

Spring 2012

NEASA

Newsletter of the
Northeastern Air Sports Association
CHAPTER 107

NEWSLETTER OF THE YEAR
2011-2012

Thank you, Readers!



FIRST MOUNTAIN LAUNCHES

2011 culminated with a major achievement for Dave Stone, Ewelina Bajda, and Polina Vinogradova as they all made their first mountain launches from the North Knob, coached by their instructor, Greg Black of Mountain Wings. All had great first flights, presage of good flights to come. Congratulations to all!



Top: Dave readies himself for launch while Greg searches for a good cycle; Left: Greg briefs everyone on what to plan for before they leave the LZ for launch; Above: Greg, Dave, Polina, and Ewelina celebrate in the LZ after their great first mountain launches.

NEW H3 JOSH McMILLAN

Josh's unbridled joy in flying has been on display from the moment he arrived at the flight park - grinning happily at the chance for a few runs off the hill even when degrading conditions put a premature halt to his first day of training. As he and Lisa departed that first afternoon he vowed to return the following season. We're so glad he did because his enthusiasm and energy brightens the whole Ellenville flying community!

Congratulations, Josh on achieving this rating. May you continue to experience the joy of soaring - always safely - with the "Pumpkin Patch" for a long, long time!



BRIEF BUT IMPORTANT

NeASA User Group

<http://groups.yahoo.com/group/Nasahanggliding/>

The NeASA Club now has a Yahoo user group to share important communications among members. For example, Dave Hopkins has been "broadcasting" weekly assessments of upcoming weekend flying conditions and Greg used it to inform us of the new ground school requirements for students. Members have been sharing plans around flying logistics as well as raising subjects for discussion. Do join - it's free and useful!

Condolences are offered to Tom Galvin who lost his father in February. Josh McMillan sent a memorial tree to Tom on behalf of his friends from Ellenville. Tom, we're sorry for your loss.

Ground School Clinics - Mountain Wings is conducting clinics on various topics supportive of safe flying in compliance with a requirement that all students attend - and log with an instructor's countersignature - 8 hours of ground school. Notice of these clinics is being shared using the NeASA User Group.

Mountain Wings Photo Album 2011

If you would like a copy of the 2011 photo album (on display in the shop) please let Cathleen know. Price for the album is about \$36/copy, including delivery, but may be slightly discounted depending on the quantity ordered. If you are interested contact Cathleen.



Rescue Me!

Scenes from the party, clockwise from top left: Two seasoned tree rescuers, Wayne and Sharon, go through the steps of securing and belaying a treed pilot; Greg talks Niko through the chute deployment sequence; Dancing Jorge "rescues" a bewildered Mimi; Jim busts a move for the crowd; Skyler Lutz zooms around using his own favorite means of propulsion; Wayne rescues yet another treed pilot; Kenny shows us there's nothing to it!



Parachute Party / Tree Rescue Clinic

As every pilot knows, you need to have your 'chute repacked regularly to keep it in good condition. In January NeASA/Mountain Wings hosted its annual chute deployment clinic, which this time featured a working simulator that allowed pilots to practice the full sequence of steps: loss of glider control, to looking for a clear target, throwing the chute, and climbing into the control frame. This year a tree rescue clinic was added. Wayne Neckles arrived with his biners and ropes to one by one "rescue" all willing pilots, giving everyone valuable experience in a safe environment that may be critical should they ever find themselves in need of aiding in their own rescue from a tree. Then of course, there was the party!

SPRING FASHION SUPPLEMENT

Birds of Interesting Plumage

Giving in to their inner fashionistas are clockwise from top left: Chad in his flying pjs; Cathleen styling at Kitty Hawk; Jim warming up with his funky footwear; sharp-dressed Josh; mystery snowbird; Greg channeling the Morton Salt Girl; Notorious T.i.m.o.; Chad - or is it Hermes? - strikes a pose

