



The Daedalean **Semper Discens**

*Monthly Aerospace Education Newsletter of the Connecticut
Wing of the Civil Air Patrol*

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CTWG*

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CALENDAR

10 APR-Stratford Eagles Rifle Clinic
12 APR-SAT-SAREX
26 APR-SAT Wing Convention
28 APR-5 May-USAF Graded Training Event
10 May-SAT-ACUT
21 JUN-SAT Wing Rocket Competition
04 JUL-13 JUL-Wing Cadet Encampment
21-22 JUL-AIAA Aerospace Conference-Hartford

WING INTERNAL AEO NEEDED

The Wing is searching for a volunteer willing to fulfill the post of Internal Aerospace Education Officer. The applicant for this post will assist in activities which promote aerospace education within the Wing. The main duty will be to promote the Aerospace Education Program for Senior Members. Volunteers should contact Steve Rocketto at srocketto@aquilasys.com

ROCKETTO'S REDUCTION OF PAPERWORK ACT

This is not really an act, it is the real McCoy. I am in total sympathy with my fellow Aerospace Education Officers who suffer under the burden of excessive paperwork.

For all my life, I have been a "field man" and have viewed the "paper wallahs" at HQ with naught but scorn. Ironically, I now find myself a "paper wallah" who requires information from those hard working field men, you, the Aerospace Officers of our Connecticut squadrons.

What to do? If I would be true to my salt as an unreconciled field man, I would figure out a way to relieve you of the onerous burden of submitting a monthly report to me about your activities. I cannot do this but I might be able to make it easier and this method might even make your required annual report easier. Here is my idea.

I will send you a monthly email, a template, which will cover all of the data which I need for my monthly and annual report to Region and National. All you need do is fill in the blanks and shoot it back to me by email.

Best of all, you will have monthly records which will make the compilation of the annual report a simple task.

For the first run, I would like to try the report for March. If it works, I will send you a template for January and February.

From time to time, I might ask additional questions which I will need to fill out my annual report or to make plans.

I will send the template for March immediately after I transmit this edition of *The Daedalean*. Please give it some attention and feel free to comment on the system.

WING CONFERENCE

Squadron AEOs are reminded that a number of Cadet activities are scheduled for the Wing Conference.

Each Squadron is encouraged to supply two displays. The aerospace display will be a presentation on "the history of rocketry." The theme of the second display will be "safety."

Although the competition for the Commander's Cup in Rocketry is scheduled for June, one item must be presented at the Wing Conference for judging. This is the historical rocket which will be flown in June.

Cadets will also compete in a speech contest and an informal drill-off.

A new contest will be conducted. Cadets will, as a Squadron, take a timed test on rocketry which will consist of material contained in the Rocketry Manual which must be learned to meet the requirements for the Redstone, Titan, and Saturn stages of the award: Redstone Stage (pp. 6-9) Titan Stage: (pp. 30-33) Saturn Stage (pp. 56-63). An additional set of questions testing general knowledge of the history and theory of rocketry will be used to break ties. Note, the Squadron will take this test as a group with as many Cadets participating as desired.

AEROPACE EDUCATION CONFERENCE SCHEDULED FOR HARTFORD IN JULY

The American Institute of Aeronautics and Astronautics and Pratt & Whitney will sponsor a two day aerospace education conference in Hartford on 21-22 July. A similar conference sponsored by the AIAA and General Electric was held in Cincinnati last year. CTWG AEOs are encouraged to attend. More information will be forthcoming as it becomes available.

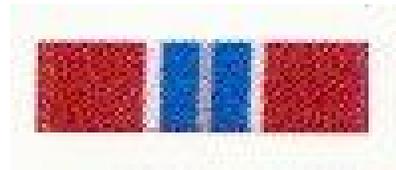
CSRRA AR-15 RIFLE CLINIC

The Connecticut State Rifle and Revolver Association will host a high power rifle clinic at the Bell City Rifle Club on 19 April at 0830 at Bell City Rifle Club. The Wing has been invited to participate and will provide instructors and coaches. Participating cadets will be given an introductory safety lesson, learn about the opportunities to compete, and fire the AR-15 match rifle at 200 yards. A demonstration of a rapid fire match will be given by members of the nationally ranked Connecticut Junior High Power Team.

