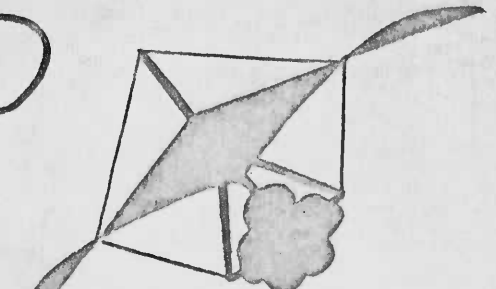


# UPDRAFT



---

NEWSLETTER of the MASSACHUSETTS HANG GLIDER ASSOCIATION, INC.

---

VOLUME 3, NUMBER 3 MARCH 1977 Editor: M. Morrissey © 1977 MassHGA, Inc.

---

## MEETING REPORT

Two major decisions were made at the February meeting. The first was in regard to club dues, and it was decided that all 1977 dues are to be payable immediately, that dues will now run from the time they are paid until one year from that time, instead of until the next following April as we did it in previous years, and that there will be two different types of membership - flying and non flying.

Flying members will receive the Updraft, be rated (MassHGA rating, not USHGA, but this will be sufficient to fly MassHGA sites), and will be allowed to vote on all matters before the association. Dues for flying members will be ten dollars per year, payable at once for 1977. The Board of directors had suggested a figure of \$8 per year, but the general membership voted to raise the figure at the meeting.

USHGA members will receive a two dollar discount on memberships.

Non-flying members will pay \$5 per year, half of the full rate, and will receive the Updraft and be welcomed to attend MassHGA meetings, but will not have a vote on matters that affect flying at MassHGA sites.

The other major issue decided at February's meeting is that MassHGA is to host a meet at Skinner Park in April, to be a qualifier for the USHGA National Championships. Details must be arranged, but the Board is working

on this right now.

It was decided that the meet will NOT be publicized to the general public, to keep crowd congestion to a minimum, however, all pilots in Region 8 will be invited to fly.

Of course, there can be only a limited number of qualifying meets in any region, so it will be necessary to get formal USHGA Region 8 approval before plans can be finalized.

The remainder of the meeting was an audio-visual event. Bob Judd brought along a copy of Bill Bennett's latest promotional film in sound and color, "PHOENIX COUNTRY." The film was really excellent, and featured flying in numerous world-famous locations around the globe. Actually, it was the best film by a hang glider manufacturer that we have seen yet.

After Phoenix Country, Ray the bartender turned on the color TV so those who were into it (most of us) could watch Baa Baa Black Sheep in color. As usual, this show was also excellent.

*Your Dues Are Due!*

Dues should be sent as soon as possible to Treasurer Sue McGuire, 69 Bryan Avenue, Easthampton, MA 01027.

USHGA members please send your USHGA membership card or a photocopy of it so that you can get the two dollar discount. Those who want

to join USHGA at this time, but are not presently members, can send the \$8 MassHGA dues plus \$15 for USHGA, and your USHGA membership will be forwarded at the same time by Sue.

USHGA membership includes your entry into the internationally recognized Hang Badge rating program, voting privileges (ballots by mail) in USHGA, and a subscription to the HANG GLIDING Magazine, which alone is well worth the cost of membership in USHGA, plus 50 thousand dollars individual pilot liability insurance.

All members of MassHGA are encouraged to join USHGA as well.

MassHGA membership cards will be returned to you as soon as you have sent your check to the Treasurer.

Present members are urged to re-up at once, as you will NOT delay the expiration date of your '77 membership by delaying payment - we know who you are, and your expiration date will be March 1st, '78, whether you pay up now or later.

#### MEETING NOTICE

The March meeting of the MassHGA will be held, as usual, on the third Tuesday of the month, which will be March 15th. The location, as always, will be the ME Bar & Lounge on Rt 47 in Hadley, two miles north of Skinner State Park on Mt. Holyoke.

We should have more information on the meet available, as well as on other matters, such as insurance.

We also hope to show a film at either this meeting or the next which has been called the most exciting aviation film ever made. It's called "TO FLY", and it was made for the National Air and Space Museum at the Smithsonian, where it is shown daily as part of the exhibit.

The film includes all forms of flying, from hang glider soaring to

formation aerobatics in jets, old biplanes, sailplanes, naval carrier operations, and just about anything you can think of. Supposedly, this film is so realistic that viewers have left the theater with vertigo!

We have reserved the film for the March meeting, and the date of the April meeting was submitted as a "rain date" if the film is not available in March (it should be.)

Walt Niemi and Jeff Kemp and Jay Dolan of the Windward Club have promised to come to a MassHGA meeting soon, bringing their films of flying throughout the Northeast. Much of this film is local, and included many local pilots. We've had the chance to see some of Walt's superbly-edited stuff, and it's really great. They tell us that we could spend a whole day just seeing the edited parts that have been set to a music sound track, and not have time to see all that there is.

And of course, Baa Baa Black Sheep will be on the color TV.

#### SITE REPORTS

Due to the frequency and depth of snow this winter, it is impossible to present up-to-date reports on the conditions at local sites. However, Mt. TOM, SKINNER, and NO.SUGARLOAF have all been flown frequently in the past month, and no great trouble has been experienced in getting up any of these hills.

