



## Chapter 221

February 2009

### About NASA

Established in 1996 the Northeastern Air Sports Association is a hang gliding club set up to provide its members with access to regional flying sites insured by USHPA and to serve educational and social purposes, including the sponsorship of periodic road trips to other sites. Members have access to the following launch sites: Greg Black's launch off route 52 in Ellenville, NY (Direction W, WNW), and beginning this year, to the nearby (within 25 miles) sites of Little Mountain (Direction S) and Highpoint (Direction SE).

### Club Business

The following officers (2009 to 2010) will need to be chosen at an upcoming meeting of all club members. Members attending the first meeting of 2009 on **the first weekend of March** will select:

- President
- Vice President
- Treasurer
- Secretary/Newsletter

Please remember to pay your dues for 2009. Give your check for \$50 made out to NeASA (note the small e must be included for this purpose) to Greg Black at Mountain Wings, Inc.

### Member Highlights

In January the following club members received their Intermediate Rating: Jonathan Sehl and Daniel Vinish. Congratulations!

**Jon** has been flying since 2005. He flies an Airborn Fun 190. Among his other numerous interests, those that top the list are bicycling, motorcycling, scuba-diving, camping and hiking. Jon has a new Silverado truck with impressive capacity for gliders and passengers. To date he's conveyed as many as 6 gliders and 8 pilots in one trip up to launch – but he believes he can beat that and haul more if needed!

*“The most important thing I've learned about flying is to always listen to your instructor and*

*other, more experienced pilots so you can benefit from the valuable lessons they have to share.”*

**Daniel** has been flying since 2007. He loves his NW Freedom 170, even without all the production mods! Daniel's cardinal rules for flying are:

1. *Never fly when your head isn't fully together – this is different for everyone. For me, if I'm stressed as hell about work or life, I need to fly. But if I'm hungover I never fly anymore. (I did once and had a horrible time focusing.) Know your comfort zone and respect it.*
2. *Talk with other pilots irregardless of rating because you will learn from them as they learn from you; you'll actually teach yourself as you explain your perspective on some aspect of flying. (Not a novel concept but very important.)*
3. *NEVER underestimate the value of a sledder. It's a great time to practice launches, landings, changes to your glider, new approaches, and learning how to land at Greg's. PLUS, you get to be wind dummy for H2s and keep them company. I've probably learned just as much in sledders as I have soaring. I'm always in for a sledder and know many other Ellenville pilots are too.*

*The Route 52 road launch in winter*





## The NASA Flyer

Newsletter of the Northeastern Air Sports Association

### Site News

#### **IMPORTANT NOTICE TO ALL PILOTS STORING THEIR GLIDERS IN THE**

**SCHOOL BUS:** Please note that the hidden key has been removed and a new lock put on the door. Keys will be given to all glider owners able to show they are up to date in their dues payments. These keys will be the individual responsibility of the glider owners. (This is standard practice at other sites.)

A work party is being organized for **March 14**, weather permitting, to clear the new trail to Greg's launch. (This trail will be less of a hill and so a lot easier to negotiate.) We'll also work on the trolley that could help convey gliders to the launch once it's in working order. Please let Greg know if you will be able to participate. If you can, please bring rakes, pruners, and any other tools that would be useful, as well as green trash bags for any garbage that is found at the site.

On **March 21** you are invited to help plan out the new launch. We will mark trees, and then begin to cut them down to create a new rampless launch, already on a nice slope at ground level. Please bring saws, shovels, hard rakes, picks, weekcutters, and any other implements that would be useful for trimming brush, cutting down trees and removing stumps.

#### Reminders for Safe Flying Practices

**Those who have not been flying during recent months should spend some time on the training hill before launching again** from the mountain. If it has been some weeks since your previous flight you need to brush off the winter cobwebs on your skills – Fly safe!

**Chutes need to be repacked every 6 months.** If it has been at least that long since your chute has been repacked please plan on attending the scheduled clinic in March. (See below.) We will practice throwing our chutes and then will repack them.—Fly safe!

#### Clinics

A clinic on intermediate level material was led by Greg Black and Tom Galvin in conjunction with the testing of H3 candidates. Participants included Jonathan Sehl, Jonathan Clark, Daniel

Vinish, Richard Behrends, and Cathleen O'Connell.

A chute re-packing clinic will be held the **first weekend of March 2009**. Cost is \$35. Chutes must be opened and relaxed prior to the clinic. Bring something to eat for a pot-luck party afterward. Plus we'll have our club photo taken! Contact Greg Black for more information.

