



## *The Daedalean*

**Semper Discens**

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

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*Volume II, Number 4*

*April, 2009*

### **CALENDAR**

#### **April**

11 APR-Rifle Practice-Quaker Hill R&G Club  
13-17 APR-Wing Field Trip to Washington  
18 APR-CSRRA High Power Rifle Clinic  
19 APR-Rifle Practice-Quaker Hill R&G Club

#### **For Future Planning**

02 MAY-Rifle Practice  
03 MAY-Rifle Practice  
09 MAY-Wing Rifle Tournament  
13 JUN-Stratford Eagles Open House  
23-27 JUN-AEO School-Pensacola, FL  
27-28 JUN-RING Airshow-Quonset, RI  
30 JUN-**DEADLINE** AFA Grant Program  
20 JUN-Rocketry Contest  
4-11 JUL-CTWG Cadet Encampment  
10-18 JUL-NER Staff College, McGuire AGB, NJ  
19-30 JUL-NER Cadet Academy, Otis ANGB  
5-7 AUG-AEO School-Wright Patterson AFB, OH  
16-17 OCT-CTWG Conference and Cadet Ball

### **WING RIFLE COMPETITION AND OPTIONAL PRACTICE SESSIONS**

The Wing Rifle Tournament will be held on 09 May at the Quaker Hill Rod and Gun Club in Oakdale, CT. Optional practice sessions will be held during which Cadets will be able to qualify for NRA marksmanship medals. The optional practice sessions start will run from 0900 to 1200 on the following dates: SAT April 11, SUN April 19, SAT May 02, and SUN May 03. There is no charge courtesy of The Friends of the NRA and The Quaker Hill Rifle Club.

For practices, please observe the following procedures:

Arrive by 0830. Wear BDUs. Bring eyeglasses if they are worn. These also function as safety glasses. If you do not wear prescription glasses, bring safety glasses. Bring hearing protection. If you do not have safety glasses and hearing protection, we will provide them but it is best if you bring your own. Cadets who own their own target rifles and equipment may use them. Rifles are restricted to single shot .22 caliber firearms. The club will have a sufficient supply of rifles and slings if you do not have your own. **Please let me know how many Cadets will be participating so I can arrange for squadding, a coaching staff and equipment.** For directions, go to the Quaker Hill website.

#### *First Annual CTWG Rifle Tournament*

**Date:** Saturday, May 9, 2009

**Time:** 0900-1200 (If participation warrants, we can fire in the afternoon.)

**Fee:** None

**Conditions of Firing:**

**Distance:** 50 yard/Target: A-23

**Time Limit:** 25 minutes/relay-Relays will be assigned in advance. Post entries will be allowed at the discretion of the Match Director.

**Equipment:** .22 cal rifles, metallic sights, normal NRA competitive equipment will be allowed

**Ammunition:** .22 Long Rifle

**Coaching:** allowed

**Scoring:** An independent scoring committee will be appointed.

**Prizes:** Team Awards will be presented. A team consists of the sum of the four best scores fired by the members of a squadron. All members of a Squadron will compose one team.

**Individual Awards:** Individual awards will be presented to the Match Winner and place winners in each of three categories determined by the Lewis System. A typical Lewis System award schedule might be as follows: Assume 31 individual entries. Top shooter is the match winner. The remaining 30 shooters are divided into three classes of ten each, classes A, B, and C. The top shooter in each class will get an award. Final determination of class breakdown will be determined by the number of entries.

**Award Donors:** If anyone wishes to donate an award, contact me. The more awards donated, the more awards presented.

Please contact the Match Coordinator if you have any questions?

Stephen M. Rocketto, Match Coordinator, at [srocketto@aquilasys.com](mailto:srocketto@aquilasys.com)

### **2009 WING ROCKET CONTEST**

The Commander's Cup Trophy for excellence in rocketry is up for grabs again. Our annual Wing meet will take place on 20 June at the Durham launch site under the guidance of CATO, the Connecticut association of rocket enthusiasts.

