

UPDRAFT

30 September 1997

USHGA Chapter 119

Volume 22, Issue 3

The Newsletter
of the
Massachusetts
Hang Gliding
Association

P.O. Box 1649
North Adams MA 01247
President: Brooks Ellison
802-694-1544
Editor: Mark Droy
275 East Hadley Road
Amherst MA 01002

Meeting Schedule:

CHANGE!!!

Saturday,

Oct 25, 1997

7:30 PM Gringo's
RT 8 North Adams

November TBD

Bricker's, Greenfield

Where to

Send Money:

MHGA

PO Box 1549

North Adams, MA

01247

Officers and

Contacts:

Brooks Ellison

President/Treasurer

802 694 1544

John Gavriel

Vice-President

508 453 5535

Mark Droy

Secretary/Editor

413 266 3487

Tim Donovan

Flight Director

603 543 9525

Mohawk Trail LZ Purchased By Cirrus Corporation

The Cirrus Corporation, a partnership of New England and other pilots, has purchased 50 acres of North Adams land, including the landing zone directly in front of launch at the Mohawk Trail. The majority of partners are members of both the Vermont and Massachusetts clubs.

This is a significant milestone for hang gliding in the state. The Trail launch is owned by the city, and good relations between the city and MHGA have kept the site open for over 23 years. But possible development of the landing area would have closed a good bail-out. (The usual LZ is a cross country trip downridge to the RC

field to the south). Cirrus Corp stepped in and made the purchase, which opens up a range of options. Although there are no specific plans, ideas which have been bandied about include an ultralight landing strip, camping, and widening of the fields.

The Trail has seen increased use this year. Pilots from VT/NH, New York, and Connecticut have often joined up with the usual half-dozen regulars for some great flying. Flights down Rt 2 are becoming routine, and XC trips of 52 and 64 miles have been made. More information on the LZ and how the Corporation will interface with the club will be available at the meeting.

Meeting Notes

July 19 meeting:

Seven members were present. 19 paid members, and \$1326.67 in the treasury.

Old Business: Roundtable discussion on allowing Intermediate pilots to fly from State sites. No motions made to change rules. Decided to put matter to a vote during the general elections of officers.

Farthest flight from Greylock (so far) is to the North Adams Airport.

New Business:

- Updated site guides.
- New site in Springfield, Vermont. Launch still being cleared.
- Rumors of Regional Competition. (Late August?)
- Purchase a First Aid box for the shed at the RC LZ

September 13 meeting:

19 Paid Members, 1356.74 in treasury, all T-shirts have been sold and are now collectors items.

Old Business: Finished most of Site Guide updates - need names for paragliding contacts. Furthest Greylock flight is still to N. Adams airport. RC Club will accept a first aid box, and would also like a broom for the shed at the RC field.

New Business:

- Widen fields at Mohawk Trail LZ, New trailhead at towers
- Investigate tree pruning and trailwork at Skinner
- Windsocks/Streamers at Skinner/Goulds
- Gifts for landowners

Site Status:

Greylock:

Advanced HG/PG site. 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 should 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. Hang 3 with sign-offs. Route 2, North Adams. Launch is north of towers above hairpin turn. Usual LZ is the RC field on route 8.

Petersburg Pass:

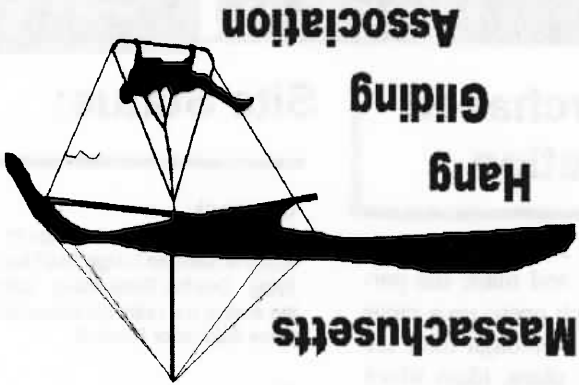
Advanced HG/PG site. Has about a 10:1 glide out to the landing area, can get tight on a dead glide with a little headwind.

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.



Since 1975...

UPDRAFT

Mark Droy
 275 East Hadley Road
 Amherst MA 01002

Schedule Change

Next Meeting :

Saturday,

October 25, 1997

7:30 PM Gringo's

RT 8 North Adams

Plan on attending the fund-

raising Meet for Bill Seacord at

Morningside

October 11, 12, and 13!

Massachusetts Hang Gliding Association

**PO Box 1549
 North Adams MA 01247**

03 OCT 1997

