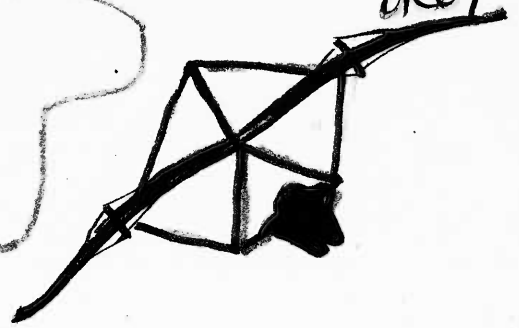


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NEWSLETTER OF THE MASSACHUSETTS HANG GLIDER ASSOCIATION (WESTERN CHAPTER)

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VOLUME 3, NUMBER 9 SEPTEMBER 1977

ED: C. LaVersa © 1977 MassHGA

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## MEETING NOTICE

The September meeting of the MassHGA will be held at the ME bar and Lounge on Rt. 47 in Hadley, two miles north of Skinner State Park. Date will be the third Tuesday of the month, September 20. Time is 8:00 PM. This will be a reorganizational meeting, so it is very important that as many members be present as possible.

## PRESIDENTS REPORT

We are functioning without an acting president and will hold nominations for all vacant offices at the September meeting.

## SEC-TREAS. REPORT

Our Secretary-Treasurer, Sue McGuire, is enjoying her vacation in New York, Pennsylvania, and Washington, D.C., therefore detailed information is not available at this time. Fifteen people attended the August meeting. We hope all of you who were on vacation had a great time and will be on hand to tell some tales. We have approximately \$100.00 in our account.

## FLIGHT DIRECTORS REPORT

Where have all the flyers gone? That's the big question at Skinner

(Class III) these days. Some poor weather has considerably reduced the weekly fly-ins there, but those of us who know the weather, have been soaring anyway! We had a surprise guest late last month. Dennis Pagen dropped by and soared with Chuck LaVersa, Bob Stuart, and several other visiting eagles. Your flight director took the opportunity to buy a copy of Dennis' new book "Hang Gliding and Flying Skills" and was impressed by the content and good reading.

The Mohawk Trail (Class IV) has seen plenty of action lately. A certain Icarus V and a particular Firefly have become semi-permanent fixtures over No. Adams.

Mt. Greylock (Class IV) Brooks Ellison has developed the "Greylock Card" for qualified pilots and says the ramp construction will begin after the heavy "leaf-peeper" season this fall. 1000 feet per minute to you Brooks!

North Sugarloaf (Class II) has given us several days of good soaring lately.

Mt. Tom (Class III) has definitely gotten plenty of use for a "Walker", with Mark Droy and Donny Raymond playing "Sky-King" there.

## Poet's Seat

Jim Burrill has worked diligently with the Greenfield Town Council

and came to the conclusion that the town's concern about people flying over a heavily populated area is well founded and just. We have agreed to accept their decision to close the hill without further contest.

Adams Landfill, Whitney's, Bysiegel's, Ladderlook, The Slot, Hannum's Hill, Sodom, Burt's Farm, Grant's Hill, and So. Hadly High have all seen action by novice and experts alike with those southerly faces being favored.

#### Berkshire Notes MLV

Despite the rather unfavorable weather lately, there have been a few primo days here and there at the old Hoosac Range, with flights of over an hour not being rare. Several times in recent weeks the local wing beaters have been joined in weekend ritual at this area's highest and longest ridge by a few dyed-in-the-dacron fellow pilots. They have been mostly from central Mass., Conn., and southern Vt. areas. A few eastern N.Y. pilots have even dropped in for sky and beer. It seems that fliers are beginning to really refine their tastes in sites, a development that is possibly a result of getting more airtime and less ground time while visiting here.

Two recent evenings of mind bashing for pilots and friends, courtesy of Gloria Zanett and her folks, have shown that if local pilots haven't been eating and drinking much lately, they certainly haven't forgotten how. My hat tipped to the Zanett's!

#### ITEMS OF NOTE MLV

Our roving van-duo, Kammy Lowe and Spencer Smith, are back from the 1977 National Championships held at Heavenor, OK. Through alot of hard work and preparation

Kammy had the good fortune to place 30th in the open class. Congratulations for a job well done!

MassHGA would like send best regards to Ted Briggs, John Dempsey, and Tom Belisle.

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