



# HIGH FLYER



The Official Newsletter of High Flights Soaring Club, Inc  
Meadow Lake Airport, