

**Chapter 221**

**May 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.*

Members have access to the following launch sites:

Site	Direction
Greg Black's launch off route 52 in Ellenville, NY	NW to WNW (305°)
The road launch on route 52, Ellenville, NY	NW
Highpoint in West Shokan	SE
Little Mountain in West Shokan overlooking the reservoir – see image at end of newsletter	S (163°)

**CLUB BUSINESS**

A meeting of club members will take place this weekend (May 30, 31). The agenda will include discussion of Little Mountain and other flying sites available to members. Members will also vote for club officers. The following candidates have come forward for the 2009 to 2010 term:

- Tom Galvin, President
- TBD, Vice President
- Jonathan Clark, Treasurer
- Cathleen O'Connell, 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 NEWS**

**First Mountain Launch:** Mike Longo made his first mountain launch over Memorial Day weekend at Brace Mountain. Congratulations Mike!

**H3 Rating:** In May **Jonathan Clark** completed all requirements to receive his Intermediate Rating: Congratulations! **Jonathan**, who has been flying since April 2008, has a Horizon 180.



Jonathan Clark with his ORANGE and white Horizon 180

**UPCOMING CLINICS**

Send ideas for clinic topics to Greg Black and Tom Galvin. Also indicate if you would like to lead a clinic. Clinics are held at Mountain Wings

**SITE NEWS**

**Winch Progress** – The winch on Greg's launch off Route 52 is nearly done! It will undergo some testing on the training hill before it is ready to haul gliders up to launch via a cable dolly that's been rigged in the nearby trees. Stay tuned for an update on this installation.

**UPCOMING EVENTS**

**Trips** - Stay tuned for announcements of planned trips to other flying sites. Please let Tom Galvin know if you are interested in leading a trip.



Greg and the winch

### SAFE FLYING

**Training Hill Practice** 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!

**Parachute Repacking** - 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 rescheduled clinic (See below.) We will practice throwing our chutes and then will repack them.—Fly safe!

**“What I Learned the HARD Way”** – Cathleen O’Connell learned a number of very important lessons in a very impactful way this past winter. In order to benefit fully from her experience you should read the complete 2 page accident report that accompanies this issue of the newsletter. It describes in detail the series of poor decisions that led to her crash-landing at the base of trees near the Ellenville LZ. Here is a brief summary of the incident:

- Pilot: H2 with < 1 hour airtime
- Conditions: Winds NW @ 6
- Decisions/Actions: After a good launch in soaring conditions Cathleen did not maintain adequate airspeed and allowed herself to be pushed too far downwind of the LZ without

compensatory gain in altitude. After realizing she would not reach the LZ Cathleen was not ready with an appropriate alternate landing field, and made an instinctive turn away from obstacles in her path (tree line) in a direction closed in by other trees, rather than a calculated turn toward the open field opposite.

- Outcome: Fortunately for Cathleen, she crashed into the tree line at ground level, escaping injury to herself and suffering only a broken left leading edge on her glider.
- Summary/Lessons: Cathleen did not manage her flight path, airspeed, or altitude, and was not ready with an appropriate alternate landing site.

Learn from Cathleen’s mistakes -- Read her full accident report – Fly Safe!

### RADIO NOTES

**USHPA Radio Rules** – The USHPA sanctions the use of certain frequencies by pilots without a special license. However, there are certain rules that you must follow when utilizing these frequencies.

Affix a sticker to your radio indicating the station call sign “**KD27172**” and follow the following protocol for all communications:

- Identify yourself using the call sign, i.e., “This is KD27172” at the beginning of your communication at 15 minute intervals during long discussions.
- Communications relating to emergencies have priority so keep the frequency clear during these situations.
- Keep your conversation short and to the point. Do not use profanity.
- Protect your VOX or microphone talk switch to avoid inadvertent transmission as this blocks all other communication on that frequency.
- Use only enough power to make the transmission; for example, line of sight communication usually only requires a low power setting.

Remember – You CAN BE FINED if you do not follow this procedure!

