

Now Available on our Website

- ✓ Freehold Photos: Never seen Freehold? View images taken by Jeff Driscoll to get a feel for what Freehold has to offer.
- ✓ Directions and map to the 2002 Annual Banquet.
- ✓ Classifieds: Stuff for sale.
- ✓ Scrapbook: great photos from great Nutmeg events.

For these features and MUCH more point your browser to:
<http://nutmegsoaring.org>



Nutmeg News is the official publication of the Nutmeg Soaring Association, Inc. Edited by Jim Sidway, 211 Lum Lot Road, Southbury, CT 06488-1960 203.264.6170 jsidway@earthlink.net

CALENDAR

Annual Banquet 2002: Saturday, February 16 (snow date Sunday, February 17) - Southbury Hilton - Full details and reservation form inside.

Annual Mandatory Safety Meetings: The first meeting is scheduled for Friday, March 22 at the Bethany Town Hall (details inside).

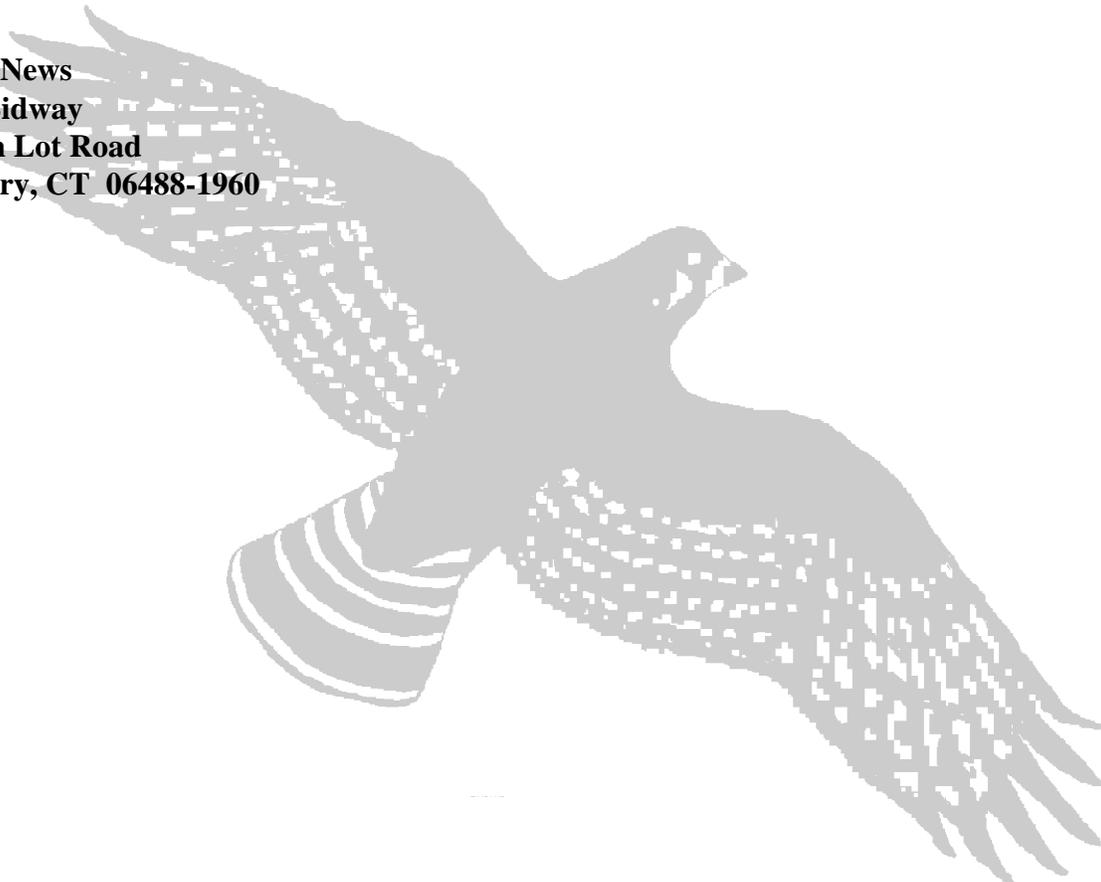
The second meeting is tentatively scheduled for April 20 at the Miry Brook Firehouse in Danbury.

