



Mission for America

Semper vigilans!
Semper volans!

The Coastwatcher

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

S. Rocketto, Editor

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

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SCHEDULE OF COMING EVENTS

April

21 MON USCGA Lecture
22 TUE BDU
26 SAT Wing Conference
28 APR-5 May-USAFA Graded Training Event
29 TUE Blues-Parent's Night

CADET MEETING MINUTES

15 April, 2008

C/MSgt Molinari led the Cadet Squadron in the Pledge of Allegiance and the Cadet Oath.

Cadets prepared for the Conference or testing under the direction of Capt Bourque and Lt Wojtcuk.

Cadets were assigned to do research and writing for the "hand-out" portion of our Aerospace display.

Each cadet will write a short paragraph of approximately ten lines as listed below:

Brohinski-Col. John Paul Stapp
East-Bell Chuck Yeager
Abi Wojtcuk-Scott Crossfield
Lexie Wojtcuk-Project Mercury
Abbiati-Project Apollo
Michael Molinari-Project Gemini
Johnson-Sky Lab
Plourde-Apollo-Soyuz
A. Molinari-Northrop M2-F3 Lifting Body
Scannell-Enterprise/Young/Crippen
Shuttle-Biekert

Your write-ups should be sent to Capt Rocketto at srocketto@aquilasys.com by Friday, 1800.

The next meeting will be our last regular meeting before the conference. Cadets who wished to give speeches should bring in their material for the next meeting.

SATURDAY SAREX

A SAREX was held on Saturday, the 12th of April in preparation for next month's USAFA Graded Training Event. Thames River Composite Squadron contributed one of the two ground teams which was led by Capt Bourque and consisted of Cadets Michael Molinari, Lexie Wojtcuk, Abi Wojtcuk, Jonathan Scannell, and Jennifer Johnson. Our ground team was dispatched from GON and tasked with locating an ELT signal northeast of Norwich. The beacon was successfully located and the team was commended for its clear communications.

Thames River also contributed 20% of the aircrews. The aircrew assembled at Brainard field led by Lt Col Kinch and consisted of Tom Wisheart, Paul Noniewicz, Scott Farley, Willi Lintelmann, Keith Neilson, and Steve Rocketto. Air crews planned and flew missions using standard search techniques and radio direction finding equipment.

USCGA LECTURE

A United States Coast Guard Academy science lecture on the topic of Black Holes and Thermodynamics will be offered on Monday, 21 April. A summary of the topic and information on the guest speaker follows.

Nothing escapes a classical black hole; indeed this is the definition of a black hole. And yet thirty years ago, calculations of Stephen Hawking showed that black holes actually emit quantum mechanical particles, and that the particles have a thermal spectrum. This is referred to as black hole evaporation, and remains one of the fundamental predictions that a theory of quantum gravity must reproduce and explain. In this talk we will review the classical laws of black hole mechanics, which have a striking formal analogy to the laws of thermodynamics. Then we will discuss Dr. Hawking's calculation, which turns the formal similarity into an intriguing property of black holes.

Dr. Jennie Traschen is a Professor of Physics at the University of Massachusetts, Amherst. She received a B.S. in Mathematics from Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute and her Ph.D. in Applied Mathematics from Harvard University. She was a postdoctoral research associate at Chicago University and the University of California in Santa Barbara before coming to UMass Amherst in 1989.

Cadets who are interested in attending should email Capt Rocketto at srocketto@aquilasys.com. Plan on meeting at 1800 for a pizza dinner at a place to be announced. A parent is invited. Uniform is blues.

DONATION

The Squadron would like to thank Maj Neilson's company, Docko, for the donation of a bulletin board.

PARENT'S NIGHT

A Parent's Night will be held on Tuesday, 29 April. We expect to promote approximately 10 Cadets and award the Cadet-of-the-Cycle prizes for the last evaluation period.

Parent's who wish to donate food should contact Lt Wojtcuk at heartandsoul@snet.net.

QUIZ OF THE WEEK REDUX

The due date for the quiz which was carried in Edition 2.11 of the *Coastwatcher* has been extended to Friday, April 25th. Entries received by 1800 via e-mail will be considered.

CADET VOLUNTEER WRITERS NEEDED

The Coastwatcher solicits the assistance of Cadet volunteers to write the "Meet-A-Member" column. Lt Miller and Lt Col Wisheart have both been featured. Cadets who write a column will be awarded points in the Cadet-of-the-Cycle competition.

WING CONFERENCE

The deadline for signing up for the Wing Conference fast approaches. If you wish to go but have not signed up, contact Capt Rocketto immediately.

SUMMER ENCAMPMENT

There are numerous opportunities to attend Summer Encampment. Our Wing will hold its encampment at Norwich University and the Northeast Region is sponsoring a wider range of advanced courses at Otis Air Reserve Base.

Cadets must attend a summer encampment before they may apply for National Summer Cadet Activity Programs. The Squadron is willing to assist any Cadet who requires financial assistance. Contact Col Kinch.