The "rules of engagement" have been published in the March edition of The Daedalean. CATO is planning their annual potluck picnic and we have been invited to participate. More details will be published or sent by email as plans solidify.

The DAE has a number of Quest Astra 1 rockets suitable for construction by new competitors which can be entered in the contest and also are suitable for meeting the Titan Stage of the Rocketry Badge. The cost is \$4.00 each. B6-4 engines are available also. A package of 25 engines which include igniters and wadding will cost \$31.00. Supplies are limited. Contact [srocketto@aquilasys.com](mailto:srocketto@aquilasys.com).

### **CSRRA HIGH POWER CLINIC**



*Cadet Roe, Groton, Capt Rocketto, Cadet Planeta, Meriden at Viale Range, National Rifle Championships, Camp Perry, Ohio*

Cadets who are interested in firing the AR-15 rifle at 200 yards are encouraged to attend the High Power Rifle Clinic sponsored by the Connecticut Rifle and Revolver Association. The clinic will be held at the Bell City Rifle Club on Saturday, 18 April. All equipment will be provided and there is no charge.

To enroll, you must telephone one of the coaches. The contact numbers are as follows:

Coach Palmer (860) 649-4446

Coach Castonguay (860) 738-2954

Coach Bieler (203) 272-1725

Capt Rocketto [srocketto@aquilasys.com](mailto:srocketto@aquilasys.com)

Uniforms will be BDUs. If you wear glasses, bring them. If you do not wear glasses, bring safety glasses. Hearing protection is required. Safety glasses and hearing protection can be provided by prior arrangement. Parents must attend.

### **AEO SCHOOLS/NER STAFF COLLEGE**

Two schools for AEOs have been scheduled. The first is at Pensacola, FL from 22 to 27 June. The second is a Wright-Patterson AFB, OH from 5-7 August. The CTWG DAE is interested in forming a party to attend one of these schools, most probably the Ohio session.

The NER Staff College is scheduled for McGuire AFB, NJ, 10-18 July. Would any Wing Officers be interested in sharing transport to this event?

If any CTWG Officer is interested in participating in any of these activities, please contact Steve Rocket at [srocketto@aquilasys.com](mailto:srocketto@aquilasys.com).

### **AFA GRANTS**

The Air Force Association offers \$250 grants to CAP units twice annually. The next closing date is 30 June. Several CTWG Squadrons have taken advantage of this opportunity for funding. The procedure is simple. Contact the CTWG DAE, Capt Rocketto, for assistance. Obtain information at: [http://www.afa.org/aef/aid/cap\\_ed.asp](http://www.afa.org/aef/aid/cap_ed.asp).

### **THE GOLDEN AGE OF FLIGHT II**

The Seversky P-35  
by  
Cadet Shawn East

The "Golden Age of Flight" refers to the period between the two World Wars. Aircraft developed from the World War I rotary engine wood and fabric open cockpit machines to the the prototypes

of the metal structured, close cockpit, retractable gear planes familiar to students of World War II.

Our featured aircraft is the Seversky P-35, a little known aircraft that was a progenitor of a famous aircraft of the Second World War. In 1936 the United States Army Air Corp placed an order with Seversky Aircraft for 77 of the planes. The planes were delivered in in July of 1937. The first production P-35 had fully enclosed wheels and could carry up to 300 pounds of bombs. It was also a fast plane with a top speed around 250 mph. A few of these planes were purchased by civilian pilots for racing and they preformed well. The plane had a 1200 horsepower Pratt and Whitney R-1820 Twin Wasp engine and was armed with two 30 caliber machine guns in the nose and two 50 caliber machine guns in the wings. The P-35 was the first all metal monoplane with retractable landing gear accepted by the Army Air Corps and cost the US government a hefty \$150,000 each.