If your Cadets are interested in attending, contact one of the following:

Brad Palmer	860-649-4446
Jim Castonguay	860-738-2954
Randy Bieler	203-272-1725

YEAGER AWARDS



The Wing congratulates the following Officers who received the Yeager Award in the first quarter of 2008:

Thames River Composite Squadron-Lt Col William Dolan, 2Lt Jay Farley

If members of your squadron have earned this award during January, February, or March, please forward the details to the DAE, Steve Rocketto, at srocketto@aquilasys.com.

The 2008 CTWG PATROL ROCKETRY CONTEST FOR THE COMMANDER'S CUP *III. An Estes Alpha (non plastic fins)*

Tentative Dates: June 21, Rain Date June 22

Durham Fair Grounds, Whites Farm Co- Launch with CATO.

Three (3) Rockets will be entered per squadron as described below.

I. An Historical Rocket.

The rocket will be of historical importance. It may either be scratch built or kit built but it must be powered by a D engine or less.

The rocket will be judged on historical accuracy and quality of construction. Allowances will be made for required stabilization (fins & launch lug) equipment for flight.

In addition, a one page (type size 12 font) write up of the rocket and its historical significance will be submitted for judging. This rocket report must be a squadron (team) effort, not simply one individual's effort

This Rocket, it's write up and the team are due for judging at the wing conference. (April 26th). This rocket will still need to be flown at Durham.

II. A Scratch Built Rocket (Squadron Designed)

The Following parameters will be used:

1. Powered by a B6-4 Engine
2. Minimum of 16 inches Tall
3. Minimum of Four Fins
4. Parachute Recovery
5. Decorated with a SQUADRON theme

ONLY appropriate NAR certified materials (no paper towel tubes) will be used.

This rocket will be built by a Cadet who is new to the CAP Rocketry Program this year (2008) and who did not compete in the 2007 contest and has not completed the 2nd phase of the CAP Rocketry Program (Titan) as of 31 December, 2007. The rocket will be painted with a "Civil Air Patrol" theme of the participant's choice.

MEMORIES OF APRILS PAST

01 APR, 1918-The Royal Flying Corps and the Royal Naval Air Service were amalgamated into the Royal Air Force.

02 APR, 1959-NASA names the seven Project Mercury astronauts.

03 APR, 1981-Commercial aviation pioneer and Pan American Airways founder goes west.

04 APR, 1947-International Civil Aviation Organization founded.



Former Swiss Hunter at RCAF Memorial Museum, RCB Trenton, Ontario

05 APR, 1968-Flt. Lt. Alan Richard Pollock flies his Hawker Hunter through London's Tower Bridge.

06 APR, 1927-The Aeronautics Branch of the Department of Commerce issues Pilot's License #1 to William P. McCracken.

07 APR, 1919-The first horse was transported by air from Los Angeles to Santa Ana, CA.

08 APR, 1984-China orbits its first geosynchronous satellite, DFH-2, *Dong Gong Hong*.

09 APR, 1953-First flight of Convair XF2Y-1, SeaDart, jet powered hydroski seaplane fighter.



SeaDart at San Diego



Arado 243 at the Udvar-Hazy Annex, NASM

10 APR, 1945-Last *Luftwaffe* sortie over Great Britain flown out by Arado 234 reconnaissance aircraft.

11 APR, 1971-Michael Collins is appointed director of National Air and Space Museum.

12 APR, 1911, Peerless pilot Pierre Prier in a Bleriot monoplane flies 250 mi in 4 hours to complete the first nonstop flight from Paris to London.

13 APR, 1912-Argentine *Teniente* Luis C. Cadelana makes the first crossing of the Andes in a Morane Sulnier aircraft.

14 APR, 1981-STs-1, Columbia, with John Young and Robert Crippen at the controls, lands at Edwards completing the first orbital mission of the “space shuttle.”

15 APR, 1952-First flight of Boeing YB-52 Stratofortress.

16 APR, 1912-Harriet Quimby, first licensed US woman pilot solos across the English Channel.

17 APR, 1941-A float equipped VS-300A piloted by Igor Sikorsky makes the first water landing by a helicopter.

18 APR, 1942-Jimmy Doolittle leads first air strike against the Japanese home islands.

19 APR, 1919-Leslie Leroy Irvin makes first successful free parachute jump from an airplane over McCook Field, Dayton, Ohio.

20 APR, 1925-Robert Esnault Pelterie fails in a French court to collect royalties for his invention of the “joy stick.”

21 APR, 1951-First flight of Chase XC-123A, the first US jet transport.

22 APR, 1934-William Thaw II, first American commander of the *Lafayette Escadrille* goes west.

23 APR, 1960-Harold Pitcairn, designer of the Mailwing and autogiro pioneer goes west.

24 APR, 1967-Cosmonaut Col Vladimir Komarov goes west when the parachute shroud lines of his reentering *Soyuz I* space vehicle become entangled.

25 APR, 1940-*U.S.S Wasp* is commissioned. The *Wasp* is the only aircraft carrier in World War II to launch the aircraft of an ally when it ferries around 50 British Spitfires into the Mediterranean and launches them to assist the defenses of Malta.

26 APR, 1948-George Welch piloting a North American XP-86 Sabrejet breaks Mach One in a shallow dive over Muroc. This is the first recorded time a production type jet fighter exceeded the sound barrier.

27 APR, 1913-Robert G. Fowler completes the first non-stop flight from the Atlantic Ocean to the Pacific Ocean by crossing the Isthmus of Panama.

28 APR, 1926-First flight of the Ryan NYP.

29 APR, 1959-First flight of the Dornier DO-28.



DO-28 at Paramaribo, Surinam

*Article 121
on board of
the Intrepid*



30 APR, 1962-First official flight of Lockheed A-12.

BASEBALL AND AVIATION

Recently, I ran an aircraft identification contest which featured the Martin 4-0-4 and the Convair 240/340/440 series. I had some vague recollection that the Brooklyn Dodgers had once owned the Martin airliner. While stumbling around doing research, I found out that the first airplane owned by a major league ball club was the Brooklyn Dodger's CV-440 Metropolitan purchased on Jan. 4, 1957. They started with with a leased or rented Twin Beech and then moved up to a DC-3 before they purchased the Convair for \$775,000. The aircraft was purchased direct from Convair through the good offices of Capt Eddie Rickenbacker who was the President of Eastern Airlines, a Convair user. The paint on the Dodger

Convair preserved the Eastern eagle on the tail but replaced the logo on the nose with a baseball motif.

Eventually they moved up to the four engined DC-6B, then a turbo-prop Electra II, and finally, in the '60s, a 720B. I also ran across a reference to a DC-7. Many of the planes which the Bums owned carried the name "Kay-O" after the wife of the owner, Walter O'Malley. In time, charters replaced team owned aircraft.

The romantic in me noted their first owned aircraft had been the Metropolitan for after the Bums moved to LA and taken the Giants west with them, New York gained a team called the Mets and it id a nice story that, the Martin aircraft's name presaged that new team at the metropolis on the Hudson.

Born a Brooklyn boy, when the Dodgers moved I lost my faith in baseball and no longer even believed in Santa Claus and the Easter Bunny. So easy is a child's faith crushed when he realizes that the home town team is really a corporation and he might as well root for General Mills or Amtrack. Walter O'Malley, the owner of the club is oft portrayed as the villain in the story and many a fan cursed him for his cupidity. The story goes that a Dodger fan was once asked what would he do if he was locked in a room with Hitler, Stalin, and O'Malley and had a pistol with only two rounds. His response was that he would shoot O'Malley twice. Anyway, I digress.

