

September 2012

Northeastern Airsports Association

NEWSLETTER OF THE YEAR

2011-2012

THANK YOU READERS!

CHAPTER 107

NEASA

NEW H3! MIKE SMITH

After a long and winding training journey that began at Mountain Wings, took him to Lookout Mountain, and then back again to Ellenville, **Mike Smith** was awarded his H3 rating by **Greg Black** in July 2012. Congratulations, Mike - you earned it!



Mike Smith on the North Knob launch

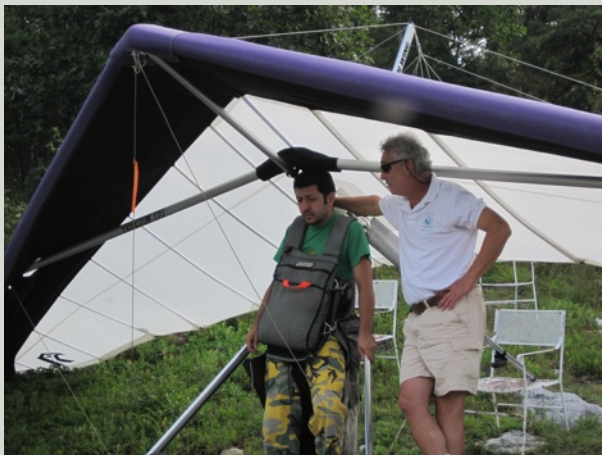


MEMBER MILESTONES

Counter clockwise from top: Greg walks Luis through his approach plan in the LZ; Greg coaches Luis on launch; a jubilant Luis celebrates with Greg after his first flight from the mountain.

FIRST MOUNTAIN LAUNCH

Over the Labor Day weekend (and after a delay for conditions) **Luis Herrera** made his maiden flight from the North Knob, coached through the experience by his instructor, **Greg Black**. An excellent job, Luis! We look forward to sharing the sky with you!



WORK PARTIES



More Road Work

Left: **Charlie Larkin**, looking like he just escaped a chain gang after two days working with Greg to extend the road to launch and widen the turnaround/parking area. We only need to walk a very few steps now from our vehicles to the set up area - great! (Photo and news item contributed by Sue Sparrow.)

More Launch Work

Jim Picton, Mark Tenpas, Timo Friedrich, and **Greg** all spent a day sprucing up the walk up ramp on the North Knob. The results of their work are pictured below - nice job! (News item contributed by Jim Picton.)

THANKS TO EVERYONE WHO'S HELPED IN WHATEVER CAPACITY!



Another new amenity that has been added this summer is the outdoor shower behind the Mountain Wings hangar (left). After your exertions on the training hill or long hours flying close to the sun it's nice to be able to grab a refreshing shower before relaxing or driving home. (Thanks, Dave!)



ROCKY MOUNTAIN ADVENTURE - AND A VISIT WITH TOM!



Villa Grove,
Colorado

In July a number of Ellenville pilots traveled to Villa Grove for Colorado Fly Week. **Dave Hopkins, Sharon Tubbs, Lindsey Chew, Rick Fitzpatrick, Wayne Neckles, Timo Friedrich, Birgit Frederich, Mike Strother, and Cathleen O'Connell** all left in a convoy across the country to the Rockies where we were joined by none other than **Tom Galvin!** The Ellenville contingent showed great enthusiasm, a focus on safety, and did very well in the competition, with Timo and Rick winning their divisions, and Lindsey and Wayne also bringing home trophies. Mike and Cathleen both did well in the spot landing contest (Mike had the nicer landing but Cathleen made a bigger dent in the LZ). Great fun was had at the fly-in thanks to the tireless efforts of hosts Tiffany and Larry Smith and their volunteers. Then Tom took us home to Pagosa Springs to show us around his corner of the state - magnificent! We enjoyed a fabulous dinner prepared by organic gardener **Sarah Savage** and veggie chef **Morgan Galvin** as we watched the nightly hummingbird ballet. (Photos contributed by Mike Strother)

MOUNTAIN WINGS IN THE ELLENVILLE INDEPENDENCE DAY PARADE

This past July 4 Mountain Wings Hang Gliding School was represented in the Ellenville Parade by, Left to Right: Greg Black, Bell the Dog, Kate (Sue Sparrow's daughter), her girlfriend Felicity, and another friend, Adam (hanging in the harness). You can barely see the glider for all the flags! (Photo and news item contributed by Sue Sparrow.)



NOT YET FLYING FRIENDS: CODY NORMAN

In this issue we feature a young man who we always like to see at the flight park - and not only because he's a big help carrying equipment, driving us to launch, laboring in work parties, and traveling hours just to show support for someone on their first mountain launch. That's all appreciated sure, but mostly we think he's great and like to have him around, especially when he gets the chance to entertain us with his music. Should he decide to start flight training he'll have a lot of people eager to support **him!** Thanks for everything, Cody - you rock!



Liam gets ready to launch. Don't forget your hang check, Liam! (Photo contributed by his dad, **Vladimir Klimenchenko**. Parental permission granted for use of image.)



Children of the
Flight Park

Flarabella Goodlanding (aka, **Cathleen O'Connell**) is the editrix extraordinaire of the NeASA Flyer. She compiles issues on a frequency determined by the availability of content (and her mood). Thanks to all who contributed items to this issue - keep the content coming! Anything that is relevant to our flying community (and appropriate for all ages) is welcome.

MESSAGE FROM MOUNTAIN WINGS TO GET WINCH TOWING OFF THE GROUND AT RESNICK AIRPORT

ALL 2012 PILOTS, WE NEED YOUR HELP!

Greg will be giving a talk at the Ellenville Chamber of Commerce this Fall with the aim of educating local business people about the sport of hang gliding. The situation at Resnick Airport has brought to the forefront the fact that most of the general public is sorely lacking in any type of knowledge about our sport and this is now affecting us in diverse negative ways.

We want to dispel what seems to be the prevailing view of hang glider pilots as uneducated, unemployed, thrill-seeking teenagers who contribute nothing to the local economy. To that end we are asking that each of you take a few minutes to anonymously complete the following short questionnaire.

The questionnaire results will be tallied and shared with all in the next newsletter so **please respond before Sept. 15th** by either mailing your completed form to Mountain Wings, 77 Hang Glider Rd., Ellenville, NY 12428 or emailing it to Mtnwings@verizon.net, or faxing it to 845/647-5638 or dropping it in the special 2012 Questionnaire Box on the counter at Mountain Wings.

Thanks for your time and for helping us to educate the public about our fascinating sport!

1. I am male female
2. My age is 21-30 31-40 41-50 51-60 older than 60 yrs
3. My occupation is _____
4. My annual income is less than \$25k \$25-55k \$55-80k
 \$80-125k more than \$125k
5. I have completed high school 2 yr. college 4 yr. college Masters
 PhD other
6. In the Ellenville area, I have purchased gas food lodging
 entertainment, i.e., theater, concerts, etc. sports other than HG, i.e.,
horseback riding, sky diving, mountain biking, hiking, etc.
7. When you come to the Ellenville area for HG, have you brought other people with you? yes no How many people do you estimate? _____
8. I would be interested in towing on days when the wind direction prohibits hang gliding from the mountain yes no
9. How many additional days would you travel to Ellenville to tow? _____