Directions to Bethany Town Hall:

Traveling south on CT Rte 8, take exit 26, then south on Rte 63 to Bethany firehouse (on the left). At the firehouse, turn right onto Peck Road. The Town Hall is about .1 mile further on the right.

Traveling north on Rte 8; take exit 22 in Seymour, then east on Rte 67 to Rte 63. Left at the firehouse.

Nutmeg News
% Jim Sidway
211 Lum Lot Road
Southbury, CT 06488-1960



Nutmeg News

Volume 43, Number 2

February 2002

Editor: Jim Sidway

FREEHOLD: WHAT'S NEXT

Submitted by Bill Kenyon

A lot of things need to be done to get Freehold operating. At the January 25 General Meeting, we suggested there would be committees to deal with them. I've listed below some items which need action (along with some notions about possible approaches). Please let me (or somebody) know any of the following: where you would most like to contribute; if you have specific suggestions; and what items should be added to the list.

Clem will be Airport Manager, according to our proposed sale contract. I think this arrangement brings a lot of potential benefit to us, and he will enjoy doing it. All of us should interact a lot with Clem, to make use of his 42 years of knowing the place, and to make sure he feels that he's part of our team.

1. Price structure: We know annual dues, and tow fees. We need to reconsider the 'Trial Member' and 'Temporary Member' categories, and their prices. We want to encourage potential new members to visit and check it out, but (for example) we don't want a 'temporary member' price that works out to be cheaper for a whole year than a full membership. Also: maybe an 'Introductory Glider Lesson' price?

2. Marketing: We need to bring in new members. We have a beautiful website, but it needs changes to reflect Freehold. We need a 'Soaring News' item for Soaring Magazine telling them about Nutmeg and Freehold (I drafted a proposed version of this). Maybe a brochure in the ski areas? An article in the Albany newspaper?

3. Glider tiedowns need to be installed at Freehold: Club ships (along with some trailers) should probably tie down just south of the chain link fence around the County Works Dept. property, with additional trailers on the 300' x 200' area west of the CWD and adjacent to the road. For the 300' x 200' area, we probably need an (unambitious) fence near the road, and a bit of ditch mitigation so we can drive trailers in.

4. Hotline: The hotline was previously at Linda deMarco's office, but she is now retired/career-changing, and it needs a new home. Any volunteers out there?

5. Community relations: Maybe we should contact the Freehold Volunteer Fire Department on how they can help us & we can help them; the Greeneville Chamber of Commerce; other ideas? Also: each of us should make an effort to talk to the local folks; if they're simpatico, take them for a glider ride (split the tow, or even get them to pay for it). This is part of making friends for the airport and for our glider operations. Maybe we should have periodic 'open-house' events -- "\$1 a hot dog, and talk to the pilots"

6. Who would like to write a column in the Nutmeg News about area attractions and events? We should have a web-site

list of local attractions, like restaurants, bars, hardware stores, B&B's, and events (e.g., the kayak slalom race on the Esopus Creek, about 15 miles south of Freehold, in the spring).

7. Glider staging and launching: Probably we should stage the gliders on the north side of the runway, launch and land on the south side. And we should stick with Clem's traffic pattern: power flies a left-hand pattern, gliders fly downwind over the creek.

8. Campers and tents: They should probably be near the creek, toward the west end of the airport.

9. Shower and bunkhouse: what are the possibilities?

10. Tow pilots? Field Safety Manager? Duty Pilot? How do we cover these needs at Freehold?

11. Access to clubhouse: Who should get keys, or otherwise, how do we properly arrange access to the clubhouse?

12. Phone: I think the present phone is paid for as a residence phone for Clem. He told us that the phone co. was charging him \$300 a month for a 'business phone'. Also, we need a phone that works out on the field, like we did at Candlelight, to field incoming 'please retrieve' and 'are we operating?' calls and make emergency calls.

