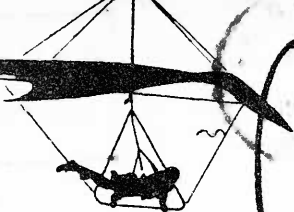


July 2, 1992

Mass Hang Gliding Association



UPDRAFT

PRESIDENT'S REPORT:

I would like to take the time to thank all of you that responded to our vote to change article 10. We are working on the small changes as discussed at the last meeting. Additionally, I would like to thank those of you responsible for re-electing me for president, as well as re-electing the other officers. Who knows, with the addition of Cliff Lull as our VP, as well as the ever-competent and well-experienced Bob Vicari in the Sec/Treas seat (hurry home, Bob!), we should at least be capable of running this club as well as this country is run. I am looking forward to an extremely busy, as well as, profitable year for the MHGA. By the way, any new ideas or suggestions are always welcome and sometimes needed. Please jot these ideas down on paper and get them to me, or voice them at the next meeting.

As per the present flying season, I have already heard of 4 flights to the coast, as well as some interesting flights (out & returns?) from the Mohawk trail and I am sure there are 1 or 2 flights (experiences!) that I have not heard about. So, to all, don't hesitate to keep me informed, jot these flight highlights down so we can make every effort possible to get them into our next Updraft.

Some local news.... I have been told that one of our only neighbors on the Mohawk Trail, (the red house, below launch, on the right, the one where the dogs are always barking), has asked that we **PLEASE spend as little time as possible, flying over his house as it upsets his dogs.** Remember, we can be as low as 50 to 100 feet over his back yard. So, while we are gabbing over the air waves (some of us do speak a little loudly), as well as trying to keep that aircraft on course, let us keep in mind we do not need angry neighbors. Let's pass the word around and try to avoid this area as best we can.

There is some interest in our sites for paragliding. I'll discuss this more at the meeting. In addition, I have some good news on the status of Petersburg. The permit should be in the mail! Those interested in flying this site should contact me as this site can be very interesting (like no landing areas, etc.)..... More at the meeting, BROOKS

VICE PRESIDENT'S REPORT:

I would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone who voted for me in this last election.

(6/16/92)

We had some great flying weather this last week. I was fortunate to fly three days and had long soaring flights on 2 of them. I heard that Randy Adams made it to the coast from Ascutney and Barbara Adams went 30+ miles to set a new women's cross country record for New England. Congratulations to both of you!!!

Bud Davis and I went to fly Skinner one day last week. When we signed in the rangers told us that someone had blown their launch and just left the glider in the trees below launch. Fortunately the pilot was not injured. We got the pilot's name and phone number from the rangers and left a message on his answering machine stating that we would get the glider down for him. We got the glider out of the trees (without further damage) and folded it up and put it in its glider bag. I know that blown launches occasionally happen in this sport, but please, for the sake of preserving the site, let's get it out of the trees ASAP.

After some talk with the rangers at Skinner, we have received permission to do some trimming at the launch to make no-wind launches more successful. I hope to have this done before the next meeting. Hope to see a lot of faces at the next meeting. Fly high and safe, CLIFF

SECRETARY'S REPORT

MEETING NOTICE: The next meeting of the MHGA will be at 8 pm, July 11, 1992 at Gringo's Restaurant, Rt. 8, N. Adams, MA. Gringo's is located approximately 1/2 mile south of the LZ for the Greylock and the Mohawk Trail sites, at the Price Chopper/N. Adams Cinema Plaza.

There were several mail-in ballots received for the last meeting and a few received after the meeting. All were in favor of the Article X change. Thank you to those who responded.

With that in mind, motions were both made and seconded that the proposed changes to the By-Laws be voted on at the July club meeting. When these changes are made, a complete and final set of By-Laws will be drafted and sent to every member. The proposed changes are as follows:

ARTICLE 4.4 "for 2 newsletters" to replace 30 days (referring to club members' exp. date.)

ARTICLE 5.1 Strike the word "monthly"

ARTICLE 5.2 Strike the word "monthly"

ARTICLE 5.4 Add that "All meetings shall follow Robert's Rules of Order."

ARTICLE 6.1 Change to month of "May" (referring to elections)

ARTICLE 6.5 Strike the word "monthly"

ARTICLE 6.7 Add that the Flight Director assigns Site Directors

ARTICLE 7.1 Change to "15 days prior to the election meeting from the nomination meeting."

ARTICLE 7.2 Strike the word "April"

ARTICLE 7.3 Add that "members shall set a date for the election meeting at the nomination meeting."

ARTICLE 9.2 To strike completely "Officers or members shall be entitled to receive for their services such amount, if any, as the officers may from time to time determine, as approved by the members at a vote taken at a monthly meeting."

ARTICLE 10.2 Add that "Proposed amendments must be stated in a meeting notice, and be read at a general membership meeting, one meeting prior to being voted on." (end of changes)

The following officers were elected at the last meeting:

President - Brooks Ellison
Vice President - Clifford Lull
Treasurer - Bob Vicari
Secretary - Bob Vicari

I am sorry that I will not be able to attend the next meeting. I will be in Texas playing soldier in the Army. Good luck and fly high.

Bob V.

A Letter from your Regional Director.

Fatality in Maine

There was a fatal accident in Thomaston, Maine on Saturday, Sept. 19. A non-pilot bought a Seagull 3 from an add in a swap book. He had taken one hang-gliding lesson seven years ago. He tied a rope to a pick up truck, ran it through the nose plate, wrapped it around the base tube and held on. He got his neighbor to drive the truck. He was towed to about 100 feet, and from the eyewitness' account, probably locked out. He died from a broken neck and massive chest injuries. It still amazes me that he even got airborne with this set-up.

This was a tragedy that did not have to happen. This guy died because someone wanted a couple of hundred bucks for a used glider. This is the third fatality in region 8 in four years from this same cause. In all three cases, an inexperienced person bought a hang glider, and tried to tow it. These are also the only fatalities in region 8 in the last four years. When selling a used glider, you have an ethical responsibility to make sure the person buying it is qualified to fly the glider.

Please, please, please, don't sell your used glider to an inappropriate person.

Randy Adams
USHGA Director, Region 8