



HIGH FLYER



The Official Newsletter of High Flights Soaring Club, Inc
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High Flyer is mailed free to HFSC members and other soaring associations. Otherwise, subscriptions are \$10.00 per year. Please mail exchange newsletters, letters to the editor, and material for publication to: John Scott, acting newsletter editor; 885 Northfield Rd, Colorado Springs, Colorado 80919; [jdscott at valleypine dot net](mailto:jdscott@valleypine.net)

Volume 31 No. 2 Feb 2009



A Lenticular Cloud over New Zealand. Credit & Copyright: [Chris Picking](#)

Club and Member Notes

The club roster and duty schedule are available on-line at the club website. **Members are responsible for knowing when they have duty!**

<http://www.highflights.com/members/roster/roster.html>

<http://www.highflights.com/members/sched/currentsched.html>

You can now access the Glider Reservation page directly:

<http://www.mcsi.com/hfsc/reservations.dll>

Next Board Meetings – Mar 14th and Apr 11th. All club members are invited (encouraged) to attend. Board meetings are held in the HFSC Ops Trailer.

Explanation of cover photo: What's happening above those mountains? Several clouds are stacked up into one striking lenticular cloud. Normally, air moves much more horizontally than it does vertically. Sometimes, however, such as when wind comes off of a mountain or a hill, relatively strong vertical oscillations take place as the air stabilizes. The dry air at the top of an oscillation may be quite stratified in moisture content, and hence forms clouds at each layer where the air saturates with moisture. The result can be a lenticular cloud with a strongly layered appearance. The above picture was taken in 2002 looking southwest over the Tararua Range mountains from North Island, New Zealand.

Darrold Gray has been accepted as the first **Emeritus Member** of High Flights.

Randy Rothe has accepted the position of **Chief Flight Instructor**, taking over from **Lew Neyland** who had held the position for many, many years. Congratulations to Randy and many thanks to Lew.

We have 2 new members joining us. **Boris Lenov** is the son of a former member and is just starting his flying career at age 17. **Lloyd Cafran** is a Navy pilot and is joining us to restart his glider training that was interrupted by the events of 9/11. Welcome them to High Flights when you see them at the field. If you are on duty with them in the coming weeks, make sure you brief them on our ground operations and give them extra help.

The **5 Year Plan** draft was reviewed by the board. It will be distributed to all members shortly in a separate email. It is a fairly aggressive. Once we have received comments and suggestion from the membership, those will be incorporated into the plan. We will then develop a budget to support the plan. The plan and budget will be distributed to the membership for review again before we proceed to implementation.

HFSC will be conducting a **Glider Pilot Ground School** beginning 15 March from 1600-1800 hrs. in the Hanger Resturant at Meadowlake. We expect the course to last 6 to 8 weeks. This will be open to new members to supplement their flight training, current members who would like a refresher, and to the general community of folks who may be interested in learning about flying gliders. There will be no cost other than the purchase of the required books and materials. More information will be forth coming shortly on the materials.

SeeYou on the club laptop has been upgrade to v3.91. The airspace file was also update to the latest available as of February.

We have had at least one good flying day each of the last 3 weeks. It has been a little chilly, but we have had 3 and 4 gliders flying every weekend.

Safety – Proficiency – Goals

When Kevin Brooks received the Pelican Trophy for 2008, it was in recognition of the amount of time he spent flying the 1-26. In his remarks he emphasized he did it to maintain his skills at a high level; to remain proficient.

Safe flying comes from having proficient pilots. High Flights has emphasized Safety from the very beginning. It is in our mission statement. It is evidenced by the unique \$10/mo Flight Rebate on monthly dues. We want members to fly every month in order to stay current and to work on their proficiency. Proficiency comes from flying and working to improve skills. Skills improvement comes from working towards goals and measuring how well we are doing. Setting goals and measuring progress against the goal is at the heart of any Quality Management program. Improving the quality of our flying skills is something we should always be striving to do.

In order to encourage our member to develop their skills and become more and more proficient, members are encourage to set goals and work to attain them. One set of standardized goals is the A/B/C/Bronze-Silver-Gold-Diamond badge progression. The badges are designed to offer ever increasing goals requiring ever increasing skill levels. Members pursuing badges have incentive to fly, improve, and become safer pilots.

