



Missions for
America
Semper vigilans!
Semper volans!

The Coastwatcher

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

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SCHEDULE OF COMING EVENT

25 JAN-TRCS Ground School
27 JAN-TRCS Meeting
31 JAN-01 Feb-CLC at Bridgeport
03 FEB-TRCS Meeting-Staff Meeting
07 FEB-TRCS Ground School
10 FEB-TRCS Commander's Call
14 FEB-Orientation Flights
15 FEB-TRCS Ground School-Training
17 FEB-TRCS Meeting
22 FEB-TRCS Ground School
24 FEB-TRCS Meeting-Field Training

SENIOR MEETING REPORT

20 January, 2015

No formal training was held. Officers worked on independent study, individual training, and administrative duties.

CADET MEETING REPORT

20 January, 2015

*Submitted by
C/CMSgt Virginia Poe*

The Cadet meeting had four sessions.

First, drill practice on the Groton-New London Airport parking lot.

The Cadets then returned to the Squadron and C/SMSgt John Meers delivered a current events briefing on recent Russian military activities with specific emphasis on The Crimea.

C/SMSgt Daniel Hollingsworth presented an aerospace education lesson based upon Volume II of *Aerospace Dimensions*, covering aircraft systems and airports.

C/2Lt Carter directed an aerospace education activity building paper airplanes.

The safety lesson on fire extinguishers was presented by C/2Lt Trotochaud.

Major Joseph Provost, CTWG Director of Cadet Activities and LtCol John DeAndrade discussed issues critical to the Cadet program

2015 AEROSPACE EDUCATION PLAN OF ACTION GOALS

The 15 goals presented below represent the specific goals in aerospace education which are the responsibility of the Thames River Composite Squadron to achieve.

1. TRCS will be 100 Yeager qualified with new Senior Members earning the AEPSM within nine months of joining.
2. TRCS will earn the AEX award for the 12th time.
3. TRCS will raise 120% of the annual budget in the citrus fruit sale.
4. TRCS will offer three teachers to opportunity to participate in the teacher

- orientation flight program.
5. All new TRCS Cadets will start the CAP rocketry .
 6. Five TRCS Cadets will earn the Rocketry Badge.
 7. TRCS will compete in the CTWG Commander's Cup Rocketry Contest.
 8. TRCS will participate in aerospace education activities at five school events.
 9. TRCS will deliver CAP Information and Recruiting programs at three civic, business, or social organizations.
 10. TRCS will attend a one day field trip and four half-day field trips.
 11. Ten TRCS Cadets will participate in the rifle safety and marksmanship program.
 12. TRCS members will attend two aerospace education meetings or lectures.
 13. One segment of the weather satellite downlinking system will become operational.
 14. Two TRCS Senior Members will achieve a new or higher Aerospace Education Specialty Track rating.
 15. The TRCS cadet flight program will be advanced by offering at least one orientation flight to every cadet and providing opportunities for every cadet to prepare for the FAA Private Pilot written, oral, and practical examinations.

AEROSPACE CURRENT EVENTS

Pluto Probing

The NASA New Horizons spacecraft, launched in 2006, is in the last stages of its 3 billion mile journey to Pluto.

On January 25th, New Horizons Long-Range Reconnaissance Imager will commence operation and provide data about Pluto's five moons and assist engineers in navigation during the final 135 million miles of the journey.

Spacecraft instruments will gather continuous data on the interplanetary environment where the planetary system orbits, including measurements of the high-energy particles streaming from the

sun and dust-particle concentrations in the inner reaches of the Kuiper Belt. In addition to Pluto, this unexplored outer region of the solar system, potentially includes thousands of similar icy, rocky small planets.

During this approach phase of the mission, spacecraft instrumentation will gather and transmit additional data on solar energy and dust particle concentrations. The spacecraft is so far away that there is a four hour wait between transmission and reception on earth.

AVIATION HISTORY

23 Jan 2007--First flight of the Lockheed Martin CATBird (**C**ooperative **A**vionics **T**est **B**ed). Many companies and research institutions have modified standard aircraft for product and testing. Pratt & Whitney and Curtiss-Wright both used B-17s with turbo-prop engines installed in the nose and Cornell Aeronautical Laboratories used a much modified C-131 to test aircraft controls and cockpit layouts.



Note the modified nose and the electronic fairing on top of the fuselage. (Credit: Lockheed)

Lockheed-Martin needed to flight test the avionics for the F-35 so they contracted with BAE Systems to modify a Boeing 737 to develop and validate the avionics. The fuselage was modified, a canard airfoil was installed, and an F-35 cockpit was placed in the passenger cabin area.