My brother remained a steadfast fan and, now residing in Westerly, RI, has transferred his allegiance to the Red Sox. Anyway, during my recent confused period, as I tried to sort out whether the Dodgers really owned a Martin 4-0-4 or not, I called upon him to assist me with some research on the matter since he maintains an adequate baseball reference library.

What emerged was some interesting factoids about baseball and aviation. Here are a few of them.

We all remember the recent Cory Lidle crash in Manhattan but there have been a number of other moments when aviation and baseball converged.

Two other well-known ball players who fell victim to aircraft crashes were Yankee Thurman Munson and Pirate Roberto Clemente. Munson died while practicing landing his Cessna Citation. Clemente was killed serving as supercargo on a DC-7 carrying relief supplies to Nicaragua after an earthquake.

The first big leaguer to die in a plane crash was Marv Goodman who played between 1916 and 1925. He was a WWI flight instructor and died at age 34 in the crash of a military plane in 1925

Len Koenecke, a Brooklyn Dodger outfielder, was known for bizarre behavior. Ordered off a flight in Detroit due to intoxication, he chartered a small aircraft with two pilots. While in flight, he seized the controls. In the ensuing struggle, the crew subdued him by bashing him in the head with a fire extinguisher. When they landed in Toronto, they found out that the safety device could also extinguish life. Koenecke was dead.

Not all of the stories are of gloom and doom. The legendary player and coach Wilbert Robinson. It seems that in 1908 a player named Gabby Street had caught a ball dropped from the Washington Monument. Robinson claimed that he could do better so aviatrix Ruth Law was recruited to drop a ball to Robinson from an airplane at a height that was higher than the Washington Monument. The story gets a little murky at this point. Legend has it that Casey Stengel was in the plane with Law. According to Law, in the excitement, she forgot to bring the baseball from her hotel room so she took a grapefruit that a bystander had and dropped that from the plane. Knocked to the ground by the impact, Robinson was splattered with grapefruit juice and assorted fragments of the fruit, all of which resembled blood and soft body parts leading him to believe that his end had come.

The only man to see the fireball of "Fat Man" when it exploded over Hiroshima was the tail gunner of the Enola Gay, one Sgt. George Caron. He was adorned with a Brooklyn Dodger ball cap.

In 1970, a wrecked Bell P-39Q was discovered in New Guinea. According to my brother's source, the plane was named Brooklyn Bum 2nd.

On 5 October, 1943, my Uncle, Harold J. Rocketto, was navigator of a B-17 that was part of the four plane formation which flew into Yankee Stadium during the opening game of the World Series. The officers or all four crews were arrested but released with large fines and set off to Europe. I have pictures of a B-17 clearing the outfield wall of the "House that Ruth built" and a video tape of the nose of my Uncle's aircraft, Hel'en Hiwater which clearly shows a small Yankee Stadium among the mission marks. If you wish to find some of the details about this incident, you can go to <http://www.303rdbg.com/358watson.html> or read the full story, originally published in The Smithsonian's *Air and Space Magazine*, by going to <http://www.3034bg.com/ourfieldfly.html>.

The Cincinnati Reds were the first team to travel by air when, in 1934, part of the team flew to Chicago to play the Cubs.

The first team to fly on a regular basis was the Yankees when they chartered a United Airlines DC-4 which carried the name "Yankee Mainliner."

And of course, let us not forget Ted Williams, USMC, who flew Corsairs and Panthers in World War II and Korea.

Then there are the Seattle Pilots but that is pushing a point. And if you are now getting cranky from pursuing this melange of trivia, you have only yourself to blame for you should never have let yourself begin.