Maj. Alexander Seversky was a Russian ace in WW1 and had lost a leg after a crash. When the Communist assumed power, he was serving with a military delegation in the United States and declined to return to his homeland. He acquired US citizenship and, in 1931, founded the Seversky Aircraft Company based at Farmingdale, N.Y. The initial design teams were made up of Russians that Alexander had recruited from Russia most notably, his chief designer, Alexander Kartveli. Under Kartveli's direction, the company produced a series of experimental designs culminating in the SEV-1XP which after installation of a more powerful engine and other modifications became the P-35 and earned the company its first government contract. However, in 1939, large financial losses by the company caused the Board of Directors to force Seversky's resignation and the company was reformed as Republic Aircraft. Kartveli remained and the P-47 Thunderbolt, F-84 Thunderjet, and the F-105 Thunderchief were all attributed to his design genius.

The US. Army received another 120 planes in early 1940 and many were sent to the Philippines where they were put into front line use with US and Filipino air crews. The Japanese caught many of these aircraft on the ground when they attacked the Philippines on 8 December, 1941 but the remaining aircraft served creditably against overwhelming odds.

The P-35 also operated with a number of other nations including Sweden, Ecuador, Colombia, Russia, and Japan. In 1938 the Japanese Navy bought 20 P-35s making them one of the few American built aircraft used by the Japanese in the Second World War. The Russians bought two planes and the license to produce them in Russia but it is unclear whether any were ever produced.

Most importantly, the P-35 and its successor, the Republic P-43 Lancer, were the models which led to the P-47, the fighter procured in greater number than any other by the US Army Air Force in World War Two.



Several of these aircraft still exist. One in the Planes of Fame Museum in Chino, California. Another is in the Museum of the United States Air Force and one is undergoing restoration to flying condition in Florida. The Swedes also maintain a P-35 in flying condition to honor the contribution made by the P-35 to the defense of Sweden.

### **CTWG DC TRIP**

Approximately two score CTWG members will head for Washington on 13 April for a five day sojourn. They will be billeted at Bolling Air Force Base and spend their time visiting museums and historical sites.

### **MEMORIES OF APRIL'S PAST**

01 April, 1939-First Flight of the prototype of Jiro Horikoshi's masterpiece, the Mitsubishi A6M Zeke, better known as the Zero.



*Carrier Fighter Model 6, Mitsubishi*

02 April, 1937-Svenska Aeroplan Aktiebolaget (SAAB) established in Trollhattan, Sweden.

03 April, 1933-Two modified Bristol aircraft make the first flight over Mt. Everest.

04 April, 1933-Rear Admiral William A. Moffett and 72 officers and men go West when the USN dirigible, USS Akron crashes off the New Jersey coast.

05 April, 1937-The Douglas Aircraft Company absorbs the Northrop Aircraft Company.

06 April, 1953-First Flight of the North American T-28B Trojan.



*Privately Owned Trojan in Navy Livery*

07 April, 1959-First operational flight of the Northrop Snark.

08 April, 1940-The USN places a contract with Grumman for the XTBF-1 Avenger.



*President George Walker Herbert Bush Flew Torpedo Bomber of this Type in WWII*

09 April, 1940-First Flight of the Grumman F5F-1 Skyrocket. Old timers will remember that Blackhawk's International Squadron flew this plane.

10 April, 1959-First Flight of the Northrop T-38 Talon.



*England AFB Talon*

11 April, 1943-The California Rocket Society tests the first hybrid rocket propulsion system utilizing a carbon rod and liquid oxygen.

12 April, 1961-*Vostok I* carries Flight Major Yuri Gagarin from Tyuratán to orbit.

13 April, 1960-The USN launches Transit 1-B, the first navigational satellite using a Thor-Able-Star vehicle.

14 April, 1960-The first launch of a Polaris missile from a submerged tube occurs off San Clemente Island, California.

15 April, 1928-Australian explorer George Hubert Wilkins and US pilot Lt Carl Ben Eielson fly a Lockheed Vega in the first successful crossing of the Arctic flying from Point Barrow, Alaska to Spitzbergen, Norway

16 April, 1923-Lts John A. Macready and Lt. Oakley A. Kelly lift off in a Fokker T-2 on a record breaking 36 hr, 2,500 mi. flight carrying a 10,899 lb. payload.



*Macready-Oakley Aircraft at NASM-The DC Mall*

17 April, 1926-Three Army Air Corps aircraft led by Lt Harold R. Rivers take the first aerial photographs of an erupting volcano.

