

**SAFETY
IS
NO
ACCIDENT!**

Let's be careful out there!



CALENDAR

April 8 - 9 - Opening Weekend! Come out and help get ready for the 2006 soaring season! The second and final **Safety Meeting** will be held Saturday afternoon.

May 27 - Membership Meeting at the airport.

May 27 - June 3 - Encampment - the first of two one week encampments this year.

July 1 & 2 - Nutmeg's 50th Anniversary Celebration! Details Inside!

July 1 - 9 - Encampment #2 - the second encampment of the 2006 Season!

**NUTMEG SOARING TURNS 50!
BIG CELEBRATION PLANNED FOR JULY 1 & 2!
DETAILS INSIDE!**

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Editor: Jim Sidway

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

The 2006 season is just about to begin!!!! The past winter was a very strange one in regards to weather but let's hope that we settle into some very good soaring conditions for the upcoming season. As with every spring we have many tasks to complete in order to get the season started. The lack of a heavy snow pack and dry spring is allowing us to get started a little earlier than might be expected. The more hands we have the better so please make an effort to be at the airport and help get the 2006 season started.

The second safety meeting will be conducted on Saturday after we put the gliders tighter. Dave Rossetter did a fantastic job at the first safety meeting held in Danbury and hopefully he will be available to repeat his presentation on opening day. Bill Kenyon will fill in for Dave if necessary and I am sure he will provide the presentation with the same enthusiasm.

As most of you know Nutmeg will be celebrating its 50th Anniversary this year. We are planning a large picnic dinner on July 2nd as part of our celebration. Most Nutmeg events and cookouts at our airport require a great deal of work by many volunteers. However this particular even will be a catered affair and will be similar to our annual banquet. The really good news is that the temperatures during the picnic will be in the 70's or 80's rather than the 20's that we experience at banquet time. Jim Sidway has done a fantastic job of locating a caterer for a very reasonable cost. Thanks to his efforts the amount of work needed by the members will be fairly small.

As part of the celebration during the July 1-2 weekend we hope to have as many current and former members as possible visiting the airport. I also hope to have as many of our members as possible down on the flight line during the day taking some of our guests for rides. Our airport is a beautiful spot from the ground but even more so when seen along with the Catskills from the cockpit of a glider in flight.

Some General Reminders:

Everyone must attend a safety meeting before getting your spring checkout. If for some reason (and it better be a good one) you miss both safety meetings you will need to obtain a thorough safety briefing prior to flying. Spring checkout priority will be given to those members who attended a safety meeting.

Your annual assessment must also be paid up prior to flying.

If you bring a friend, spouse, children, pets, or other guests to the airport remember they are YOUR responsibility. Your guests must be made aware of the airport environment, where to walk or drive a golf cart, what to look for and when. They must adhere to all safety rules and be given a complete briefing on proper aircraft and airport etiquette.

The chores need to be done on a continual basis. Everyone needs to pitch in to keep our facilities clean and in good repair.

I hope to see everyone at the airport very soon,

Bruce Stein

MINUTES: MARCH MEMBERSHIP MEETING

March 23, 2006 - Miry Brook Firehouse, Danbury, CT

The meeting was called to order at 6:20 PM

The Minutes of the last general meeting were accepted as they appeared in our Newsletter.

Junior Membership, a new category for persons who have not reached their 26th birthday has been created. This membership will require that annual dues and tow fees be paid and exempts the member from an initiation fee, annual airport assessment and any additional special assessments. Junior Members will not hold an officers position or have the right to vote on Nutmeg agendas as do other membership categories. This new category will require a change in the by-laws and will be reviewed in the future as it is an attempt to attract new members.

It was the hope of the Board of Directors that at this meeting they could provide the membership with the opportunity to vote on a lease back program.

Bob Ward has been attempting to acquire a Husky that he would lease to Nutmeg. This would allow Nutmeg to sell the Super Cub that currently has a high market value and would give Nutmeg cash that could be used for debt reduction and a cushion against any unexpected expenses should they arise.

The membership approved the lease back program and authorized the Board of Directors to continue working on establishing a contract as outlined at the meeting.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY NUTMEG SOARING. This year Nutmeg will turn 50 years old. In celebration of this achievement a party is planned for July 2nd. at Freehold.

Jim Sidway is working on having the affair catered as the membership felt that it is a big event and everyone should be free to enjoy themselves and not be working all day. We have worked our volunteers pretty hard in the past.

This year's encampment will be two separate weekly events. One week tied to Memorial Day and one week tied to the 4th. of July. This change was recommended mostly due to the poor weather during the two weeks last year.

