



Mission for America

Semper vigilans!
Semper volans!

The Coastwatcher

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

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SCHEDULE OF COMING EVENTS

November

04 NOV-TRCS-PT
11 NOV-TRCS-BDUs-AEX/Testing-Comm Call
15 NOV-BCUT-Middletown
18 NOV-TRCS-Blues-Moral Leadership/AE
20 NOV-USCGA Lecture-Bright Black Holes
22-23 NOV-Unit Commanders Course
25 NOV-TRCS-BDUs-ES

Long Term Planning

06-07 DEC-Training Leaders of Cadets Course

CADET MEETING MINUTES

27 OCT, 2008

Lt Scannell called the Squadron to attention and led them in the Pledge of Allegiance and the Cadet Oath.

Major Bourque ran an emergency services training session which discussed cold weather issues in SAR and Cadets practiced litter

techniques. Cadet were issued "bear shirts" to use in cold weather exercises planned for the future.

Cadet Abbiati was awarded an LED flashlight for his perfect score in the last Coastwatcher quiz.

Cadet Herzog was commended for his efforts in the citrus fruit fund raiser.

Capt Rocketto reported about the current indications of water on Mars and on Enceladus, a moon of Saturn. The Phoenix, Opportunity, and Spirit robot explorers have all sent evidence that Mars was once relatively rich in water. The evidence is found in the constituents of the lithosphere which contains carbonates and clay, both of which need water to form. LIDAR has also revealed a snowfall albeit the snow evaporated before reaching the surface.

The Cassini spacecraft has made a close flyby of Enceladus to investigate the plumes of material which periodically erupt from the surface. Scientists believe that the source is water venting from reservoirs close to the surface. This water is heated by contractions of the moon as it encounters Saturn's gravitational field and the pressurized material is then ejected in a manner similar to geysers on earth.

In other space news, India has placed a vehicle in orbit around the moon. The Chandrayaan-1 spacecraft will be placed into a more stable orbit and then launch a moon impact vehicle at the surface. The Indian space effort will work in conjunction with the Russians to place a robot lander on the moon. Their manned effort plans to place a two man spacecraft in low altitude orbit

CITRUS FRUIT FUND RAISER



The sale is on. You are all urged to do your utmost to make this event a success. If you need advice on selling or more invoices, contact Capt Rocketto

SQUADRON CLOTHING FOR SALE

We have Squadron marked hats and tee shirts available for sale at \$10 each. The hats and shirts are black in color. The hats have the Squadron number on the front. The shirts are embossed with the Squadron Insignia in full color on the left breast. Contact Capt Rocketto if you are interested.

HISTORICAL MONTAGE QUIZ ANSWERS

Here are the answers to last week's quiz. Cadet Abbiati won the prize with a perfect set of answers. Col Stidsen, as usual, also submitted a perfect set of answers.

1. The "Spirit of St Louis" is a Ryan NYP, a modification of the M-2. What does the acronym NYP symbolize? NYP stands for New York to Paris, the route of Lindbergh's flight.

2. The "N-number" on SpaceShip One is N328KP. What is the symbolic significance of this number? N identifies the vehicle as US registered. 328KF stands for 328 kilofeet or 328,000 ft. This is just over 60 miles, 100 kilometers, the altitude defined as "space" by the FAI. The US recognizes 50 miles as the threshold of space.

3. The Bell X-1 bears a descriptive name on the nose. What is it? Glamorous Glennis, the name of Chuck Yeager's wife.

4. What company made the Whirlwind engine which powered the "Spirit of St. Louis?" Wright Aeronautical Corporation, originally started by the Wright Brothers.

5. Who heads Scaled Composites, the company which designed and constructed SpaceShip One? Bert Rutan

6. What famous test pilot was the first to fly the Bell X-1? Jack Woolams, the chief test pilot for Bell flew the first ten flights, all glides, at Pinecastle AAF Base near Orlando. He was killed while preparing modified Bell P-39Q Airacobra for the Thompson Trophy Race.

7. For what prize and for what amount was Lindbergh competing when he made his famous transatlantic flight? Lindbergh's flight won the \$25,000 Oertig Prize offered by Raymond Oertig for the first person to fly non-stop from New York to Paris.

8. For what prize and for what amount was Scaled Composites competing when SpaceShip One made its two winning flights? SpaceShip One won the 10 million dollar Ansari X Prize for completing two flights within two weeks to an altitude of 100 km.

9. Everyone knows that Chuck Yeager made the first supersonic flight in the Bell X-1 and if you answered Question 6, you know about its first pilot. But which adventurous pilot flew the X-1 between the other two? Chalmers "Slick" Goodlin, took over testing of the X-1 after Jack Woolam's death. He flew 26 flights in two different X-1s, including the first powered flight, all at Muroc. Alvin "Tex" Johnston also flew on flight before Chuck Yeager became prime pilot. Goodlin went on to fly for the Israeli's in their War of Independence and was a promoter of the Burnelli Lifting Body, the last example of which now lies at the New England Air Museum. If you are interested in conspiracy theories, take a look at the Burnelli controversy.

10. Finally, who were the two pilots who flew SpaceShip One on its award winning flights? Mike Melville flew the first mission and Brian Binnie piloted the second flight.

GROUND OBSERVER CORPS REDUX

This week's contest is an aircraft identification contest. Answer the questions below and submit them by email to Capt Rocketto.



1. What is the designation and name of the aircraft.
2. What company manufactured the aircraft.
3. What was unusual about the placement of the engine.
4. What was the World War II program called "Lend-Lease?"
5. Not only did this aircraft have automobile style doors and roll down windows but it also had an surprising appliance built by the Oldsmobile automobile company. What was this device?