24 Jan 1991--A damaged LTV A-7E Corsair II is forced to make a barricade landing on the USS John F. Kennedy. The damage is determined to be irreparable so the aircraft is stripped of useful parts and dropped overboard. However, the aircraft had not had its fuel tanks removed so it

refused to sink and had to be “deep-sixed.” by the ship's Marine contingent and their .50 caliber machine guns.

January 24, 1925—Some two dozen aircraft carried scientist above a cloud layer over Connecticut to study a total eclipse of the sun. The airship USS Los Angeles carried Naval Observatory scientists over Block Island.

Photo # 80-G-461642 USS Los Angeles operating with a UO-1 airplane, 20 May 1930



U.S.S. Los Angeles exercising its trapeze for the launch and recovery of a Vought UO-1. (US Navy photograph)

25 Jan 1886--Dean Ivan Lamb is born. A graduate of the Glenn Curtiss Flying School, he was a mercenary who flew for the forces of Venustiano Carranza during the Mexican Revolution. According to reports, while flying a Curtiss pusher, he engaged in the first “dog fight” in history, exchanging pistol shots with another soldier of fortune and friend, Phil Rader piloting a Christofferson biplane.



Lt. Col. Lamb, Davis-Monthan AFB circa 1954 (Credit: Harry Fanning-Early Aviators.com)

26 Jan 1932--Edward Anderson 'Eddie' Stinson, goes West when the Stinson Detrouer which he was demonstrating crashes in Kalamazoo, Michigan. Stinson's sisters, Katherine and Marjorie were pilots, soloed before brother Eddie and pioneered early aviation.

The Stinson Family



Eddie Stinson (Credit: Lester Bishop Collection)



Catherine Stinson (PD)



Marjorie Stinson (Credit: National Archives)

27 Jan 1989--Thomas Sopwith goes West. The Sopwith Aviation Company produced a number of outstanding aircraft including the Camel, favorite aircraft of WWI flying ace, Snoopy.



The WWI ace fails to “check six” and his “Camel” is riddled. (Credit: Charles M. Schulz)

28 Jan--First Flights on this day in history

1927--The Douglas T2B was a biplane configuration twin engine torpedo bomber and the first twin to be operated off an aircraft carrier.



(Credit: U.S. Naval History Center)

1929--The Saunders A.10 was a one-off attempt to produce a single seat fighter armed with four machine guns.



(Credit: Tim Mason-PD)

1939--The Lockheed P-38 Lightning, known to the *Luftwaffe* as *der Gabelschwanz-Teufel* (Fork-Tailed Devil) was a twin engine twin boom fighter. The two US top aces, Richard Bong and Thomas McGuire flew the Lightning in the Pacific Theatre of Operations.



P-38F in early wartime livery.

1959--The Convair 880 Golden Arrow was “a dollar late and a dime short.” It followed the successful Boeing 707 and Douglas DC-8 by a year and airlines found it did not fit into their market niches. Only 65 were produced.



(Credit: San Diego A&S Museum)

1963--The Israeli Aircraft Industries (IAI) Westwind 1124, was originally designed by Aero Commander and marketed as the 1121 Jet Commander. But Aero Commander was acquired by North American Rockwell (NAR). NAR was

already producing the similar Sabreliner and anti-trust laws allowed for the production of only one of them.

NAR sold the rights to IAI which modified the design to produce the Westwind 1124 and its maritime patrol version, the IAI Sea Scan.



The 1124 pictured bears Israeli identification, probably a demonstrator sent to the United States to promote sales.

1966—The Fokker FH-227 was built under license by Fairchild. Derived from the F27 Friendship, the FH-227 was stretched and had different engines installed. Only 79 were produced.



An Air New England FH-227 taxiing past snow banks at Hyannis.

AVIATION HUMOR



Instrument Panel Placard for Right Seat

The Cub is the safest airplane in the world; it can just barely kill you. (Attributed to Max Stanley, Northrop test pilot)



DF Steer

A pilot has engine trouble and lands in a field. As he walks around the plane to check out the problem, he hears a voice behind him say, "You have a clogged fuel line." Looking around, he sees no one, except a cow. Startled out of his wits, he runs across the field to the farmer's house and pounds on the door. When the farmer appears at the door, the out-of-breath pilot stammers that his cow has just talked--and even tried to explain what was wrong with the airplane.

The farmer drawled, "Was it a brown cow?" "Yes." "Did it have a white patch on its forehead?" "Yes, yes, that's the one." "OK, that's Flossie. Don't pay no attention to her. She doesn't know nothin' about aeroplanes." (David E. Pullmann)