



Nutmeg Newsletter



Volume 51, Issue 1

January 2010



Experts agree - Great Soaring Days ahead in 2010.

Nutmeg Annual Meeting – January 23rd

Jeff Driscoll

The annual meeting will be held at 7 pm at the Miry Brook Firehouse in Danbury, CT at 51 Miry Brook Rd. The Board of Directors will present for discussion and vote the 2010 budget, so don't miss this one!

We'll have updates on the Pawnee, gazebo challenge grant, admin building makeover ideas and more. Where else can you have this much fun in one night? Don't answer that, just be there!

We can get in as early as 6:30 if you'd like to bring coffee, juice or snacks. See you there! ◇

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LLC Meeting – February 20th

Linda DeMarco

I am attempting to schedule an LLC meeting prior to the banquet. Please mark your calendars for a tentative start to the meeting at 4pm. I will notify everyone via the website if this changes. ◇

Pilot Certificates Expiration Reminder

John Boyce

Now is a good time to remind everyone that all paper pilot certificates must be replaced with plastic by 31 Mar 2010.

The FAA website has the procedures for doing so. See [Paper Pilot Certificates Expire March 31, 2010](#) ◇

A Brief History of Soaring

Lisa Pett

The word "soaring" conjures up many images; a majestic eagle in flight or perhaps a bat swooping overhead as night falls on a balmy summer evening. Was Leonardo da Vinci inspired by a similar image when he sketched his vision of a flying machine in 1490? The only certainty is that the human imagination has been captivated by the quest to take flight for many years.

It is easy to forget, while sitting in a speeding jet at 40,000 feet, that at one time not so long ago all flight was "gliding flight," prior to the invention of the internal combustion engine. What follows is a brief history of gliding and soaring, highlighting the major players responsible for the evolution of this sport that is enjoyed by thousands today.

There is no doubt that other visionaries like da Vinci continued to contemplate the possibility of flight, but it was not until 1799 that Sir George Cayley, a baronet from Yorkshire England, conceived of a craft with stationary wings for lift and "flappers" to provide thrust. And in 1809 Cayley built a man-sized version of his glider; his assistant successfully makes a few hops in the air while holding on to the fuselage.

An American is the next stand out on the aviation time line when a gliding flight is made by John J Montgomery at Wheeler Hill near San Diego in 1884. From 1891-1896, some gliding and possibly soaring flights are made by Otto Lilienthal in Berlin, Germany.

It is in 1903 on the dunes in Kitty Hawk, North Carolina that history is made when the first powered flight of just over one minute is made by Orville Wright. This was accomplished by adding a motor to their "flyer" design. This 1902 glider design will serve as the basis for their "flying machine" patent. And in 1911, Wright achieves the world's first soaring duration record of 9:45 minutes. This is accomplished using "ridge lift" created by the sand dunes.

Soaring becomes an organized sport in 1920 in Wasserkuppe, Germany and in 1921 Dr. Wolfgang Klemperer breaks Orville Wright's 1911 soaring record by staying aloft for a 13 minute flight in Germany – also made possible by ridge lift.

Another major record is set in 1931 when Lt. William Coker flies his sailplane, the "Nighthawk" for 22 hours near Honolulu, Hawaii. And it is in 1939 that the U.S. altitude record is set when Bob Stanley reaches 17,265 feet in his sailplane.

Skipping ahead to the 1950s, an American named Paul MacCready, Jr., wins the World Soaring Championships in France in 1956. MacCready is the first American to hold this title.

In the world of competitive soaring in the 1960s and 70s, two Americans figure prominently. In 1968 American Andrew J. Smith wins the World Soaring Championships in Leszno, Poland and in 1970 American George Moffat, Jr. wins the same contest in Marfa, Texas and Moffat takes the title again in 1974, this time in Australia.

In the evolution of the sport of soaring, the period of 1980 to the current day is known as the "Refinement" phase. This period is marked by the growing sophistication of instrumentation and constantly improving pilot techniques and training. In this period of "modern soaring," technological advances and a better understanding of the role played by atmospheric forces has made this sport a relatively safe and very exciting activity for an estimated 150,000 plus glider pilots worldwide. Although many of these enthusiasts are in Europe, there are hundreds of soaring clubs in the United States today.

The historical data for this article was gathered from research done by the Soaring Society of America, an outstanding resource for all soaring enthusiasts. For more detailed info, point your browser to:

www.ssa.org.

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Lisa Pett is a freelance writer based in Slingerlands, New York.

**NUTMEG SOARING ASSOCIATION
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
SIDWAY RESIDENCE
MIDDLEBURY, CT**

December 12th, 2009

Don McKinlay (Mac) - Secretary



The meeting was called to order at 10:10 A.M. All Board members were present.

A review of the finances, both income and expenditures were reviewed. Some members felt that we should have had the records for more of the previous years on hand but they were not available.

