



Missions for
America

Semper vigilans!
Semper volans!

The Coastwatcher

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

300 Tower Rd., Groton, CT
<http://ct075.org>

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SCHEDULE OF COMING EVENT

11-12 JUL-Vietnam 50th-103rd Airlift Wing-BDL
14 JUL-TRCS Meeting
18 JUL-SAR EVAL Prep
21 JUL-TRCS Meeting
25 JUL-CTWG Fly-in and Conference-HFD
28 JUL-TRCS Meeting

01-08 AUG-CTWG Encampment
04 AUG-No Cadet Meeting
08 AUG-SAR EVAL Prep
11 AUG-TRCS Meeting
18 AUG-TRCS Meeting
19 AUG-National Aviation Day
21-23 AUG-CTWG/USAF Evaluation
25 AUG-TRCS Meeting
26-29 AUG-CAP National Conference
03 OCT-Cadet Ball-USCGA
17 OCT-Commander's Cup Rocket Contest

CTWG FLY-IN AND CONFERENCE

Join the Connecticut Wing Commander, Colonel Ken Chapman, for a fun filled day of food, awards and comradery at the First Annual Connecticut Wing Fly-In and Conference. Families and guests are welcome. The uniform for the day is: BDU's, Flight Suit, Blue Polo or equivalent.

Accommodations for up to 25 aircraft have been arranged. Aircraft reservations are "first-come, first served". The primary date is Saturday, July 25 with a backup weather date of Sunday, July 26. If both dates are not suitable for VFR flights, the best weather date will be chosen. We have access to indoor facilities if needed so the conference will occur that weekend regardless. Updates on the weather decision can be found on the face-book page facebook.com/CTWGCAP or the wing website at www.ctwg.cap.gov

A partial list of planned events followed.

Wing Commander's Call
Cadet Activities-CAC, Encampment,
speech contest, drill contest
Communications and Chaplains Department
meetings
Educational Sessions – 'Operation of the
PDR- 3500 Mobile Tactical
Repeater'
Keeping Your Medical" by Lt Col Robert
Dodenhoff, M.D.
CTWG Photography to include Garmin
VIRB"

"Of the Year" Award Presentations
Lunch by Wings Sports Bar and Grill
Control Tower Tour

1400-Cadet Orientation Flights

Officials from the Northeast Region will attend as will members of the NER staff

Integrity

July 2015						
SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
			1	2	3	4
				O/F		
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
				O/F		Viet LISP
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
Viet LISP		CDR CALL		O/F		SAR prep
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
				O/F		Wing
26	27	28	29	30	31	
				O/F		

2 O-Flight
7 Senior: Planning Cadet: Planning
9 O-Flight 11-12 VietNam 50th BDL 11 LISP 12 LISP
14 Senior CDR Call Cadet: Character Dev, Leadership
16 O-Flight 18 SAR Eval Prep
21 Senior : ES Training Cadet: Fitness, Safety , DDR
23 O-Flight 25 CT Wing Conference Fly-In
28 Senior Cadet: Aerospace, Rocketry
30 O-Flight 31 Encampment Staff on site

Volunteer Service

August 2015						
SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
						1
						LISP
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
LISP				O/F		O/F SAR Prep
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
		CDR CALL		O/F		GT
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
			Aviation	O/F	Eval	Eval LISP
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
Eval LISP			Nat'l	O/F Nat'l	Nat'l	Nat'l
30	31					

1 - 8 CT Wing ENCAMPMENT 1 LISP 2 LISP
4 Senior: Planning Cadet: No meeting
6 O-Flight 8 SAR Eval Prep 8 O-flight
11 Senior CDR CALL Cadet: Character Dev, Encampment Report, NCSA report
13 O-Flight 15 Ground Team
18 Senior ES Training Cadet: Fitness, Safety, DDR
19 Groton Aviation Day 20 O-Flight 21-23 CT Wing USAF Evaluation 22 LISP 23 LISP
25 Senior Cadet: Aerospace, Rocketry
26 - 29 CAP Nat'l Conference 27 O-Flight

