



Missions for America

*Semper vigilans!
Semper volans!*

The Coastwatcher

Newsletter of the Thames River Composite
Squadron

GON
Connecticut Wing
Civil Air Patrol

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

S. Rocketto, Editor
srocketto@aquilasys.com

Vol. III No. 27

21 July, 2009

SCHEDULE OF COMING EVENTS

JULY

25 JUL-SAREX
28 JUL-BDUS
19-30 JUL-NER Cadet Academy

FOR FUTURE PLANNING

05-08 AUG-AEO Academy-Wright-Patterson
14-22 AUG-CTWG Cadet Encampment
12 SEP-Wings Over Westerly
23-25 OCT-CTWG Conference and Cadet Ball

The Coastwatcher will not be published during the weeks of 28 July and 4 August. The Editor will be competing in the National Rifle Championships, teaching at the Small Arms Firing School, and attending the Great Lakes Region Aerospace Education Academy. The next issue will be published on or about the 12th of August.

CADET MEETING MINUTES

14 July, 2009

Lt Wojtcuk led a Character Development seminar titled "Small things Don't Matter?-Cutting Corners and Taking the Easy Way Out."

Cadets Alexis and Abigail Wojtcuk were awarded their Emergency Services Ground Team Member 3 badges.

C/2Lt Scannell and Cadets Abiatti and Abigail Wojtcuk were presented certificates for completing stages in the Rocketry Program.

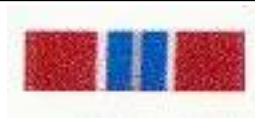
Cadets Abbiati and Abigail Wojtcuk also received their Rocketry Badges. They are the second and third members of the Squadron to complete the current program.

Bowling trophies were awarded to Cadets and Members who participated in our recent tournament.



C/2Lt Scannell Receives the "Pin of Merit" from Col Kinch to Commemorate His Striking Performance in CAP Bowling.

OWENS EARNS YEAGER



Senior Member Scott Owens has completed all requirements of the Aerospace Education Program for Senior Members and will be awarded the Yeager Ribbon.

SAREX

The Search and Rescue Exercise planned for 18 July was postponed due to a prediction for unfavorable weather. The new date is 25 July and Squadron members interested in participating should contact Lt Farley, the Emergency Services Officer at FarleyJScott@aol.com.

GARATT LECTURE

CarolAnn Garratt delivered two lectures on her world record setting flight last week. One was sponsored by the Experimental Aircraft Association at Westerly Airport and the second took place under the aegis of the CAP Royal Charter Squadron at their Brainard facilities.

Garratt and Carol Foy flew a Mooney on a westward circumnavigation of the earth from Orlando to Orlando via a route within the northern sub-tropics. They managed to halve the previous record and finished the trip in eight an one half days.

The adventure was an excellent example of how to apply operational risk management techniques to minimize the mechanical, meteorological, and geographical hazards faced. In addition, the description of the work done during the 18 month preparation period showcased skill in resource management and the tenacious character of Ms Garratt.

The purpose of the flight was to raise money to support research into a cure for Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis Neurone Disease (ALS). Autographed copies of a book describing this flight and an earlier world flight were autographed and sold. Anyone wishing to obtain *Upon Silver Wings* or *Upon Silver Wings II* may do so by calling 1-617-441-7270. The price is \$25 and it is tax deductible.

MAJ ROCKETTO ATTENDS REGION STAFF COLLEGE

Major Stephen Rocketto attended the week long Region Staff College at McGuire Air Force Base during the last week and successfully completed the course.

The program is a stepping stone to Level IV of the CAP Professional Development Program and consists of about 50 hours, not counting homework, of classwork, lectures, clinics on subjects ranging from drill to management techniques.

Maj Rocketto served with Alpha Seminar. He was not the honor graduate nor did that Officer come from his seminar. Also, Alpha Seminar did not win the Honor Seminar Award. The offices of Mess President was also denied Alpha. However, Maj Rocketto is proud to report that, at the formal Dining-Out Ceremonies, Alpha Seminar distinguished itself by repeatedly being selected by Madame Vice, the arbiter of Mess regulations and etiquette, for repeated trips to "The Grog Bowl" as a penalty for gauche and disorderly behavior.



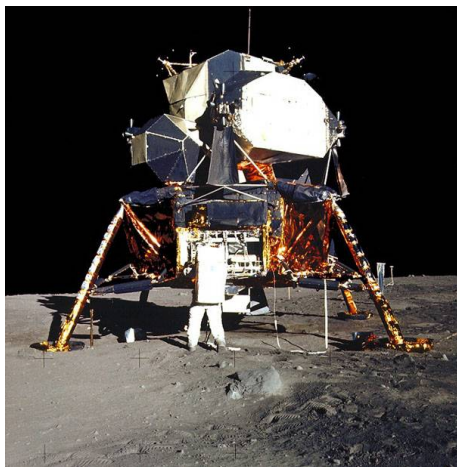
McGuire Air Force Base is named in honor of NJ native, Maj Thomas McGuire, the second ranking US Ace of WW II. The Air Mobility Command is the primary tenant flying C-17s and KC-10s. A representation of McGuire's aircraft, a Lockheed P-38 Lightning, Pudgy V, is mounted in a place of honor near the base gate.

LT MILLER'S CONTRIBUTION TO LUNAR MODULE'S SUCCESSFUL LANDING ON MOON

The week marks the 40th anniversary of the first manned landing on the surface of the moon. Squadron Logistics Officer, Lt Edward Miller, an aeronautical engineer, worked for Grumman Aircraft, the builders of the Lunar Module which which was the component of the Apollo vehicle flown by Neil Armstrong and Buzz Aldrin.

Lt Miller designed the reaction control system plume deflectors. The plume deflectors protected the structure of the LM from excessive heat when the reaction control system was activated.

In the picture below, one of the deflectors is visible. It is the vertically oriented gray trapezoidal shape almost directly above the astronaut.



The Eagle on the Moon!

Lt Miller left Grumman and eventually retired from Sikorsky Aircraft.. He has been called back as a consultant and is working to solve a rotor blade sand erosion problem suffered by our helicopters in Southwest Asia. In his spare time, he is designing a light plane and builds remarkably accurate scale models of aircraft.