18 April, 1986-Marcel Bloch, better known by his *nom d'guerre* as Marcel Dassault, goes West.

19 April, 1923-Robert Goddard successfully launches his first rocket with gyroscopically equipped fins.

20 April, 1939-NACA's Langley Aeronautical Laboratory places its first free flight wind tunnel into operation.

21 April, 1935-First Flight of the USN dirigible USS Macon.

22 April, 1930-Harold Pitcairn and his associates are presented the Collier Trophy by President Herbert Hoover for developing and demonstrating the autogyro.

23 April, 1935-A Pan American Airways Sikorsky S-42 captained by the legendary Edward Musick lands at Alameda completing the first California-Hawaii-California survey flight.

24 April, 1946-Winged Cargo Inc. inaugurates freight service utilizing a Douglas C-47 towing a WACO CG-4A.



*CG-4A Haig, Known in the UK as The Hadrian*



*PBA DC-3 Touching Down at PVC*

25 April, 1945-The last US bombing raid in the European Theatre occurs when B-17s attack the Skoda Works in Pilsen, Czechoslovakia. A ME-262 becomes the last German aircraft shot down.

26 April, 1972-The Lockheed L-1011 TriStar enters scheduled service on Eastern Airlines Miami-New York route.



*Crippled TriStar on the Ramp*

27 April, 1947-The Douglas DC-6 enters passenger service when American Airlines Flagship Illinois commences operations on the Chicago-New York route.

28 April, 1936-A Pan American Airways S-42 arrives in Hong Kong completing the first commercial trans Pacific trip.

29 April, 1964-BOAC introduces the Vickers VC-10 into regular passenger service on the London-Lagos, Nigeria route.



*British Overseas Air Corporation VC-10 Awaits Passengers*

30 April, 1941-Brig. Gen. H.H. George goes West in an aircraft accident in Australia.

### WRITERS AND ARTICLES WANTED

*The Daedalean* invites the readers to submit articles pertaining to aerospace education for publication. For further information, contact Capt Rocketto at [srocketto@aquilasys.com](mailto:srocketto@aquilasys.com).

## CTWG CADETS EARN ACADEMY APPOINTMENTS

Three Cadet members of our Wing have received appointments to US military academies.

Cadets Alejandra Dorado of the Stratford Eagles and George Planeta IV of Silver City will attend the US Naval Academy in Annapolis, Maryland.

Cadet Dorado is a student at Jonathan Law High School where she is active in three sports and plays clarinet and trombone. An excellent student, she also runs her own dog-walking business. Cadet Dorado plans to attend the Naval Flight Program and eventually join the NASA Astronaut Corps.

Cadet Planeta attends Portland High School where he is a member of the National Honor Society, Captains and been named the Most Valuable Player on the Wrestling Team, and received the DAR Good Citizenship Award. He works as a volunteer of Habitat for Humanity and with Manes and Motion, a group which assists the handicapped in horseback riding. George, a member of the Quaker Hill Rod and Gun Club, is also an All-State Rifle Shooter, holds the NRA Distinguished Expert Medal, and is a member of the nationally ranked Connecticut Junior High Power Team.

C/LtCol Joseph Kraynak is bound for the USAF Academy in Colorado Springs, Colorado. He has been a member of CAP for six years, earned the Yeager Award, served as Chairman of the CADET Advisory Council, achieved Ground Team I and attended the International Air Cadet Exchange Program. At school, he is a member of the National Honor Society, National Spanish Honor Society, the Varsity Golf Team, and maintains a perfect attendance record. His goal is to become a Flight Surgeon.

Future articles will highlight the academic achievements and plans of a number of other Cadets who have obtained ROTC scholarships or will enter the US Armed Forces.

If you know of any of these, please forward information to the editor of *The Daedalean* at [srocketto@aquilasys.com](mailto:srocketto@aquilasys.com). A picture of the subject in some appropriate CAP setting would be appreciated.



*Cadet Planeta at the National Smallbore Champions, Camp Perry, Ohio*