild Aircraft Company started his career in the aviation business with what kind of invention? aerial reconnaissance cameras
9. One of the pictures of a bomb dropping aircraft shown in the meeting was a Consolidated B-24. What was the popular name of this craft? The Liberator
10. What is the civilian designation of the C-21? Bombardier-Lear 35

GROUND OBSERVER CORPS REDUX

Last week's mystery aircraft was the Vought OS2U Kingfisher. The Kingfisher was originally built in East Hartford and then at Stratford after the Vought-Sikorsky merger.

The Kingfisher was designed by Rex Biesel, the same man who designed the F4U Corsair. Incorporated into the design were features such as spot-welded construction, drooping flaps, and spoilers.

Originally, the main purpose of the Kingfisher was as an observation and scout aircraft and it was often carried by U.S. battleships and cruisers from which they were launched by catapult and recovered by crane. Additionally, they could carry a small weapons load and were called upon for anti-submarine work and air/sea rescues.

Kingfishers were utilized by the U.S. Navy and Coast Guard as well as a number of foreign services

The particular aircraft in our photograph is located in Wilmington, NC on board the U.S.S. North Carolina.

Now for something a little different. Name the five aircraft! By recall that our recent contests have all been related to some association with Connecticut. What is the connection that these five aircraft all have to our state?



Mystery Aircrafts of the Week