13. Encampment: it would make sense this year to have encampment at Freehold -- get as many members 'in residence' for a week or two, fly all week.

14. 'Midweek' soaring (of course, in principal we can fly every weekday now): how do we organize tow pilots? We think that Clem will be highly available, but details haven't been worked out yet.

15. Instruction: A couple of us less experienced or younger instructors are thinking that we would instruct, say, 9 AM - 12:30 PM, then fly our own ships, then instruct a bit more in the late afternoon. This could mean that there might be 2 instructors instructing in the morning, and none in the afternoon. Comments?

JANUARY MEMBERSHIP MEETING MINUTES

Date: January 25, 2002

Called to order: 07:55 p.m.

Directors/Officers present: Kenyon, Stein, Hanak, Ramsdell, Driscoll, Marty Opitz

Number of members present: 28 full members, 2 Assoc.

Jeff Driscoll reported that the purchase of Freehold Airport is a go. 34 members have either made, or will shortly make, share purchases; and an additional 8 members have sent \$500 checks to join as non-share-owners. There is still a gap of \$38,000 to make the first payment, but additional loans should fill that gap.

Nutmeg's revisions of the sale contract are on their way back to our lawyer and the Hoovlers.

The minutes of the last meeting (December 14, 2001) were approved as printed in the Nutmeg News.

Bill Kenyon explained that there were a few steps still to be taken before the Freehold purchase is a done deal, including closing the gap on the first-payment price, and having the sellers sign the sales contract. Until the sellers do so, another buyer (Harrison Ford?) could buy the airport out from under us. At this stage, the best alternative to Freehold is Windham (CT) Airport, but this doesn't seem too promising. Bill described the Freehold purchase as a one-time-only chance, mainly because of the strong financial support from senior and even inactive members.

Chris Hanak presented the flying statistics for 2001, and the club's financial status: there is about \$71,000 in the bank compared with about \$37,000 a year ago, due to some lower expenses. Chris presented a proposed Freehold budget for 2002. It is based on \$30 tows and \$600 annual dues, and creates an expected deficit of \$5,600, or about \$100 per expected member (35 shareholders, 10 other Nutmeggers, and 10 new members). Some of the expense and income items are not well known at this stage. Chris explained that expenses could go up in 2003 (real estate taxes in particular), and that new members would be needed that year, too. The Pawnee is likely to need to be recovered next winter, for about \$30,000 to \$35,000, although Chuck Webber says the prices of Pawnees are down (no terrorists buying them anymore?) and we should consider a buy-one-sell-one maneuver.

The budget calls for the glider-buy fund to remain at \$0 in 2002. However, there will be substantially fewer members who don't own gliders than in 2001, so they should have excellent access to club gliders.

Nutmeg will buy the airport insurance policies, in which Freehold Airport, LLC, and Clem Hoovler (in his duties as Airport Manager to Nutmeg) are Additional Insureds. The policy will include premises, products (for gas sales), and hangarkeepers (for airplanes tied down). Insurance for the buildings is being investigated. Some questions were raised about the insurance: 1, whether \$1,000,000 liability was enough, since the airport we will own is itself at risk; 2 (raised subsequent to the meeting), whether we had thought out whether we would make a claim if a club glider were to be damaged, and therefore whether we should carry hull insurance on the Schweizers.

It was moved and voted to adopt the budget as presented, as well as the dues structure proposed in the budget: \$600 for annual dues (plus the SSA \$55); \$500 surcharge for non-shareowner members; and \$100 for associate members. This includes the proposal to move the budget surplus into a new fund called the Freehold Fund.

It was also moved and voted that Nutmeg will lease Freehold Airport from the Freehold Airport, LLC. Nutmeg commits to

pay off the \$120,000 mortgage over 6 years; the lease is a triple net lease, in which Nutmeg collects all income, and pays all bills.

