

Jacob Johnson soloed in September! There was a big write-up in the Alexandria newspaper, thanks to Dave Newill. Way to go, Jacob! We are proud of you!



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Autumn Take Off at Harris Hills, New York – courtesy of Dave Newill

<i>Calendar</i>			
October	28		Last Scheduled flying day ☺
November	08	7:00 pm	Board meeting at Jim White's house
	15	7:00 pm	Annual Membership Meeting at MCL Cafeteria in Castleton.
January	12		Banquet
March	22		Annual Safety Meeting – Bob Wander is our speaker! BFR's and Spring Checkouts (weather permitting)
	29		New season check out rides and Biennial Flight Reviews
April	05		Opening Day of our new flying season ☺

Annual Meeting at MCL
Thursday, November 15
Election of Officers

Come at 6 pm for dinner or 7 pm for just the meeting. Location: MCL Cafeteria in Castleton is located near Pier One on the south-east corner of Allisonville Rd. and 86th just north of I-465. This is our annual meeting where we elect officers. We need to have 50% of our members to vote in order to elect officers for next year. So, please come. This is a great time to evaluate the last year and make suggestions for the new year!

Annual Banquet

Saturday, January 12th at the Martin House. The Montgomery's, operators of Terry Airport, will be our speakers. They have some exciting stories to tell about their lives in aviation.

Winter Projects at the Club As the SOARING season draws to a close, many of our new members may not know that the FUN continues!

For the past 20 years, the Club has spent the Saturday mornings during November and December working on the Club fleet. This activity helps us keep the cost of maintaining the glider fleet down. It is also instructive! We all learn what regular maintenance is required on all our Club equipment.

Usually, we meet up around 9 or 9:30 on Saturday mornings. After the hangar is opened, we begin work on the chosen aircraft for that day. Work is supervised by our Club members who have maintenance qualifications.

Mid day we pack it in and retire to the local eatery for lunch together.

So consider yourself invited! Come on out a few times during the start of winter and help us. The camaraderie is great and you will learn more about our great sport than you ever thought possible!

You will enjoy the experience, make a contribution to keeping our costs down and as well learn a lot. What more could you ask for! We look forward to seeing you all this Fall.

The Maintenance Crew.

Winter Storage. From Nov 12th to March 21st only the Blanik 303BA and Pawnee 898 will be insured for flying. The rest of the fleet will be in storage.

Congratulations to Cheryl and Marty! The WSPA (Women's Soaring Pilot's Association) received an unprecedented number of bids this year for the 2008 WSPA Soaring Seminar. We are pleased to announce that Alexandria, Indiana, has been chosen as the site for the 2008 soaring seminar! Marty Hudson and Cheryl Beckage worked hard to make the winning bid. Now, we all get to pitch in and help make it a reality!

Dear Glider Friends:

Let me tell you about my away-flying this summer. Without intending to, I wound up flying in two of America's most famous mountain ranges: the Catskills and the Great Smoky Mountains. Here, in pictures and words are my trips, The Pilgrimage and the Migration.

Pete Detore

The Pilgrimage to HARRIS HILL



Practically every society has a favorite place where people can go to get back to their roots. Mecca, if you will. This season, I managed to work in a visit to the place that soaring in America first took hold. Elmira, New York is a place rich with soaring history and has two very excellent aviation museums. Harris Hill is the home of the National Soaring Museum - a must see on the



list of places to visit for the Glider Enthusiast.

HHSC boasts a youth contingent of 45, and concentrates on giving glider rides most days. They operate a fleet of ASK21 ships, but always keep a venerable 2-33 at the ready for those with the desire to fly a Switzer. Anyone ever seen a twin boom Switzer glider?

The Schweitzer family legacy lives on in Elmira, both as the Switzer factory and a very nice glider training facility staffed by the next generation in the Switzer lineage. I was very happy to work in a couple of glider flights in a trusty dusty 1-26 made available through the Museum, located on the Elmira airport grounds. It was quite a thrill to soar the hills of the Catskills where the intrepid first glider pilots soared a hundred years earlier.



View From Above the 1000 foot runway

There is just enough runway to get just enough airspeed to stay airborne when the terrain drops away. Any problems with this type of launch can be easily solved by turning 180 degrees to the left. There is a cleared spot on the next hill side mowed and ready for emergencies.

It was with a great sense of pride and accomplishment that I entered these flights in my log book of memories.

Pete Detore

The Migration to CHILHOWEE

First let me offer a heart felt thank you to our Board of Directors for permission to make this incredible trip. This Club truly is THE BEST! Thanks also to the glider friends who helped me stow the PW-5 on its trailer and make it ready for the trip to Benton, Tennessee. With the little PW and trailer and with the big V-8 Aurora, the towing job was easy.