Official USHPA sanctioned frequencies are:

- 151.625 MHz
- 151.925 MHz
- 151.955 MHz
- 158.400 MHz
- 151.505 MHz

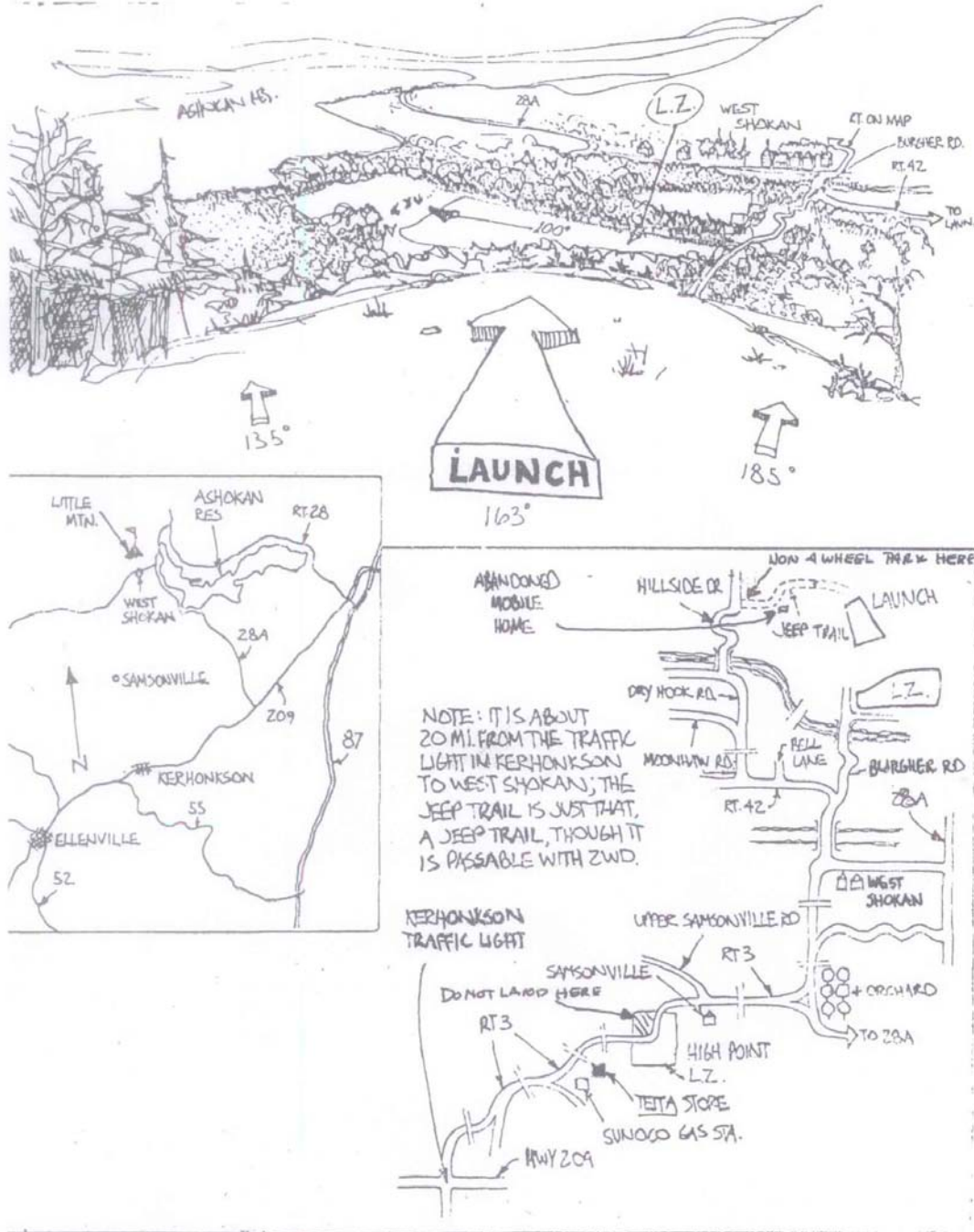
For all other frequencies you must first complete requirements to obtain a special license. (Note that Greg Black is authorized to perform the required testing.)

### **DOGS OF THE FLIGHT PARK**

This issue features: **Mimi!** Everyone who spends time at Mountain Wings will recognize Sue Sparrow's energetic, personable, fearless, and fashion-conscious long haired Chihuahua.



(MORE PAGES FOLLOW)





## 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	<a href="mailto:esallent@yahoo.com">esallent@yahoo.com</a>
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	
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