



## *The Daedalean*

**Semper Discens**

### **WING RIFLE PRACTICE** **10 APRIL, 2009**

Nine Cadets from Royal Charter and two from Thames Valley participated on a rainy morning at the Quaker Hill Rod and Gun Club. In addition, Cadet George Planeta from Silver City served as a line coach. Planeta is only one of two Cadets in the Wing who have qualified for the NRA Distinguished Expert Medal.

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

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*Volume II, Number 5*

*May, 2009*

### **CALENDAR**

#### **May**

02 MAY-Rifle Practice 0830 Quaker Hill  
03 MAY-Rifle Practice 0830 Quaker Hill  
09 MAY-Wing Rifle Tournament

#### **For Future Planning**

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

Cadets Kubin, Posnecker, Mikula, Boris, Sake Kelleher, Eric Handon, Sean Kellerher, Robles and Singh of the Royals and Orlando of Thames River all qualified for the NRA Pro-Marksman Award. Cadet Herzog of Thames River is more advanced and is working on his Sharpshooter Award.

### **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 Capt Rocketto know as far in advance as possible approximately how many Cadets will be participating so I can arrange for squadding, a coaching staff and equipment.** For directions, go to the Quaker Hill Rod and Gun Club 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.

**Please let me know as far in advance as possible approximately how many Cadets will be participating so I can arrange for squadding, a coaching staff and equipment.**

**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)

### **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).

### **CADET ACHIEVEMENTS**

Cadet Timothy Plourde, Thames River Composite Squadron, has been awarded a USAF ROTC Scholarship and plans to attend UCONN majoring in engineering. Cadet Plourde, and Eagle Scout, attends Montville High School where he is Captain of the Rifle Team and a member of the National Honor Society.



Cadets Arnold and Plourde

Frank Arnold, former Cadet Commander at the 103rd has been serving in the USAR in Iraq. He has been selected to enter the US Military Academy Prep School and upon completion, will be eligible for entry into the Corps of Cadets at West Point.

### **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 Rocketto 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).

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.

### **WING DC TRIP**

Fourteen Cadets enjoyed a five day trip to the Washington area. Eight Cadets were from the 103rd, three from the Stratford Eagles, and one each from Danielson, Northwest Hills, and New Haven. Officers accompanying the trip were Maj Bourque and Capt Rocketto of Thames River and Capt Dammers and Lts Worcester, Gebhardt of the 103rd. They stayed at Bolling Air Force Base and were able to do most of their own food preparation in the well equipped temporary living facilities.

The group stopped at the National Security Agency's Vigilance Park on the way down. Traffic delays prevented them from reaching the National Cryptologic Museum before closing but they were able to view USAF, USN, and USA aircraft used by NSA on signal intelligence operations.

The second day was spent at the National Air and Space Museum's Udvar-Hazy Annex at Dulles Airport exploring its vast collection of modern and classic aircraft.

The group split the third rainy and blustery day. In the morning, they visited the USMC Museum at Quantico, VA. and were briefed by docents on the Iwo Jima invasion and visited galleries housing exhibits from Marine history. They viewed the original flag raised over Mt. Suribachi, shivered in

the cooled exhibit depicting "Frozen Chosin," and entered a Vietnam fire base through the vibrating hull of a Chinook helicopter.



*USMC Medal of Honor Wall*

In the afternoon, they traveled to the US Navy Aircraft Museum at the Patuxent River Naval Air Station, Lexington Park, Md, home to Navy experimental and developmental squadrons. Both a Boeing X-32 and a Lockheed-Martin F-35C were on exhibit along with a wide range of modern aircraft used by the tenant squadrons for their assigned missions. An comprehensive indoor exhibit housed a collection of models and instruments which complemented the aeronautical development work at Pax River.



*Cadet Seeks Protection from Angry X-32*

On the fourth and last day, mercifully sunny and warm, the contingent went to the National Mall. Some visited the National Archives and viewed the Declaration of Independence, the Constitution of the United States, and other seminal documents.

Most spent a half day at the National Air and Space Museum on the Mall. Of particular note were the many historical aero vehicles including the Wright Flyer, the Spirit of St. Louis, the Bell P-59, the North American X-15, and SpaceShip One.

The balance of the day was spent exploring the Mall. Sites visited included the Museum of National History, the Vietnam and World War II Memorial, the Lincoln Memorial, the White House and National Capital, and the Smithsonian Castle (where one found Jimmy Doolittle's goggles). In the evening, we had a barbeque at Bolling.

On the last day, the two vans separated. The 103rd van headed for Arlington National Cemetery where they paid respects to those past warriors who have served our county and viewed the changing of the guard at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier.

The Thames River van headed for the Air Mobility Museum at Dover Air Force Base in Delaware. The museum is dedicated to military airlift. As we entered, the strains of the WWII ballad, "Coming in on a Wing and a Prayer" echoed across the ramp and a wide display of transport aircraft glistened in the mid morning sun and a background was provided by Lockheed C-5s practicing landings and takeoffs.



*Cadets Assume Positions of Aircraft Commander, Co-Pilot, Navigator, and Flight Engineer in C-133*

The docents were extraordinary helpful and opened up some aircraft so we could examine the interiors. These included the rare Lockheed C-133 Cargomaster and a Douglas C-54 veteran of the Berlin Airlift. The Cadets then traveled to the Lockheed C-130E Hercules and were seated on the paratrooper seats while Mr. William Maroon, a former C-130 navigator, talked them through and airborne parachute drop.