There was discussion of Clem's potential role as a tow pilot; Clem could tow in his tow plane, and collect the full tow fee; or perhaps Clem could fly a Nutmeg towplane, for some addition to the tow fee. The idea of calling up Clem on Monday afternoon and saying 'Can you tow tomorrow?' is attractive – an improvement from Candlelight.

Other items: Nutmeg Banquet, February 16. If you have suggestions for the Kudos Awards, forward them to Jeff Driscoll or Chris MacIntyre as soon as possible. Committees: there will be much to do at Freehold, so each member should think what kind of committee he would like to be on. Marketing will be an important one, but a direct attempt to recruit members of other clubs is not appropriate.

John and Betty Boyce were thanked for food arrangements.

Meeting adjourned 9:50 p.m.

NUTMEG MARKETING OPPORTUNITY

Submitted by Wally Moran

On May 18, 2002 the FAA is holding a SafetyFest/Maintenance Fest at the Pratt & Whitney facility in East Hartford. This is a highly attended event featuring all modes of aviation in our area. Nutmeg has been invited to bring a glider for display. This is a fun and educational event. In the past Nutmeg members have participated by bringing their gliders and one year the Jacksons conducted a workshop on fabric work.

This year's event provides a wonderful opportunity for us to tell the aviation community about our new airport and soaring. Because many of us will be out of town attending the Region 2 contest, I am looking for a volunteer who could attend and bring a glider for display. I promise you will enjoy a great day of meeting people interested in soaring and get to tell many exciting soaring tales.

Please contact Wally if you can represent Nutmeg at this event:
Ph: 203-761-9095 E-mail: WJMoran@compuserve.com

SAFETY MEETINGS

Submitted by Bruce Stein

All Nutmeg members must attend one of the two safety meetings in order to fly with the club this year. The first is scheduled for Friday, March 22, 2002 at the Bethany Town Hall. The safety session will start at 7:00 PM and will be followed by a ground school session given by Randol Webb (this will satisfy the ground school requirement for those who are due for a BFR this year). You are urged to attend both sessions to start getting mentally prepared for and focused on the upcoming soaring season. The second safety meeting will be in April at the Miry Brook Firehouse in Danbury. The tentative date is April 20th.

NUTMEG SOARING ASSOCIATION
ANNUAL BANQUET 2002

Saturday, February 16, 2002

(snow date Sunday, February 17)

THE SOUTHBURY HILTON

Southbury, CT

Reception 6:00 - 7:00 PM

Cheese & Fruit Platter Crudite of Farm Fresh Vegetables Assorted Mini Quiche
Sesame Chicken w/honey mustard Stuffed Mushroom Caps Bruschetta

Dinner Buffet 7:00 - 9:00 PM

Tossed Garden Salad Chicken Florentine Sirloin Steak w/3 Mushroom Sauce
Poached Atlantic Salmon w/Citrus Butter Sauce Garlic Basil Mashed Potatoes
Seasonal Vegetable Medley Rolls & Butter

Heavenly Dessert Display

Assorted Cakes Homemade Pies Mini Italian Pastries and Cookies
Flavored Mousse Brownies and Blondies
Coffee, Decaffeinated Coffee and Tea

ONLY \$37.00 per person includes tax and gratuity!

Route 84 - Exit 16: Exiting from Route 84 Westbound turn right at the end of the ramp, proceed to hotel on right just past Mobil station. Exiting from Route 84 Eastbound turn right at the end of the ramp, proceed to hotel on right just past Mobil station. Check out our website at <http://nutmegsoaring.org> for a detailed map.

Cut and Mail

Name: _____ Number of attendees: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____ Phone: _____

Total Enclosed @ \$37.00 per person: _____ (checks payable to Nutmeg Soaring Association)

NOTE: All reservations must be prepaid and received no later than February 12, 2002. Tickets will be held for pick up at the door. NO phone reservations accepted. NO refunds.

Please Return with Full Payment to:
Michelle Molnar
175 Old Highway
Southbury, CT 06488