

Directions to Miry Brook Firhouse - traveling East or West on RT 84 towards Danbury:

Exit 3 to RT 7 South
Second Exit (Danbury Airport)
Left at traffic light at end of ramp
Right at first traffic light onto Miry Brook Rd
0.7 miles to Fire House on right

CALENDAR

January 21, 2006: Annual Meeting at the Miry Brook Firehouse, 57 Miry Brook Road in Danbury, CT - 7:00 PM Sharp! Directions in box at left.

February 18, 2006: Banquet 2006 - Details and reservation form inside.



Final Call to All Shutterbugs!

For those of you who enjoyed the multimedia presentation of the 2004 soaring season that was shown at the 2005 Annual Banquet this year I will do another such show for the 2006 Banquet but I need your help. Please take pictures at the field and in the air - digital are best at 3 megapixel resolution or higher but color prints will work fine, too. At the end of the season be prepared to send me your favorite shots - video clips are also welcome. I will compile them into the next multimedia extravaganza and *you will receive on screen credit* for your contributions. *Jim Sidway*

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

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

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Editor: Jim Sidway

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Winter now has us in a tight grip. I am sure most of us would much rather have a mild sunny winter and get the soaring season started early but it seems Old Man Winter has other ideas. We do have a lot of work to accomplish this winter so as always it will pass quickly and the soaring season will be upon us. The Annual Meeting, our Banquet celebration, Safety Meetings and General Meeting will be the focus for the winter months. In addition we will need a few volunteers to help with various 2006 activities. Read on...

Nutmeg Soaring turns 50 years old in 2006. This milestone needs to be celebrated by all current members and as many previous members we can find. To that end we will need a small group of members to spearhead the celebration efforts. If you are interested in participating with the organizing efforts please contact me as soon as possible. If you have ideas, or pictures or stories to share at the celebration get together with the organizing committee (once formed) and let's all help to make Nutmeg's 50th a year to remember.

Are your soaring skills getting rusty? Do you just fly around the airport for a few hours then land from boredom? Or do you head out from the local vicinity but do not cover much ground? We may have a solution for you in 2006. Esteban Draganovic is working on the development of a 50K triangle course for the club. This triangle would be used by club members to test their skills at not only flying cross country but also at flying the course as fast as possible. The idea is to keep a record of everyone's flights around the course and award points for speed. Each month or so we can give a trophy to the club member who flew the fastest time. The basis for this idea is to encourage members to not only fly cross country safely near Freehold but to allow everyone to develop the skills necessary to fly cross country as fast as conditions allow. Many of us fly cross country from Freehold but really have no sense of our speed made good for the day. The triangle speed task will show us how slow or fast we fly and then hone those skills to make the most of the conditions. Any member interested in should contact Esteban for further ideas and details.

The Annual Meeting of the club will be held on January 21, 2006 at the Miry Brook Firehouse in Danbury, CT. The meeting will begin at 7:00 PM sharp! The Annual Report along with the 2006 Budget will be the main focus of the meeting. We have been able to maintain the same fee structure for the last 4 seasons but now need to make changes to cope with rising costs and continued repair bills.

On a brighter note we are now half way through with our payments of the mortgage for the airport. When we started this venture it seemed like we had such a long road ahead of us.

The final payment will be on April 2, 2008, a little over two years from now. After the mortgage has been paid we can then start work on investing additional time and money into the infrastructure of our airport. The biggest and most important part will be a new hangar for the club. You may think it is too early to think about a project like that but we need to start pulling together all available resources now in order to finalize plans and start the project in 2008/2009. If you want to be part of this effort let me know how you would like to help.

Our Annual Banquet will be held February 18, 2006. Please sign up as soon as possible so we can get an accurate count of attendees. I am sure we will have a great time and we will have another multimedia presentation for everyone to enjoy.

I hope everyone had a wonderful and safe holiday season -

Bruce Stein

NEW NUTMEG BASE STATION RADIO

Linda DeMarco donated a new Microair radio for use as the Nutmeg Ground base station. **Esteban Draganovic** donated the necessary hardware as well as his time and efforts to install the new radio and make it operational. Many thanks to Linda and Esteban for their contributions. Please be sure to treat the radio as if it were your own so that the club can get many years of use from it. Be sure to connect the antenna before powering the unit up and be sure to connect the power source properly to prevent damage.

MINUTES: DECEMBER 2005 BoD MEETING

Called to order at 7:00 PM on December 14, 2005

In attendance were: Bruce Stein, Bill Kenyon, Jim Sidway, Bob Cox, Don McKinlay

Several items were discussed but the Club's finances became the prime topic. We all know that the Club has had some rather large expenses and that tow revenues were down this year. The basic fact is that we have been running at a \$7,000 plus deficit for the past two years which has depleted the cushion that we have tried to keep.

The Board had two suggestions for trying to solve this problem. The first was to raise the tow fees and the second was to raise the annual dues for each member. The Board's feeling was that raising the dues would be the best answer. This will be a primary topic of discussion at the Annual Meeting on January 21, 2006.