Excellence

September 2015						
SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
		1	2	3	4	5
				O/F		
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
		CDR CALL		O/F		LISP
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
LISP				O/F		
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
				O/F		
27	28	29	30			
30	31					

1 Senior: Planning Cadet: Planning
3 O-Flight
8 Senior CDR Call Cadet: Character Dev
10 O-Flight 12 LISP 13 LISP
15 Senior ES Training Cadet: Fitness
17 O-Flight
22 Senior Cadet Rocketry
24 O-Flight
29 Senior Cadet

Respect

October 2015						
SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
				1	2	3
				O/F		
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
				O/F		
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
		CDR CALL		O/F		
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
				O/F		
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

1 O-Flight
6 Senior: Planning Cadet:
8 O-Flight
13 Senior: CDR Call Cadet:
15 O-Flight
20 Senior: Cadet
22 O-Flight
27 Senior: Cadet:

Other	Gound	Tranex	O Flight	Meeting	Wing	National
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This schedule is not a replacement for good communications.

CADET MEEING NOTES

07 July, 2015

Physical fitness practice and testing opened the meeting.

Afterwards, Cadets and Staff worked on model rockets for the Rocketry Badge and the Commander's Cup competition

SENIOR MEETING NOTES

Commander's Call

07 July, 2015

Squadron Commander Lt Col John deAndrade called upon Maj Noniewicz, Safety Officer, for the monthly briefing. Noniewicz used anecdotes from his recent sailing activities to warn off the dangers of sunburn and to offer suggestions about avoidance.

The Squadron discussed plans for the National Aviation Day at Groton on 19 August. Lt Col Kinch was placed in charge of the project.

Maj Farley suggested that we mount a pilot recruitment campaign. He will sell the program at the FBO at Groton and Lt Col Rocketto will work at Westerly.

Lt Col Rocketto announced that part-time senior volunteers are welcome at the 2015 Encampment running from 01-08 August. Contact Encampment Commander Lt Col Stephen Valastro at major_valastro@gmail.com

FORMER CADET COMMANDER ERIK NELSON RETURNS TO CONNECTICUT WITH A B-52!



*Former Cadet
Commander Nelson, not
Capt Erik Nelson, B-52
Aircraft Commander,
Minot AFB*

Erik Nelson has just sent the following message to Lt Col Rocketto:

Just wanted to let you know that I will be bringing a B-52 to the upcoming Vietnam Memorial airshow to be held at Bradley on the 11th and 12th of July. I got final words today that this is a go. I would be happy to give anyone from

Civil Air Patrol a tour of the aircraft if they were interested. Hope all is well back in CT!

Eric Nelson, former TRCS Cadet Commander who earned his private pilot certificate under Maj Keith Neilson, is flying the B-52H and is stationed at Minot AFB in North Dakota. He is a member of the 5th Bomb Wing, 23rd Bomb Squadron.

The 23rd has an interesting history dating back to its formation in WW I as the 18th Aero Squadron. In 1935, they were stationed in Hawaii when Mauna Loa erupted. Six Keystone B-5A bombers from the 23rd dropped twenty 600 pound bombs on the lava flow, diverting it away from the city of Hilo.

During World War II, they flew the B-17E, later switching to the B-24. In 1944, they flew a 2,600 mile round trip bombing mission, the longest ever flown at that time.

Their Cold War mission included flying the RB-29 on strategic reconnaissance missions. Their Superfortresses were replaced by the Convair RB-36F/H.

Lt Col Stephen Rocketto was Erik's physics teacher at Montville High School and Eric enlisted him into CAP.

CAPSTERS TOUR U.S.S PITTSBURGH

"Nukie" Boat and Bevy of Beauties

Three CTWG pilots, Capts Rob McGuire and Oran Mills, and Lt Col Stephen Rocketto joined a group of pilots invited to tour the nuclear attack

submarine, *U.S.S. Pittsburgh (SSN 720)*.



A visit to a submersible is not unusual for aviation enthusiasts since there are more airplanes under the sea than submarines in the sky.

The group broke down into four pilot teams, each with a very knowledgeable navy enlisted man as a guide. After explanations of the sail and a view of the vertical launch tubes and towed sonar array mechanism, they went below and were taken through the labyrinth of the boat, from torpedo tubes to mess crew berthing to navigation and conning stations.