The dates for this year would be May 27 through the 4th of June and July 1st through July 9th, kicked off by the 50th anniversary celebration.

There was considerable discussion about the condition of the Freehold runway but currently we do not have a solution.

Dog owners are again reminded that they must be responsible for their pet's behavior and they should be under the owners control at all times. Be a good Pooper Scooper!

There are several areas where Nutmeg will need funds in the future: upgrading the fleet, runway improvement (either to re-pave or grass over), and hanger space.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:25 PM.

Respectfully submitted - Donald K. McKinlay Secy/Treasurer

THINK SAFETY
Submitted by John Boyce

Several years ago (about fifteen, I believe) Steve DuPont, an early member of Nutmeg, published a small book entitled "Soaring Accidents That Almost Happened".

Steve generously granted permission for us to use the material in our newsletter. I have chosen one which has implications relevant to our operation. Here it is.

"The pilot was asked by operations to take up a demo passenger in the 2-33. The ship was on the line and presumably had been readied to fly having been flown that morning.

"The passenger became airsick soon after takeoff, and the pilot landed, disposed of the sack, hosed out the interior of the ship and returned it to the line.

"Another demo passenger wanted to go and the pilot agreed to take her. Having just finished the previous flight he did not run an inspection. On tow, after the first left turn, which had been made quickly to get out of a down draft area near the ridge, the stick jammed to one side after a motion to counter a gust. The glider pilot released from tow and holding the ship in the turn necessitated by the side tilted stick, asked the passenger to get her foot, camera, handbag or whatever it was out of the way so he could move the stick. She reported that a large red thing with a bolt sticking out of it was against the stick, and sensibly removed it. This was the ballast weight, normally secured in its holder with the bolt and safety pin, but that should not have been in place with the passenger aboard.

"Had someone put the weight into the ship when the pilot was not there, simply so it wouldn't get lost? Or was it supposedly secured but not properly?"

"This pilot reports that he is now convinced that it is the responsibility of the pilot about to fly to inspect the ship, regardless of who seems otherwise responsible for it."

I make no apologies for the punctuation; Steve was an MIT engineer... maybe they stress other things up there!

See you at the airport... John.

THANKS AND BEST WISHES TO A FORMER MEMBER
By Jim Sidway

You may have met some or all the Bagnal family - Geoff, Patricia, and sons Will and Tom - who were active members for a couple of years. You may recall that Geoff was hindered by bad hips but through the miracles of modern medicine he had them replaced the year before last. It was his intention to get back in the cockpit last year and finally learn to fly gliders but it was not to be. After only one flight he realized that his body just wasn't going to cooperate - he suffered incapacitating pain for some time after that flight. Resigned to the fact soaring was out of the picture Geoff reluctantly made the decision to resign his membership. He very generously refused any refund of his dues and for that we owe him thanks.

Geoff and Patty recently put their business up for sale and are planning to purchase an RV to travel the roads and see the sights of the USA. We wish them the best and extend an invitation to rejoin us in the future if that should work out.

NUTMEG SOARING TURNS 50!

The Nutmeg Soaring Association will celebrate its 50th anniversary this September. A celebration has been scheduled for the weekend of July 1 - 2. We want to extend an invitation to all current and former members to join us for two days of flying, fun, food and reminiscing. Weather permitting there will be mini-tasks and competitions (further details in next month's Nutmeg News). The weekend will conclude with a catered picnic on Sunday afternoon (rain or shine) featuring:

BBQ CHICKEN & RIBS
CORN ON THE COB
VEGGIES AND DIP
COLE SLAW
MIXED GREEN SALAD
GERMAN POTATO SALAD
ROLLS & BUTTER
CAKE
BEER & SODA

The all inclusive price will be \$30pp (\$20 for kids under 12). A reservation form will be included in upcoming issues of the Nutmeg News. That's July 1 & 2 (the first weekend of the July encampment) - mark your calendars now! Come and join the fun! If you know the whereabouts of any Nutmeg alumni please contact Jim Sidway at 203-264-6170 or jsidway@earthlink.net with details on how to reach them (mailing address, phone number, e-mail address).

Do you have some old photos or memorabilia? Please plan to display those items by constructing your own 'photo board'. Mount your pictures on poster board, as simply or as creatively as you wish, and add captions so folks will know what they are seeing. We will mount all photo boards on various walls for all to see. Be sure your name is on your board! (Note: If you have old slides you would liked scanned to make prints from contact Jim Sidway).