



# HIGH FLYER



The Official Newsletter of High Flights Soaring Club, Inc  
Meadow Lake Airport, Peyton CO  
Post Office Box 25683, Colorado Springs, CO 80936-5683

Phone number for HFSC Ops Trailer: 719-683-9724

John Scott, President	(719) 494-3195
Gil Gildersleeve, Vice-President	(719) 599-3307
Frank Molli, Treasurer	(719) 599-8198
Jim Pirtle, Secretary	(719) 597-3337
John Galbraith, Member at Large	(719) 576-1343

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**Meadowlake windsock on the first flying day of 2008. We didn't fly this day.  
Photo by Jim Densmore**

## 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.highlights.com/members/roster/roster.html>

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

You can now access the Glider Reservation page directly:

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

**Next Board Meetings** - Feb 9<sup>th</sup> and Mar 8<sup>th</sup>. All club members are invited (encouraged) to attend. Board meetings are held in the HFSC Ops Trailer (unless it's really cold, then you can find the meeting at Frankie's II in Falcon).

In the last several months we've had several changes in our membership roster. **Sue Personett** and **Lee Hattrup** have resigned from the club; Sue to continue to pursue her interest in more steeply vertical ascents; Lee to spend more time with the family. We're sorry to see them leave, but wish them well.

**Roger Wild**, **Jamie Hosmer** and **Randy Rothe** are recent new members. Roger and Jamie are working to become tow pilots and help us with a critical need in that area. Both will also be working on their glider rating. Randy is a former member who is returning. He is a CFG and we hope will be helping us in that area. When you see them at the club, please introduce yourself and welcome them aboard.

Club Operations for the weekend of **16-17 Feb** have been cancelled due to the number of club members attending the SSA convention.

We now have an easy way to indicate we are not flying on a particular day on the HFSC web site reservation page. To see what it looks like, you can check the reservation page for 16 Feb.

**7AS** is back from annual. The new canopies were installed and look wonderful. It will still be grounded for another week or 2 while we await a part that needs to be replaced. Also, there's a new pre-flight check item on the Blanik. Check with John Scott, Frank Molli, or Gil Gildersleeve for a briefing on this item before your next Blanik Flight. Bring a flashlight!

Many club members will be going to the 2008 SSA Convention in Albuquerque. There will not be a convention in 2009. The list of sessions is on the SSA website (<http://www.ssa.org/convention/schedule.asp>). I encourage you to attend if possible.

Planning has started for another **Bob Wander** CFG refresher clinic this spring. This is an offering from the Soaring Safety Foundation. It is open to all glider pilots. I've been to the last 2 and found both very worthwhile. Let me know if you would be interested in attending this year. Email [tom@serkowski.com](mailto:tom@serkowski.com) if you are interested in attending so he can make appropriate arrangements. Details will probably be available in late February.

The **1-26 Sweepstakes** is starting for this year. Flight logs can be submitted online similar to the OLC. This is just for cross country flights completed 1-26's in the US. The US is divided in to 3 geographic areas. We are in Central. Separate competitions are held each badge level – Bronze, Silver, Gold, Diamond. This is another great way to get some notoriety for your flights and possible some recognition at the end of the year. You do need to be a member of the 1-26 Associations (\$15/yr). You can get more information at the website:

<http://www.126association.org/bragging.htm>

If you actively participate in the **OLC**, you should consider making a contribution to it's support. There is no official fee for the OLC, but there are real costs. To date most of the costs have been born by sponsors. All labor is voluntary. Contributions are to subsidize the cost of equipment and bandwidth. You can make contributions thru the SSA website:

<http://www.ssa.org/myhome.asp?mbr=1029168963&show=blog&id=973>

**More on Google Earth:** There is now a flight replay program available for Google Earth. It will load logger .IGC files and then reply them using Google Earth. What is displayed on the screen is very similar to what you would see thru canopy during the flight. Of course, you get the weather of the day the Google Photos were taken, not the day of the flight (this means very few clouds in the sky!). Also, there is no simulated banking. However, it is interesting to watch and give friends a little taste of what you're soaring flights are like. You can download the program at:

<http://ywtw.de/igcsim.html>

At the same location you can find a IGC to KML converter that will display your entire flight in 3D on Google Earth. This is similar to the Google Earth options on OLC, but without needing to load your flight into OLC. It also displays flight parameters (altitude, time, etc.) You'll need to download and install Google Earth before you can use either of these programs.

