



UPDRAFT

Here it is, the new look and much awaited news letter from the Mass Hang Gliding Association. A meeting was held in October. The minutes of that meeting are enclosed.

A work party got together at Skinner this past October. Much work was needed and much work was done. Some tree tops were clipped on launch and the edge of the cliff was filled in and smoothed out considerably. Trees that blocked the trail were cleared away and areas on the trail with bad footing were filled in and smoothed out. The hike in won't be so bad in the 95' season and the launch is now better than ever. Thanks to all those that helped!

The cover of this news letter is also the proposed new logo for the club. This is not set in stone. It will be voted on at the next meeting. If you like it, say so. If you don't or if you have your own suggestion send it to me or bring it to the next meeting for a vote. My address is 87 Town Farm Road, #8, Brookfield, MA 01506.

Some new committees were set up by the club. We now have a Rules Committee and an Activities Committee. We also have a new editor for this rag. The Rules Committee will meet to discuss site rules and to set up rules or protocol for new and existing sites as they need to do so. They will also work with the Activities Committee for the same, in the event that a flight competition is arranged by the Activities Committee. The Activities Committee's job is to come up with ideas for competitions, organize work parties, club outings, fund raisers and public relations policies. All committee's ideas will go before the membership for a vote. Therefore, it is important to make the meetings as often as you can. If you cannot make it to a meeting you can send your ideas to me and I will forward these to the proper people.

I would like to see all members contribute to the news letter. If you have some ideas or war stories from the last flying season or trip or whatever, that you wouldn't mind sharing with the rest of us, I would appreciate it very much! I need some feedback!!

Gary Brunell  
87 Town Farm Road, #8  
Brookfield, MA 01506

## Massachusetts Hang Gliding Association

### October Meeting

Meeting was called to order 7:53 p.m., Saturday, October 15, 1994. Ten members in attendance at Brickford's Restaurant at the Route 2 rotary in Greenfield.

**Last meetings notes were read:** MHGA is a chapter of USHGA; the CHGA is working on Mt. Everett, a NE site in South Eastern Mass. We are continuing work on Adams' landfill as a training site, and FAA sectionals should soon include a hang gliding symbol in the vicinity of the RC field.

We have 21 members and \$606.50 in the bank, with 25 T-shirts in inventory.

**First topic was further discussion about Mt. Everett.** A landing field has been arranged (a pre-requisite set by the state). Nice site, will take much work to clear. Road within 100 foot vertical of top.

**Report on attendance at a Connecticut HGA meeting.** All area club members empowered to treat and even help regulate MHGA sites as they would thier own since thier flying is also threatened by misuse. Friendly atmosphere, more communication required.

**Paragliding discussions:** Paraglider pilots need to regulate themselves. While the FAA treats the vehicles as similar, the state recognizes performance differences and will treat separately. Hang gliders and paragliders should be operating under similar, if not the same rules as hang gliders -- they should use same sign in books and procedures. But after the state gives them permission to fly, much work needs to be done on launch protocol. Motions relating to paraglider pilots tabled until they can attend a meeting.

**Update on Billy Seacord's condition and the meetings with the Park.** A new sign will be posted at trailhead telling everyone to sign-in, and the pilot's log should be located at the gate on busy weekends.

**Discussion of and appointments made to a Site Regulation Committee.** Discussions are pending with state regional supervisors. A rough draft should be in and ready by next meeting, finalized and approved by state prior to February regional meeting.

**Discussion on regionalizing the newsletters, setting up a tow clinic, and forming an Activities Committee.**

**Discussion on work party requirements.** Skinner weekend of October 22nd. Other to be announced.

**RULES COMMITTEE MEMBERS**

Jack Hannis  
Gary Brunell  
Mark Droy  
Cliff Lull

**ACTIVITIES COMMITTEE MEMBERS**

John Gauriel  
Gary Brunell  
Bill Clark  
Brooks Ellison

## THE RULES COMMITTEE

The Rules Committee held a meeting in November to discuss the paragliding issues at the Western Mass State Park sites. In attendance were Mark Droy, Jack Hannis, Gary Brunell, Cliff Lull, Scott Berk and Doug Sharpe.

Agreement was met on guidelines for use of Skinner and Greylock with proposals to be presented to the Parks Department soon. So folks, don't be surprised this 95' flying season if you see more paragliding wings floating around the skys of Western Mass. Please be courteous and helpful. These are simply 'Birds of a different feather'. The details of the rules set forth will be printed in the next letter. I would have put them in this one but I don't have a copy of the rules at this time. The point is they are in place and there will be paraglider pilots flying these sites this year.