

UPDRAFT

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The Newsletter
of the
Massachusetts
Hang Gliding
Association

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Meeting Schedule:

Saturday, Nov 16
7 PM Bricker's
Greenfield, MA

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What will float down from Greylock first - Snow or PGs?

We are continuing to aid paraglider pilots in their negotiations with the State for flying at Greylock. Skinner has seen some PG action, with few reported incidents, so that seems to be going well.

There is some movement on getting paragliding implemented at Greylock, and we want that to happen. But there are also other issues yet to be decided.

The first is making Greylock a HG3/PG3 site. A few things make that decision difficult: 1) the large spectator draw of the site; 200-400 people on an average day, 2) a launch over the access road, and 3) the John Heiney-FAA incident this

summer (Heiney was fined for flying over a crowd at an airshow).

Another decision for which the State is looking to us for input also deals equally with hang gliding and paragliding. Should tandem flights be allowed? Should this include commercial flying - giving people rides under the guise of a "lesson"?

Greylock and Skinner have been models of successful Club-State relationships. Allowing paragliding doesn't mean we MUST mess with the model of success. We need to keep separate the issues of allowing paragliding and changing the present rules.

Meeting Notes

New Business:

The next club meeting is at Bricker's in Greenfield (just west of the Rt91-Rt2 rotary, at 7 PM on Saturday, November 16, 1996. This will be one of the more important meetings - we will be deciding how to proceed with integrating paragliding into Greylock, reviewing the bylaws, and choosing dates for next year's meetings. We will also be spending some of our money: votes will be taken and decisions made on

landowner gifts.

Old Business:

The first aid box is in place at the Mohawk Trail launch. Landing area brush clearance was performed on the LZ in front of the Trail launch, and gravel was spread on the Greylock launch.

In early October, we presented a multimedia lecture on Hang Gliding to the Appalachian Mountain Club as part of their Tuesday Night Lecture Series.

Site Status:

Greylock:

Advanced HG site. Rules pending for PG. Sign in with the Bascom Lodge Staff before flying. See the State Rules. Landing area is the radio-controlled airplane field off of Route 8.

Prospect:

Advanced HG only. Sign in with the Bascom Lodge Staff before flying. Hang 4 site. See the State Rules. Land by airport.

Skinner:

Intermediate HG/PG site. Sign in with the Park Rangers before flying, even if they are hard to find on weekdays. Vehicles must be outside the gates 30 minutes prior to closing. See the State Rules. Land in large hay field southwest of launch.

Mohawk Trail:

Advanced HG Site. Route 2, North Adams. Launch is north of towers above hairpin turn. Usual LZ is the RC field on route 8.

Petersburg Pass:

Advanced HG/PG site. Has about a 10:1 glide out to the landing area, can get tight on a dead glide with a little headwind.

Route 2, just past the New York border.

Pocumtuck:

Intermediate HG site. The road to the launch has been widened and regraded, and has a new gate with a new combination lock.

Deerfield MA, behind Eaglebrook Academy off Route 10. Launch is north of the radio towers. Landing is across route 10. Check with landowners in garden shop before landing there.

Massachusetts Hang Gliding Association

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Sources of information on the Internet

<http://cougar.stanford.edu:7878/HGMPSHomePage.html>
Hang Gliding Mosaic Picture Server Home Page

<http://205.138.107.3:80/users/Pilot/>
Blue Sky Aircraft Company

<http://adswww.harvard.edu/GA/fars.html>
Federal Aviation Regulations

<http://aviation.jsc.nasa.gov:80/wx.html>
Internet Weather Services

<http://rs560.cl.msu.edu/weather/Lsa.gif>
Current Surface weather Map

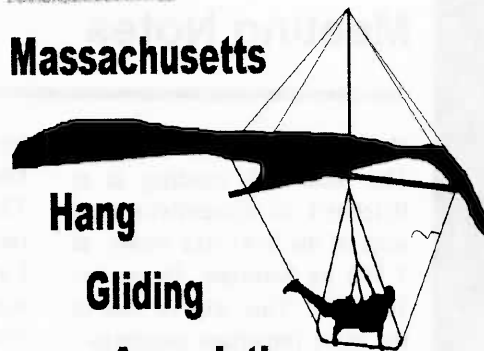
<http://www.weather.com/>
The Weather Channel ® Home Page

<http://www.ualr.edu/doc/hamualr/callsign.html>
U.S. Amateur Radio Callsign Lookup Page

<http://www.lehigh.edu/~ludas/amc.html>
AMC Home Page

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