The weekend was dedicated to a past owner-



operator of Chilhowie Glider port, Mike Riesman, who met with a tragic kayaking accident ten years ago. He was a rare and special breed and will be remembered for a long time to come, as many testified on Saturday night. Since I lived in Atlanta during my early



glider years, I had several occasions to fly at Chilhowie and I remembered Mike very well. I even got a BFR from him once.

Flying over the Cherokee National Forest was an awesome feeling. The scenery was breath taking. I never felt more like a soaring bird than in this place. In fact, I saw what a hawk or an eagle would see when migrating great distances.

This end of season sojourn made by myself, Becky, Dan & Carolyn offered one of the most thrilling flights I have every made. I offered to flip for the first flight with Dan, but being the consummate gentleman, he insisted I go first. So, I got a 1:30 launch and flew into the meat of the day. Cloud streets were well formed coming through the gap. I saw many gliders zooming in and out of the forest staying at or near cloud base the whole time. Seeing this, I became bolder and tested the street myself. I found some of the best flying stuff ever.

After about an hour of fun, I began to thread my way back to Chilhowie and let down to land. I wanted to get back quickly so Dan could have a go at it. It took almost a full hour to turn around and launch Dan in PW. Unfortunately he didn't have the same luck I did. He did have a safe mountain flight to put in his log book.

Saturday evening was full of fun with glider pilots talking about the terrific days flying. A great bar-b-que dinner was served up with awards for the local Clubs contests. After dinner a swell blue grass family band played wonderfully into the evening. Then the hardiest of the bunch stayed on for a bon fire and more plain old partying.



The trip was well worth the drive and all had a great time. Becky recommends that more of us bring our husbands/wives and meet these very great people next year.

Sunday morning, as I was packing up PW and fixing the trailer light wiring, who popped up but Gerry Whitson. He flew up in his Cessna and hung out and helped out for a few hours.

This kind of trip is great fun and relaxation especially when the weather cooperates. Thanks to Josh D for starting the momentum for this trip. The hope was to get in some ridge soaring. That

was not to be, and in fact, work sprang up and prevented Josh from going. I look forward to more trips like this in the future.

Pete 😊

New CFGI



John Lane (left) of Waynesville, Ohio was the Designated Examiner for George Saunders

George Saunders returned mid-year from 6 months in Chile and, on his return, really got down to some serious soaring accomplishments. During the past month, George studied for and passed both the written and flying tests for his Commercial Glider rating AND his CFGI!

Way to go George
Z.A.

Editor’s Note: If I can do it, ANYONE can do it. What’s the hold up, guys (and gals)!

Club Contest as of Oct 29

	Points	Flights
Clarke	4,512	4
Hays	4,081	4
Team 8UP	3,911	4
Taylor	3,568	4
Rutledge	3,509	4
Wools	3,458	4
Simpson	3,266	4
Lazaga	3,172	4
Team IZ	3,118	4
Ristow	2,696	3
Nichols	2,293	3
DeWitt	1,972	3
Bedwell	1,643	2
Ortman	796	1
Carpenter	632	1
Weber	630	1
Saunders	586	1



Dave Newill and the SSA Board

On the last weekend of September, the SSA Board gathered at Harris Hill for two days of meetings - and a little bit of fun. I came a day early and got to enjoy a great hour in an ASK-21 from Harris Hill Soaring Club. What a setup!! The Club is on County Park Property - so the county mows and maintains this historic site. They have about the same number of members as CISS, but since they do not pay rent (!!) the money goes to a great fleet of planes. There are three ASK-21's, a Duo Discus, a high performance single place (LS-4 I think) and a couple of 2-33's. The Club can sell rides through the adjacent National Soaring Museum - via credit cards! This adds greatly to their revenue.

I took off with Chad - a local junior - in the back seat and tried to keep up with Tim Wells in the Club duo - but that super ship kept getting ahead of me and, finally, my hour was up. The soaring is spectacular - both up and down - but that is part of the game. As for the ridge - it wasn't working - but was neat to try! I've got to go back in the fall again - beautiful colors and super sky.

Other things to see in the area include wine tasting tours, the Curtiss Museum and Eagle Air Park for airplane buffs and the Corning Glass Museum (bring big bucks). So give it a try some time! Harris Hill is where it really started and it is a neat trip.
Dave Newill



Landing at Harris Hills
(Nice straight yaw string Dave, but whose flying?)

Send your newsletter articles to our *Wingtips* editor, George Saunders at gsaunders2@gmail.com. Deadline for our next newsletter is November 25th.