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Also discussed was the possibility of a new Junior Membership plus changes to the Membership Application Form and the review of new membership applications.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:27 PM - Don McKinlay, Secy/Treasurer

THE IMPORTANCE OF SPIN TRAINING

Submitted by John Boyce

Kai Gertson is a treasure for which all soaring pilots should be grateful. In his essay on off-field landings (he has made 165 of them and counting), he stressed the importance of adequate training in stall/spin situations and has the following to say on the subject:

"When the workload is at an unaccustomed high level, such as during an off-airport landing, that is the time you are most at risk of an inadvertent spin entry. You cannot afford to be ill-prepared, recognition and correct control input must be instantaneous. If you have to think about it, you will run out of time, recovery has to be intuitive.

"Thorough spin training should be mandatory for all glider pilots, and to make the correct recovery procedure intuitive, spinning should be practiced at regular intervals. To be meaningful it is imperative that the training is performed in a sailplane with similar spinning characteristics as the sailplane you normally fly. For example, spin training in a Schweizer 2-33 is completely counterproductive as it will only serve to demonstrate that spins are nothing to worry about as gross misapplication of controls will only result in a halfhearted spin entry from which automatic recovery is instantaneous, regardless of control input. This sort of demonstration will lull the student into a state of complacency regarding spins, and leave him totally unprepared for the real thing. I do not know of any single-seat glider that will not enter a spin inadvertently, given the right conditions.

A significant portion of fatalities are spin-ins during off-airport landings. No doubt attributable to insufficient exposure to spinning. Don't become another statistic."

IMPROVE YOUR SOARING KNOWLEDGE

The Philadelphia Glider Council (PGC) is offering off season ground school on Saturday January 28, February 11 and February 18. If you are a student pilot who wants to fly solo, you will need to pass the FAA written Knowledge Test, and a Pre-solo quiz. Once you are soled and want to earn your Private Pilot' License, you' need to pass an Oral Exam with a flight examiner. If you want to earn your Commercial or Instructors ratings, you' need to pass other sets of Knowledge Tests and Oral Exams.

The FAA requires that you have logged ground instruction in your logbook before you fly solo or earn your license. It doesn't stop there though. Once you are licensed, you need to have a flight review with an instructor every two years, and that includes an oral exam.

During the flying season, we all want to spend our time flying. Nobody wants to sit on the ground studying. (Nobody wants to sit on the ground instructing). It is inefficient for instructors to do ground training with one student at a time.

So every year, PGC presents our winter ground school. This annual ground school is designed to present ALL of the FAA required knowledge subjects for the Private, and Commercial Glider Pilot Certificates. It is also an excellent review in preparation for a BFR, and qualifies for the FAA wings program. Most importantly, the ground school will make you a better and safer pilot.

A team of PGC Flight instructors and very qualified guest speakers teach the PGC ground school lessons. It is our opportunity to present each subject in a well-organized and interesting format. So if you are working toward your first solo flight, your private license, your commercial license, or if you have a Biannual Flight Review coming up, the PGC ground school is for you. Students will receive a computer CD with every lesson presentation so that you can review them at home at your leisure. You will also receive a logbook endorsement that covers all of the required ground instruction for solo, private pilot' license and Commercial Pilot' license. Even if you have attended one of our ground schools in the past, you will find a wealth of new information, presented in new and interesting ways.

Full details of this ground school are available at <http://nutmegsoaring.org> by clicking on the 'Documents' link on the home page and selecting the '2006GroundSchool' document to view.

LAST CALL FOR 2005 PHOTOS

Annual Banquet 2006 will take place in just over a month from now and preparations for this year's multimedia recap of last year's soaring season are under way. If you have any digital photos or video from the 2005 soaring season please put them on a CD and mail them to: Jim Sidway, 211 Lum Lot Rd., Southbury, CT 06488. If you have some good prints they can be scanned so send them along, too.

FINAL GLIDE

Former member **Karl Landes**, who flew with us at Candlelight Farms, recently passed away in Tucson, Arizona. Although Karl never soloed he was an enthusiastic student pilot who enjoyed every opportunity to fly.

NUTMEG SOARING ASSOCIATION
ANNUAL BANQUET 2006

Saturday, February 18, 2006

(snow date Sunday, February 19)

THE SOUTHBURY CROWNE PLAZA

(Formerly the Southbury Hilton) Southbury, CT

Reception & Cash Bar 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/Mushroom Ragout
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 \$45.00 per person includes tax and gratuity!

***** KUDOS AWARDS & MULTIMEDIA PRESENTATION FROM 2005 SOARING SEASON *****

Route 84 - Exit 16: Exiting from Route 84 Westbound or Eastbound turn right at the end of the ramp, proceed to hotel on right just past Mobil station. This is the same location as the last several Banquets.

NOTE: A special room rate of \$99 per room (single or double occupancy) for Banquet 2006 attendees has been arranged with the Crowne Plaza. You must reserve your room by calling the hotel directly at 203-598-7600. Deadline for making room reservations at this special rate is Wednesday, January 25, 2006.

Cut and Mail

Names: _____ **No. of attendees:** _____

Address: _____

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

Total Enclosed @ \$45.00 per person: _____ (checks payable to Nutmeg Soaring Association)

NOTE: All banquet reservations must be prepaid and received no later than February 11, 2006. 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**