#### NEW SITE

Class I and II pilots will be happy to hear that the Adams landfill dump has been opened as a site as of immediately. It features a 120 foot west-facing hill, and is a great practice hill for those in the area. Go for it!

#### NEW LAUNCH (over)

## NEW LAUNCH

John Dempsey has made another pioneering flight in his "White Kite Mark IV", opening up a southwest launch on the corner of Mt Tom. The new site requires at least a bit of a breeze to clear the brush, but it seems possible to get out of it on any southwest day that the wind is strong enough to make a launch from the cliffs inadvisable. John had cleared some brush at this take-off earlier in the winter, but just now found the opportunity to try it out. He was quite pleased with the result and it looks like many flights will now be possible at Tom that were not possible before.

## CLASSIFIED ADS

Policy on classified ads in the UPDRAFT has been clarified (again.) Ads will be free for flying members, and all others will be charged one dollar for one month for the first insertion, and fifty cents for subsequent insertions. Members' ads are free for however long they are run.

HOWEVER, IT IS THE MEMBER'S or advertizer's responsibility to see that the ad is placed, and that is to be done by giving the ad IN WRITING to the editor at the club meeting or by sending it to Mick Morrissey, 69 Bryan Av, Easthampton MA 01027 by a date one week from the last club meeting.

Please keep ads reasonably concise, but DO include any and all relevant information.

Sky Sports LABK standard, 18', 90° nose, for medium to large pilots, with bag and harness, very good condition, \$400.00 Call Jim Burrill 665-3261 evenings.

Ultralite Products DRAGONFLY Mk.II, updated to II-C config. with full "Negative-G" stressing, rigged for either seated or prone, coated wires, excellent condition, only ½-season old, with bag \$895. Call Mick Morrissey at 527-9075 evenings.

UP Redtail 19x17, excellent trainer or intermediate glider, seated or

prone rigging, could be reconfigured to 19x15 roach-tip for only \$50, cost \$800 new, only \$495 with bag. Mick Morrissey, 527-9075 eves.

Sky Sports KESTREL, very good condition, a steal at \$595. Mick Morrissey, 527-9075 evenings. (This is Spencer Smith's old glider.)

Eipper Standard, 19', very good condition, Mark Droy 665-2941 evenings.

SUN IVB, excellent condition, Jack McMillan 545-3065 evenings.

UP Dragonfly Mk.II, excellent condition, full Negative-G kit, Gary Podmore, 736-0635 evenings.

UP Dragonfly, Mk. II, full Negative G kit, excellent condition, Jim Cobb, reach through Mick Morrissey.

Brock 82-S, 16' standard, nearly new, a steal at \$350. Excellent ship for small novices or ladies. \$350 Mick Morrissey, 527-9075 evenings.

Zephyr 16' standard, Chuck LaVersa 665-4962 evenings.

Brock 82-S, 18x17, 495 with bag and seat, Mark LaVersa 663-7010

Pacific Gull, 19x15, Paul LeFebvre.

## INSURANCE

Don McCabe, Region 8 Director, informs us that USHGA hopes to have site and landowner and instructor liability insurance available by late spring or early summer. If this happens, MassHGA will cease its efforts to find an individual policy for this association, and will take part in the USHGA program for all of our flyers, sites, etc.

DON'T FORGET - RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP IN MASSHAG RIGHT NOW, BEFORE YOU FORGET!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

RATINGS UPGRADING

Flight Director Chuck LaVersa, and Stu Smith, both USHGA Examiners and Observers, have been considering holding some ratings clinics to allow local flyers to upgrade their ratings. The MassHGA presently has a number of pilots who should be at a transitional stage at this time, so if you're one of them, here's your chance!

Pilots are reminded that each level of the USHGA system requires both a written or oral test and a flight test. Flight tests include a selection of tasks involving maneuvering in flight and landing accuracy. It is NOT possible to do all of these tasks in a single flight, so be forewarned that the flight test portion of the rating exam is likely to be an all-day project at best.

Due to the fact that the Hang 3 and Hang 4 tests require several high-altitude flights, it will not be possible to do these ratings un-

til the park opens for the season and the road is clear.

Classes 1 & 2, however, can be done at any time. Interested pilots should contact Chuck directly at 665-4962 to begin making arrangements for testing.

Also, GSI-rated pilots who wish to convert to USHGA at the same level should contact Chuck, as this transition is quite easy to make, and well worth while for those who expect to do any flying away from our local hills this season. USHGA will be required most places, so get your ratings!

QUOTE OF THE MONTH

"A superior pilot is one who uses his superior judgement to avoid situations that require his superior abilities."

- Leonard Richards

- 4 -

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION - Massachusetts Hang Glider Association, Inc.

Check one:

       New Membership

       Renewal

Check one:

       Full Membership plus USHGA  
(Total cost \$23.00 )

       Full membership ( \$10.00 )

       Full Membership - already  
in USHGA ( \$8.00 with proof  
of USHGA membership )

       Associate membership (\$5.00)  
(newsletter subscription only)

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_  
(Mail) \_\_\_\_\_

USHGA MEMBERSHIP # \_\_\_\_\_

USHGA RATING \_\_\_\_\_ GSI RATING \_\_\_\_\_

Send with cash, check, or money  
order to:

MassHGA, C/O SUE McGUIRE, TREASURER  
69 BRYAN AVENUE, EASTHAMPTON MA01027

DUES ARE GOOD FOR ONE YEAR.