The day was brightened when the pilots joined with a bevy of beauties, the entourage of Miss Connecticut.



*Where's
Oran and
Rob and
Steve?*

AEROSPACE CURRENT EVENTS

FIRST FLIGHT

The Bell 525 Relentless made its first flight this week at the Bell facility in Amarillo, Texas.



The twin turbine machine uses a triple redundant fly-by-wire controls and sidestick. The two General Electric CT7-2FI turboshaft engines generate a total 3,600 shaft horsepower and is expected to cruise at 144 knots carrying a payload of 7,400 pounds.

Price must be no object because no price has been named but Bell claims 60 orders on its books.

Viper Trounces Lightning II In Test

A number of authoritative journals have reported that the F-35A met the F-16 in an air combat tests at Edwards Air Force Base and showed deficiencies in performance. The major complaints were a lack of energy maneuverability at high angles of attack and inadequate pitch rate.

Some authorities attribute lackluster performance by the attempt to build a common airframe for all three services in an attempt to save money. In general, all-purpose tools cannot meet the performance standards of specialized equipment. A jackknife can be carried easily and contain a number of blades tools but it cannot compete with a butcher knife for preparing meat or a normal sized screwdriver, Secretary of Defense MacNamara's abortive attempt to produce the TFX for both Air Force and Navy use is a prime example.

The project, known as the Joint Strike Fighter, commenced in 1997 and the first flight was made in 2006. The first production aircraft flew in 2011.

Total cost for the program is approaching 400 billion dollars and the cost for a single aircraft runs from 189 million to 299 million dollars a copy!

Air Force officials responded that the F-35 was a “flight sciences” test item and not equipped with newer features such as sensors and stealth coatings.

The program has suffered from a number of problems such as a long gestation time, engine reliability, and computer system development issues.

Although teething problems always face new aircraft, the F-35 has raised a storm of controversy over aircraft design, acquisition methodology, and the doctrine for its use.

AEROSPACE HISTORY

Memories of July's Past

01 July, 1872-Louis Bleriot, pilot, aircraft designer, and the first to cross *La Manche* by airplane, is born.



An old print depicting Bleriot's cross-channel feat.

02 July, 1937-Fred Noonan and Amelia Earhart go West in the vicinity of Howland Island.



Fred Noonan and Amelia Earhart-Putnam

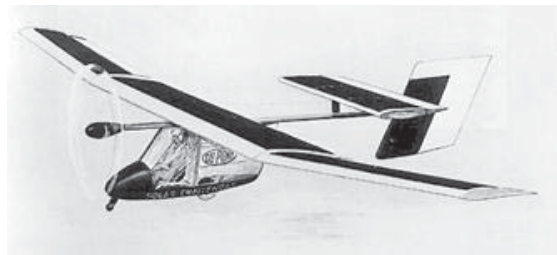
03 July, 1942-The first airborne test firing of an air launched rocket is executed from a Consolidated PBV-5A Catalina over Goldstone Lake, California.

04 July, 1927-First Flight of the Lockheed Vega.

05 July, 1944-First Flight of the Northrop MX-324 rocket powered flying wing piloted by Harry Crosby.

06 July, 1956-First Flight of the Nike-Cajun Sounding Rocket at Wallops Island, Virginia.

07 July, 1981-The McCready Solar Challenger makes the first flight of a solar powered aircraft across the English Channel.



NASA Drawing AeroVironment Solar Challenger

08 July, 1838-Ferdinand Graf von Zeppelin is born.

09 July, 1910-Walter Brooking flying a Wright biplane ascends to 6,175 feet, the first flight to exceed one mile in altitude.

10 July, 1928-In Germany, the first centrifuge experiments with human subjects are made.

11 July, 1922-An international conference to regulate air navigation commences.

12 July, 1944-The RAF places its first operational jet aircraft, the Gloster Meteor, into service.



The night fighter version of the Meteor, an NF.13, at Hatzerim AFB, Israel.

13 July, 1932-For the first time, the dirigible, *USS Akron*, carries its full complement of Curtiss F9C-2 Sparrowhawk air launchable and recoverable fighters.