Also discussed were expenses that we know the club will face in the coming months that are expected costs. The fact that there are always expenses that are not anticipated was also taken into consideration.

The Board of Directors put together a proposed budget that will be presented at the next General Membership meeting. This meeting will be held at the Miry Brook Fire House in Danbury at 7:00 P.M. January 23rd. This is the chance each member has to be part of the club's financial planning.

The only item voted on, which was passed at this meeting, was that Nutmeg Soaring will return the tow fee schedule to that which was in force at the beginning of the 2009 season.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:05 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Don "Mac" McKinlay
Secretary



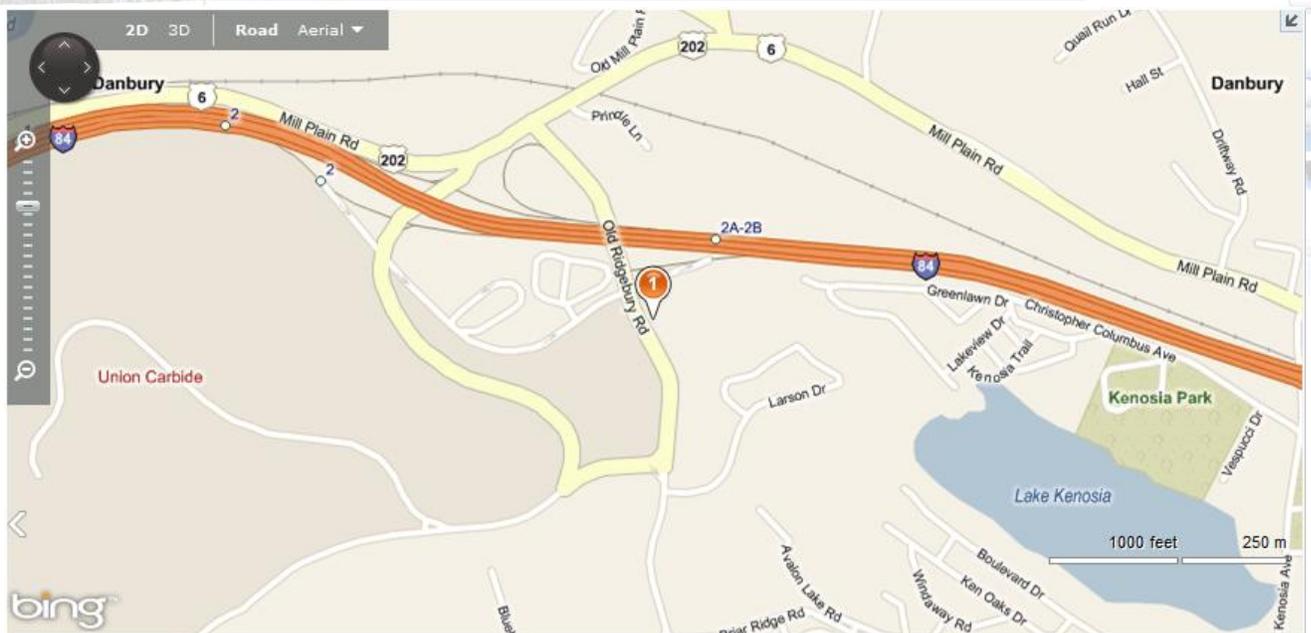
NUTMEG SOARING ASSOCIATION ANNUAL BANQUET 2010

Saturday, February 20, 2010
6:00 PM to 11:00 PM

(Snow date Sunday, February 21)

Waterbury Room

*Danbury Plaza Hotel & Conference Center
18 Old Ridgebury Road
Danbury, Connecticut 06810*



Cocktail Reception

6:00PM to 7:00 PM

Domestic and Imported Cheese display - Assortment of Crackers and Flat Breads

Chef's selection of Three (3) Hors d'Oeuvres

Dinner Buffet

Mixed Green Salad – Choice of Dressing - Assorted Rolls and Butter

Sliced Roast Beef, Burgundy Demi Glaze

Chicken Marsala - Penne Ala Vodka - Chef's choice of Starch - Fresh Seasonal Vegetables

Dessert

Chef's Choice of Dessert -Coffee, Tea and Decaffeinated Coffee

ONLY \$45.00 per person includes tax and gratuity!

***** 2009 REVIEW - KUDOS AWARDS *****

A display table will be setup for crafts or pictures, so please bring along whatever you might like to share with everyone.

Directions: http://www.danburyplaza.com/map_and_directions/ - formerly the Danbury Hilton.

NOTE: A special room rate of \$79 per room (single or double occupancy) for Banquet 2010 attendees has been arranged with the Danbury Plaza. You must reserve your room by calling the hotel directly at 203-794-0600. Deadline for making room reservations at this special rate is Friday, February 19th, 2010 (Yes, Friday!).

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 15, 2010. 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**



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