*Mr. Maroon Briefs Cadets on Procedures for an Airdrop*

The indoor museum housed a Douglas C-47, a Boeing B-17G, and a Beech C-45 as well as some smaller aircraft, engines, and historical artifacts.

Both vans returned to Connecticut in the early evening, concluding a rewarding five day adventure.

### **ROYALS RUN STARBASE ACTIVITY**

STARBASE is a CT National Guard educational outreach program designed to "raise interest and improve knowledge and skills of at risk middle school youth in math, science, and aerospace technology.

On April 1st, Lt Abbate of the Royal Charter Composite Squadron conducted an educational program at Brainard Field for a group of these students. Lt Abbate opened a CAP Cessna 182

and allowed its inspection by the participants. He discussed ramp safety, the fundamentals of aircraft operations, and demonstrated aircraft control in all three axes and answered questions about the instrument panel and communications equipment.

### **MEMORIES OF MAY'S PAST**

May 1, 1960-A Lockheed U-2 piloted by Francis Gary Powers is shot down by a SAM over the Soviet Union.

May 2, 1952-A BOAC DeHavilland Comet I inaugurates the first regularly scheduled passenger carrying flight flying from London to Johannesburg, South Africa.

May 3, 1976-A Pan American Boeing 747SP, Clipper Liberty Bell, completes a passenger carrying round the world flight in 1d, 22h, 26m. on the JFK-New Delhi-Tokyo-JFK route.

May 4, 1957-Three Lockheed P2V Neptunes of the Royal Australian Air Force completed the first round the world flight for the RAAF.

May 5, 1968-A Grumman Gulfstream II makes the first non-stop Atlantic crossing for an executive jet flying from Teterboro, NJ to London.

May 6, 1941-Igor Sikorsky, flying his VS-300 at Stratford, CT sets a world helicopter endurance record of 1h 32m 26s.

May 7, 1939-First Flight of the Petyakov VI-100, the prototype of the PE-1 tactical bomber.

May 8, 1929-The USN announces that it will equip all carrier aircraft with brakes and tail wheels.

May 9, 1931-The A-2 leather flight jacket is approved for production.

May 10, 1961-The Convair B-58A wins the Bleriot Trophy when it becomes the first aircraft to maintain 2000 km/hr for more than 30 minutes over a closed course.



*B-58A Hustler, First Supersonic Bomber of the USAF*

May 11, 1941-Deputy Fuhrer Rudolph Hess defects to Scotland in a Messerschmidt Bf110.

May 12, 1926-The Italian semi-rigid airship, Norge, flies over the North Pole. The ship is commanded by Umberto Nobile. Lincoln Ellsworth is second-in-command and Roald Amundsen is expedition leader.

May 13, 1940-First free flight of the Sikorsky VS-300 at Stratford, CT with its revolutionary anti-torque tail rotor .

May 14, 1931-Noted aviator Charles Kingford Smith pilots an Armstrong Argosy carrying the first airmail from Australia to England.

May 15, 1918-President Woodrow Wilson inaugurates the first domestic airmail. A Curtiss JN-4H is tasked with the Washington to New York flight.

May 16, 1919-Lt. Cmdr. A. C. Read captains the Curtiss NC-4 on the first trans Atlantic flight from Newfoundland to Horta in the Azores and thence to Portugal.



*Curtiss NC-4 Berthed at the USN's Naval Aviation Museum, Pensacola, Florida*

May 17, 1916-A Bristol Scout C piloted by M.C. Day is launched from a Baby flying boat piloted by J.C. Porte marking the first time one airplane is launched from another.

May 18, 1966-Sheila Scott, piloting a Piper Comanche, becomes the first woman to make a successful round the world solo flight.

May 19, 1939-The USN contacts for the Curtiss SB2C Helldiver.

May 20, 1927-Charles Lindbergh wins the \$25,000 Orteig Prize when he becomes the first man to solo the Atlantic flying from New York to Paris in 33h 29m.

May 21, 1977-An Air France Concorde celebrates the 50th anniversary of the Lindbergh flight by flying the same route, New York to Paris, in 3h44m.

May 22, 1928-Samuel D. Heron, a Wright Field engineer, receives the first patent for sodium filled engine valves.

May 23, 1967-First flight of the Hawker-Siddeley Nimrod, a maritime patrol and anti-submarine version of the Comet IV.

May 24, 1962-Lt. Cmdr. Scott Carpenter aboard Aurora 7 becomes the second US citizen to orbit the earth.

May 25, 1953-First flight of the North American F-100 Super Sabre.



*Well Camouflaged F-100 Pops Drag Chute*

May 26, 1942-First flight of the Northrop P-61 Black Widow.



*NACA Black Widow at Udver-Hazy*

May 27, 1927-The Chief of Naval Operations orders the Commander of the Battle Fleet to commence experiments with dive bombing.

May 28, 1926-The design of the Distinguished Flying Cross is approved.

May 29, 1934-The Collier Trophy is awarded to the Hamilton Standard Propellor Corp. for the development of the controllable pitch propellor.

May 30, 1958-First flight of the Douglas DC-8.



*Antigua Caribbean Air DC-8*

May 31, 1862-Thaddeus S. C. Lowe, balloon pioneer and grandfather of Pancho Barnes, assists the Union army at the Battle of Fair Oaks by warning them of an approaching Confederate force.