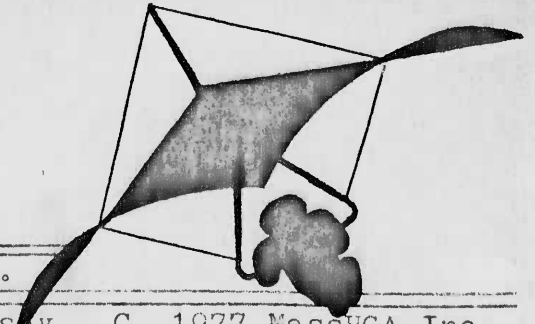


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NEWSLETTER of the MASSACHUSETTS HANG GLIDER ASSN.

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MEETING NOTICE

The January meeting of the Mass HGA will be at the ME Bar & Lounge on Rt 47 in Hadley on Tuesday, January **18. PLEASE NOTE THE DATE.** This will be the third Tuesday of the month, as the decision to switch our meetings to the third Tuesday of the month was finalized at the December meeting.

BOARD of DIRECTORS

At the December meeting, the following people expressed a willingness to accept some responsibility and do some work, and were therefore drafted onto the Board of Directors of MassHGA for 1977:

| | |
|----------------|---------------|
| Nick Morrissey | Chuck LaVersa |
| Paul Kjoller | Bob Stewart |
| Mark LaVersa | Sue McGuire |
| Andi Parker | |

Due to the low turnout at the meeting, formal elections were not held. If anyone has any objections to any or all of the above-named persons serving on the Board, they may make their feelings known at the January meeting, or by contacting me at any time prior to that meeting.

If anyone else is willing to serve, please let me or any other Board member know as soon as possible.

If the above statement makes it seem that the size and membership of the Board is somewhat flexible, that is because it was intended to be so. We hope to get some members and some Directors (ie, workers!) from the Central and Eastern parts of the state, and this will affect the composition of the Board. In an organizational year, flexibility seems to be desirable.

INCORPORATION

By the time of the January meeting, MassHGA, Inc., will most likely be a fully chartered corporation of the state of Delaware.

Delaware, you say?

That's right - Delaware.

There are reasons for this. It seems that there are potentially great advantages, both legally and financially, to be gained by incorporating in Delaware instead of in Massachusetts, so that's the way we're doing it. Confirmation and details will be available at the January meeting.

PARTY TIME

The Windward Kite & Glider Club has asked us to pass the word that they have ended the year with a surplus of funds in their treasury, and plan to spend the excess on a party. All MassHGA members are invited, and the NE Bushwackers may also be invited to this affair. The date and place are still to be determined, but the probable location will be somewhere in Central Mass, and the event will be sometime in late January or in February.

CLUES TO ORGANIZE ???

In March, at a yet-to-be determined location, representatives of all clubs in the Northeast will be gathering to discuss common problems and also to coordinate flying policies and activities for the region. It is desirable to hold the meeting in Western Mass, and anyone who has any ideas regarding a poss-

ible meeting place should contact me as soon as possible. There will probably be between thirty and forty people at the meeting, and it will be held on a weekend. The event may be for two days, but we hope to have it done in one.

Accommodations will also be needed for the participants, since hang glider pilots have a highly developed aversion to motels and other forms of accommodation that cost money, and March is too early for most of us to start camping out! Anyone who has extra bedrooms or even an excess of floor space would earn much undying gratitude if they can help out with this.

More info on this meeting and its aims should be available by January meeting time. Input from the membership is requested.

Board Meeting Minutes:

The following is the minutes of the MassHGA Board of Directors meeting held Tuesday, January 4.

The meeting came to order at 6:30 PM and began with the ceremonial passing of the peace pipe.

Those present were John Dempsey, Chuck LaVersa, Mark LaVersa, Mick Morrissey, Sue McGuire, Bob Stewart, and Bert Warriner. Paul Kjoller, incapacitated by a home emergency, was present in spirit and in voice, thru the agency of Ma Bell. Andi Parker was unable to attend due to illness. Sue McGuire acted as self-appointed scribe. Mark Laversa made the beer run.

The meeting consisted of defining committees and naming chairpersons. The committees are:

- 1.- Incorporation, Mark LaVersa
- 2.- Newsletter, Mick Morrissey
- 3.- Treasurer, Sue McGuire, succeeding John Dempsey.
- 4.- Insurance, Paul Kjoller
- 5.- Site Development, Chuck LaVersa
- 6.- Membership, Chuck LaVersa
- 7.- Liason with USHGA, Chuck LaVersa

Each committee was assigned to implement certain activities, with a report to be prepared by the next general membership meeting on Jan 18.

Chuck LaVersa agreed to accept the assignment of mollifying the Dept of Environmental Management regarding the massive landscaping job that was recently discovered at the take off site at Skinner Park.

Jack McMillan reported by telephone that the Insurance Committee will be receiving bids from three insurance companies for a MassHGA insurance policy similar to the one that had been available through GSI.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:00 PM so we could all watch Eaa Eaa Black Sheep. The aviation sequences, as usual, were superb.

Respectfully sub.
Sue McGuire

SITE REPORT

Skinner State Park: The launch site on Mt Holyoke is pretty much clear of snow as of January 7, and the disappearance of numerous trees has left a much enlarged area for set up and launch.

The Halfway Trail is covered with snow but is easily passable; it is advisable to use crampons when carrying a glider on the trail, but these are not yet indispensable.

The park is closed, so the lower gate is locked weekends. Weekdays the lower gate is often unlocked due to work being done at the Halfway House, but the state will not allow vehicles on the road due to the ice.

Mt Tom: The trail from the Log Cabin is snow covered but passable if you're wearing crampons. The take off areas on top of the cliffs are fairly snow/ice-free as of January 7.

Large amounts of brush have disappeared from the area, allowing much easier set-up and launch when several gliders are flying together.

Remember that Mt Tom is still officially closed - beware...