Setting goals can be either a very visible activity (announcing what you are working towards) or can be private, but you are encouraged to have goals for your flying and to continue developing your skills. Goals can be as simple as a duration goal, especially on a weak day. Or you may want to work on improving your thermaling. This is a case where a logger can allow you to review your flight back on the ground and determine how you did on your last flight and to compare over the season to see your improvement. Retrieving the Wombat is another highly desirable goal. Of course there is always the pursuit of OLC points – a low key, low pressure activity that can be quite rewarding.

One goal everyone should have on every flight is a spot landing. Since it is difficult to judge your exact touchdown point from inside the glider, this is a goal you might want to announce to the folks on the deck – either before your flight or over the radio when you announce your intention to land. We'll be happy to watch your landing and provide feedback on exactly where you touched down.

So consider setting some goals for the day and for the soaring season and work to achieve them. Your skills will improve and you will become a safer more proficient pilot. It also brings a lot of satisfaction and fun to your soaring. It will help provide a little motivation to pull the glider out and go flying.

Do You Know What Airport This Is?

The airport in the picture is a good place to land if you wander away from Meadowlake and don't think you can get back. Do you recognize it from the air? Do you know where it is? Do you know which direction is north in the photo?

While spending your winter evenings dreaming of the coming season and your pending soaring exploits, now is a good time to prepare. Google Earth offers a really unique opportunity to scout the areas we fly and see what they will look like from the air. What do the nearby airfields look like from the air? What areas look like you might want to avoid or at least be really high over them? Where does it look landable? If you see something interesting, it might be worth a drive to see what it looks like on the ground (one of those coming spring days when we know it will be too windy to fly). Here are a few more. All of these are nearby places to land if on a cross country flight.



Current Duty Schedule

Effective Date: 16-Feb-09

Day	Date	Chief	Line	Tow
Saturday	21-Feb	Frank Molli	Dub Wilttrout	Joe Personett
Sunday	22-Feb	Steve Smith	Jennie Chiang	Jim Pirtle
Saturday	28-Feb	Gil Gildersleeve	Kevin Brooks	Bob Reilman
Sunday	1-Mar	John Scott	Boris Lenov	Jim Densmore
Saturday	7-Mar	Mark Huff	Cannon Wille	Joe Personett
Sunday	8-Mar	Marty Grove	Bruce Mosier	Paul Antoinette
Saturday	14-Mar	Dub Wilttrout	John Browning	Bob Reilman
Sunday	15-Mar	John Norton	Matt Neal	Jim Pirtle
Saturday	21-Mar	Marsha Hawk	Lloyd Cafran	Jim Densmore
Sunday	22-Mar	Kevin Brooks	Jim Dugan	Paul Antoinette
Saturday	28-Mar	Frank Molli	Jim Van Namee	Joe Personett
Sunday	29-Mar	Steve Smith	Jennie Chiang	Jim Pirtle
Saturday	4-Apr	Gil Gildersleeve	tbd	Jim Densmore
Sunday	5-Apr	John Scott	Boris Lenov	Jim Pilkington
Saturday	11-Apr	Mark Huff	Cannon Wille	Joe Personett
Sunday	12-Apr	Marty Grove	Bruce Mosier	Paul Antoinette
Saturday	18-Apr	Dub Wilttrout	John Browning	Bob Reilman
Sunday	19-Apr	John Norton	Matt Neal	Jim Pirtle
Saturday	25-Apr	Marsha Hawk	Lloyd Cafran	Jim Densmore
Sunday	26-Apr	Kevin Brooks	Jim Dugan	Jim Pilkington
Saturday	2-May	Frank Molli	Jim Van Namee	Joe Personett
Sunday	3-May	Steve Smith	Jennie Chiang	Paul Antoinette
Saturday	9-May	Gil Gildersleeve	tbd	Bob Reilman
Sunday	10-May	John Scott	Boris Lenov	Jim Pirtle
Saturday	16-May	Mark Huff	Cannon Wille	Jim Densmore
Sunday	17-May	Marty Grove	Bruce Mosier	Jim Pilkington
Saturday	23-May	Silverwest Camp		
Sunday	24-May	Silverwest Camp		