Note the Trapeze Hook Mounted on this Sparrowhawk carrying U.S.S Macon Identification

14 July, 1938-Howard Hughes and his crew of four, flying a modified Lockheed 14 Super Electra, break Wiley Post's round the world record by four hours, completing the journey in three days, nineteen hours, fourteen minutes and ten seconds



N.Y. Police provide motorcycle escort as Hughes taxis the Lockheed 14 Super Electra to tie-down at Floyd Bennett Field. (Photo Credit: Associated Press)

15 July, 1933-Gen. Italo Balbo leads 24 Savoia-Marchetti S-55 flying boats in a mass flight from Rome to Chicago.

16 July, 1945-The United States tests the first nuclear weapon at the Trinity Site, Alamogordo, New Mexico.

17 July, 1917-Groundbreaking for the first National Advisory Committee on Aeronautics building, Langley Field, Virginia.

18 July, 1925-First Flight of the Goodyear blimp, Pilgrim.

19 July, 1954-First Flight of the DeHavilland Comet III.

20 July, 1969-The Lunar Module Eagle lands on the surface of the Moon.



Eagle prepares to descend to lunar surface. Capt. Ed Miller of Thames River worked at Grumman on the design of the lunar module.

(Photo Credit: NASA)

21 July, 1911-Denise Moore goes West, the first woman killed while soloing an aircraft. Moore's real name was E. Jane-Wright and she was the widow of Denis Cornesson but she adopted a pseudonym to hide her aviation activities from her family.



22 July, 1933-Wiley Post pilots the Lockheed Vega Winnie Mae, on the first round the world solo flight.



Winnie Mae at the NASM

23 July, 1930-Glenn Curtiss goes West.

24 July, 1943-The RAF, for the first time, uses chaff, strips of aluminum foil, cut to the wavelength of the German radar stations, to hinder tracking of their bomber stream directed against Hamburg.



RAF photo of an Avro Lancaster deploying chaff, the v-shaped “cloud” on the left side of the frame. (Photo Credit: RAF)

25 July, 1939-First Flight of the mediocre twin engined Avro Manchester, subsequently modified into the superb four engined Lancaster heavy bomber.

26 July, 1971-Apollo 15 lifts-off. Destination: Hadley Rill, Mare Imbrium, the Moon. This was the first mission to carry a “lunar rover” and a crew specially trained in geology.



Apollo 15 at launch. 6.2 million pounds of weight powered by 7.6 million pounds of thrust. (Photo Credit: NASA)

27 July, 1909-At Fort Meyer, Virginia, Orville Wright pilots the first official test flight of a US Army airplane.



The Wright 1908 Military Flyer in the air over Fort Meyer. (Credit: Library of Congress)

28 July, 1950-British European Airways conduct the first scheduled passenger service by a gas powered turbine aircraft using a Vickers Viscount.



British Airways Viscount on the Ramp

29 July, 1950-A North American RB-45 Tornado makes the first nonstop trans-Pacific flight by a jet aircraft.



RB-45C at the old SAC Museum, Offutt AFB

30 July, 1935-Lt Frank Akers, USN, makes the first hooded landing on the aircraft carrier, USS Langley. Akers, flying a Berliner Joyce OJ-2 departed from San Diego, found the U.S.S. Langley some 150 miles distant, and successfully made a "blind" landing.

Akers went on to serve as navigator aboard the U.S.S. Hornet on the Doolittle Raid and during the Battle of Midway. He became the Navy's "Gray Eagle," the Naval Aviator who had been flying longer than any other on active duty. He retired as a rear admiral.



Akers, during an earlier test flight at College Park, Md. He is seated in the rear cockpit and the hood used is folded in front of him. The man in the white hat is Rear Adm. Ernest King who as Fleet Admiral King, became Chief of Naval Operations during WW II. (Photo Credit: US Navy)

31 July, 1956-A flight of Sikorsky H-19s make the first trans-Atlantic helicopter flight.



The Sikorsky Model 55, US military H-19 Chickasaw displays the unusual mounting of its radial power plant which could be changed in two hours.

The Coastwatcher will not be published for the next two weeks. Publication resumes on 28 July