Members are asked to suggest topics for upcoming clinics. Send ideas to Greg Black and Tom Galvin. Also indicate if you would like to lead a clinic. Clinics are held at Mountain Wings, Inc., 77 Hang Glider Road, Ellenville, NY.

#### Upcoming Events of Interest

Ham Radio Festival – “Hamfest” will take place on Saturday, **March 28** from 8am to 2pm at the Walkkill Community Center, 2 Wes Warren Drive, Middletown, NY. FCC licensing exams will be given, including the technician's license, which is required to legally broadcast on non-USHPA frequencies. Admission is \$5. For further information and reservations contact Don Sayre at 845-342-2056 after 6pm, or [AA2DS@hvc.rr.com](mailto:AA2DS@hvc.rr.com). (Note that Greg Black of Mountain Wings, Inc. is qualified to give licenses to operate on the USHPA channels.)

#### Trips

Stay tuned for announcements of planned trips to other flying sites. (Under consideration: Heiner, PA) Please let Tom Galvin know if you are interested in leading a trip.

#### *Winter flying over Mountain Wings training hill*





### Members

- Please remember to pay your dues for 2009. (See *Club Business* section on first page. )
- Please send any additions or corrections to Cathleen O'Connell at [cathocon@verizon.net](mailto:cathocon@verizon.net)

| Name               | Glider Type          | Telephone    | email  |
|--------------------|----------------------|--------------|--|
| John Merryman      | Easy 190             | 917 696-2109 |  |
| Mike Longo         | Freedom 170          | 203 241-3842 |  |
| Enrique Sallent    | Easy 170             | 917 698-1229 |  |
| Carla Bates        | Horizon 170          | 810 946-9461 |  |
| Seth Kestenbawm    | Target 170           | 917 783-5290 |  |
| Imthiaz Azeez      | Pulse 10             | 732 238-4569 |  |
| Nikolai Francis    | Sting 175            | 914 433-6712 |  |
| William Alderondo  | Target               | 914 980-4253 |  |
| Jonathan Betz      | Falcon 225           | 908 656-1349 |  |
| Jonathan Clark     | Horizon 180          | 845 541-9222 | <a href="mailto:jonathanclarkus@gmail.com">jonathanclarkus@gmail.com</a>   |
| Eduardo Ponton     | Easy 170             | 212 864-2374 | <a href="mailto:Eduardoponton@yahoo.com">Eduardoponton@yahoo.com</a>   |
| Brian Schiel       | Sonic 165            | 516 318-8058 |  |
| Remesis Vazquez    | Saturn 120           | 732 687-3397 |  |
| Evan Wies          | Easy                 | 917 573-0234 |  |
| Carl DiPiero       | Easy                 |              |  |
| Mike Smith         | Pulse 11M            | 203 788-8008 |  |
| Reg Boeding        | Horizon 170          | 201 410-2330 |  |
| Tom Lutz           | Horizon 180          | 973 207-1859 | <a href="mailto:tommylutz@gmail.com">tommylutz@gmail.com</a>   |
| Megan Kymer        | Easy 170             | 973 895-5800 | <a href="mailto:m.kymer@gmail.com">m.kymer@gmail.com</a>   |
| Richard Behrends   | Pulse 10M            |              | <a href="mailto:rbehrends@verizon.net">rbehrends@verizon.net</a>   |
| Elan Schultz       |                      |              | <a href="mailto:eschultz@quilvest.com">eschultz@quilvest.com</a>   |
| Cathleen O'Connell | Pulse 9M             | 908 770-3037 | <a href="mailto:cathocon@verizon.net">cathocon@verizon.net</a><br><a href="mailto:coconnel@its.jnj.com">coconnel@its.jnj.com</a> |
| Lance Wlankowski   | Freedom 170          | 347 219-7342 | <a href="mailto:lance@lancelotdesign.com">lance@lancelotdesign.com</a>   |
| Jon Sehl           | Fun 190              |              | <a href="mailto:jonathansehl@yahoo.com">jonathansehl@yahoo.com</a>   |
| Daniel Vinish      | Freedom 170          |              | <a href="mailto:vinishjlc@yahoo.com">vinishjlc@yahoo.com</a>   |
| Chad Wildman       |                      |              | <a href="mailto:cwildmanbus@yahoo.com">cwildmanbus@yahoo.com</a>   |
|                    |                      |              |  |
| Tom Galvin         | Pulse 10M;<br>Discus |              | <a href="mailto:tom@tirmalong.com">tom@tirmalong.com</a>   |
| Greg Black         |                      |              | <a href="mailto:mtnwings@verizon.net">mtnwings@verizon.net</a>   |