

Mass Hang Gliding Association

USHGA Chapter #119

Spring 95

MHGA Meeting Notes

Don't forget your 1995 membership dues are due!

March 11, 1995

Meeting called to order at 7:40 pm. Read and accepted minutes from last meeting. Treasury report included a balance of \$706.14 and increasing daily as the membership dues are paid. Twenty five club t-shirts are still in inventory. Don't forget your 1994 membership expired December 31. Dues are still \$15 per season.

Old News- Mt. Everett- a new site was discussed, a northeast site located in southwestern Mass. The CHGA club is pursuing negotiations with the DEM, who will petition the AMC for permission to create and maintain a HG launch.

A discussion was held pertaining to our responsibility as pilots to insure that all area protocol has been followed.

New News- Spring work parties for trail work and launch grooming were discussed, see Skinner State Park article enclosed. Mohawk Trail and Petersburg Pass will need pruning and mowing, Mt Greylock will open mid-May and needs will be addressed once seen. An additional wind-sock in the RC-LZ will be installed on the barn in the center of the field, permission pending. Gary Brunell's new club-logo, helmet stickers, and membership cards were discussed and decisions will be made at the next meeting.

Rules Committee- Presentation of final types of forms for state sign-in use (eliminate tear-off portion of permit). Discussion of whether or not our MHGA logo is a form of advertising, and the possible liabilities if so. Discussion as to whether an MHGA membership should be required to fly club maintained sites.

Activities Committee- 1995 Regionals will be held at Mt Ascutney, Vt. and West Rutland, Vt. on May 13-14, and May 20-21. Meet open to H3-H4 with the proper sign-offs. The possibilities of a towing clinic were discussed and will be pursued if the interest is out there, speak-up if you would like to participate. The possibility of an open-distance contest from Mt. Greylock or the Mohawk Trail was presented and a decision will be made at the May meeting.

May Meeting Agenda- Elections - nominations for 1995 club officers will remain open until election day May 13, 1995. A discussion to move-up the election of 1996 club officers to the fall of 1995. This would allow the new officers time to plan agendas for up-coming season.

Meeting Dates Set for 1995- News letters to fly at least seven days prior to each meeting date.

May 13 7:30pm Bricker's Restaurant Greenfield Rotary (Rte 2 & 91)

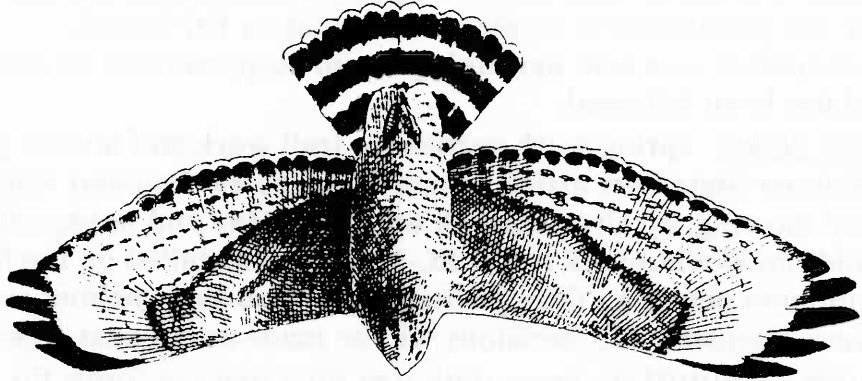
July 8 7:30pm Gringo's Restaurant Rte 8 N. Adams, Ma.

Sept 9 7:30pm Gringo's Restaurant Rte 8 N. Adams, Ma.

November 11 7:30pm Bricker's Restaurant Greenfield Rotary (Rte 2 & 91)

Good Luck to Those Who Plan to Fly the Regionals!

Mass Hang Gliding Association
1985
1985



Mass Hang Gliding Assoc
P. O. Box 1549
North Adams, Ma. 01247



TO MARK DROY
275 EAST HADLEY RD.
AMHERST, MA. 01002

Hope to see YOU at the May 13 Meeting!

THE ABC'S OF AIRSPACE CLASSIFICATION

Just in case you have been busy with spring skiing, the spring flying is about to start. This is a good time to go over our ABC's of airspace reclassification which started September 16, 1993. There are now six classes of U.S. airspace that are designated by the letters A,B,C,D,E, and G (but no F in the U.S.). In fact there are very few changes to the FAR's and the changes that have been made are very favorable to hang glider pilots.

The reason for this is that the FAA has reclassified the airspace to standardize the U.S. with the international airspace designations.

- CLASS A** Positive Control Area (PCA) is at or above 18,000' MSL. Jet routes operations permitted IFR, no VFR.
- CLASS B** Terminal Control Area (TCA) operations permitted IFR, VFR, entry prerequisites ATC clearance, Minimum Pilot Qualifications: IFR instrument rating, VFR private, two-way radio, aircraft separation, traffic advisories, safety alerts, minimum flight visibility, minimum distance from clouds, no ultralite.
- CLASS C** Airport Radar Service Area (ARSA). Operations permitted IFR and VFR. Entry prerequisites IFR ATC clearance, VFR radio contact, minimum pilot qualifications: IFR instrument rating, VFR private or student, two-way radio, aircraft separations, traffic advisories, safety alerts, minimum flight visibility, statute miles, minimum distance from clouds 500 below 1000 above 2000 horizontal.
- CLASS D** Airport Traffic Areas (ATA) and Control Zones (CZ). Operations permitted IFR and VFR, entry prerequisites IFR ATC clearance, VFR radio contact, minimum pilot qualifications: IFR instrument rating, VFR student certificate, two-way radio, aircraft separation, traffic advisories, safety alerts, minimum flight visibility 3 statute miles, minimum distance from clouds 500 below 1000 above 2000 horizontal.
- CLASS E** Controlled Airspace General, Non-towered Control Zones, 700 foot transition areas, 1200 foot transition areas, federal airways, control areas below 18,000 MSL. Operations permitted IFR and VFR, entry prerequisites IFR ATC clearance, VFR none, minimum pilots qualifications student certificate. Two-way radio no, safety alerts, minimum flight visibility 3 statute miles, minimum distance from clouds 500 below 1000 above 2000 horizontal,
- CLASS G** Uncontrolled airspace, operations permitted IFR and VFR, entry prerequisites none, minimum pilot qualifications student certificate, two-way radio no, Aircraft Separation none, safety alerts, minimum flight visibility 1 statute mile, minimum distance from clouds clear of clouds.