## **2008 Annual Meeting**

This year's annual meeting and awards banquet held on 5 Jan 08 at Marigolds in Colorado Springs. We had 30 folks attend, including a special guest, Frank Whiteley, the SSA Colorado State Governor. The cocktail hour entertainment was a showing of the New Zealand World Soaring Grand Prix.

The current board of directors was unopposed and re-elected unanimously.

Frank Molli presented the club year end financials. While we are in solid financial position, we are barely covering operating costs on a monthly basis. This is due in part to increased cost for tow plane fuel and increases in insurance and maintenance costs on the aircraft. The other contributing factor is the continued decline in annual flight hours. One interesting point Frank presented was that cost to HFSC per glider flight last year was \$46.43 while the average direct cost to a member was \$28.00!

Some club statistics for 2007 presented were:

- HFSC currently has 50 members – 30 local and 20 out-of-state.
- In 2007 we gained 7 new members, but lost 12 existing members.
- We flew 436 glider flights for 223 hrs in 2007, about an 8.5% reduction over 2006 or \$1100 less operating revenue.

Our most active members were:

<u>Top Members ---</u>	<u>Hours</u>	<u>Top Members ---</u>	<u>Flights</u>
STEVE SMITH	28.9	JENNIE CHIANG	43
MARTY GROVE	20.1	JOHN BROWNING	43
JOHN SCOTT	17.8	STEVE SMITH	37
GIL GILDERSLEEVE	15.4	KEVIN BROOKS	33
JENNIE CHIANG	13.3	FRANK MOLLI	31
FRANK MOLLI	13.0	JOHN SCOTT	29
JOHN BROWNING	12.8	MARTY GROVE	24
JOHN NORTON	11.4	GIL GILDERSLEEVE	18
KEVIN BROOKS	9.2	JOE PERSONETT	17
JOE PERSONETT	9.1	BRUCE MOSIER	15

Members completing Ratings or Badges were:

Private License - Glider  
Jenny Chiang

Commercial License - Glider  
Frank Molli  
Kevin Brooks

A Badge  
Kevin Brooks  
John Browning

B Badge  
Kevin Brooks  
Jennie Chiang

C Badge  
Frank Molli

Bronze Badge  
Frank Molli

Silver Duration  
Marty Grove

Land Outs  
Marty Grove  
Matt Neal  
Bob Herndon

Finally our Annual HFSC Awards winners were:

Eagle Trophy – Awarded to the CFGs and Tuggies that kept us flying all year  
Darrold Gray  
Jim Pirtle  
Jim Densmore  
Gil Gildersleeve

Pelican Trophy – Awarded for the sum of all of his flights in the 1-26  
Steve Smith

Roadrunner Trophy – Awarded to those who participated in ALL of the retrieves.  
Marty Grove  
Gil Gildersleeve

## Current Duty Schedule

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

		<b>Chief</b>	<b>Line</b>	<b>Towing</b>
Saturday	Jan 26	Frank Molli		Joe Personett
Sunday	Jan 27	Keven Brooks	Cannon Willie	Jim Pirtle
Saturday	Feb 2	Marty Grove	Dylan Hyrkach	Jim Densmore
Sunday	Feb 3	Mary Hoddinott	Matt Sheldon	Gil Gildersleeve
Saturday	Feb 9	Marsha Hawk	Dub Wiltrout	Joe Personett
Sunday	Feb 10	Matt Neil	Roger Wild	Jim Pirtle
Saturday	Feb 16	<b>No Operations this weekend</b>		
Sunday	Feb 17	<b>No Operations this weekend</b>		
Saturday	Feb 23	Steve Smith	Jennie Chang	Joe Personett
Sunday	Feb 24	Matt Neil	Roger Wild	Jim Pirtle
Saturday	Mar 2	John Scott	John Browning	Jim Densmore
Sunday	Mar 3	John Norton	Dylan Hyrkach	Gil Gildersleeve