What this all means is we cannot fly in A,B,C, and D, airspace. However, we can fly in E and G airspace. The biggest gain that hang gliders received is that we can now fly over Class D airspace. But do not go down into the Class D airspace because it is a 5 statute miles radius. The vertical limit is in MSL in hundreds of feet. To fly over an ARSA, vertical limit is 4000+ feet AGL and 10NM radius.

Skinner State Park

Mark Droy

A meeting was held 18 March with the Supervisor of Skinner State Park to review and update the procedures for flying at Skinner State Park. The BIG news is that paragliding is operating under the same rules that hang glider pilots are; the exception being that ONLY class 2 paraglider pilots can fly from the mountain. Class 1 pilots are NOT allowed to fly Skinner, even with an Instructor or Observer. Skinner is still an Intermediate Hang Gliding site, with Novice ratings allowed if sponsored by a Region 8 Examiner, Advanced Instructor, or Observer.

Some minor changes you may notice to the procedures were designed to cut down on the paperwork you must carry with you. The Permit Application forms have no removable stub

your USHGA number is your permit number. Sign a Permit/(Waiver/Application) once a year, and from then on, show your USHGA card, sign in, and go fly.

The log book should be at the gate on busy weekends. If you have to fill out a permit, park off to the side to let other cars get by. Otherwise you should be able to show your card and sign the log as you pay the parking fee. If it's not at the gate, the log should be at the Halfway Area Office. It is the pilot's responsibility to track down the ranger and sign in.

A BIG problem we had with the system last year was pilots getting their cars down late - necessitating a kind-hearted ranger or two to stay late instead of locking the vehicle in for the night. Please ensure that your car is outside the gate at least 15-20 minutes before closing time, which is 4 PM in the Spring and Fall. If you don't have a driver, drive the car down and walk back up before you fly. Its OK to keep flying after the Park closes the gates.

The club will be helping out with trail work, and other projects. These projects shouldn't be limited to only our trail to Launch, we should help out in any way we can - and have a sign posted for public viewing (something like "Mass. Hang Gliding Association trail work, this way-> ") on a Saturday morning or two. It would sure help the park, and score some points with the public, too.

Steer clear of Westover and fly high and far from Skinner this year!

Meeting notes

11 March 1995

Mark Droy, Secretary, MassHGA

Meeting convened 7:40 PM

5 voting members and 1 non-member present

Read and accepted minutes from last meeting.

Treasury report: \$706.14 and increasing daily as memberships roll in
25 T-Shirts in the inventory

A reminder that all memberships expire 31 December. Dues are \$15/year

Old-

- Discussion of Mt. Everett, a NE site in SW Mass. Long east ridge. Long drive. Road to within 100' of top. Bald top. Connecticut Club is pursuing. State is looking to MassHGA for advice. Needs negotiations with AMC to clearcut a launch.
- More discussion of all area pilots policing sites, asking if people signed-in, checking credentials.

New-

- Gifts to landowners for the holidays!
- Add Landowners, AMC, the Adams RC club, Skinner and Greylock to the Updraft mailing list. (Sectry note: how about Randy Adams, VT, CT, SkyRiders, and NE Paragliding clubs, too?)
- Adams RC club would like a windsock on the barn north of the field. Would have to ask owner. Lightning rod concerns.
- work parties - Mohawk Trail needs it the most, then Petersburg Pass. Greylock will open in mid-May

Discussions-

- Sites :
 - Petersburg Pass NY manager loves the idea of hang gliding. Clearing old launch area.
 - Prospect needs work. Problem at Prospect is launching into a traffic pattern.
 - Pucumtuck - Deerfield maple sugar house is operational.

Discussions (continued)-

- Region 8 Meeting. Paragliding and numbers of flyers.
- New logo. Vote to accept postponed.
- Droy to investigate MassHGA helmet stickers
- Discussion of membership cards (business cards w/ blank lines)

Rules Committee-

Presentation of final types of forms for State sign in use.

discussion of whether MassHGA logo is advertising

whether we should invite people who fly sites to join - yes

discussion of all permits expiring 31 december each year - yes

discussion (again) of eliminating the tear-off portion of form - yes

discussion of including emergency contact on each permit application - yes

Activities Committee-

Regionals in VT / Ascutney

Possibility of a Tow clinic

Discussion of a Greylock Cup Open Distance Contest

For May Meeting-

- Election of Officers - nominations requested up to time of vote

Some discussion of moving up next year's election to this Fall, or Winter

- Meeting Dates set for year- Newsletters to fly two weeks prior to each meeting::all meetings at Bricker's, Rotary of Rts 2 and 91, Greenfield

13 May 7:30 PM

8 July 7:30 PM

9 September 7:30 PM

11 November 7:00 PM

Meeting Adjourned 9:54 PM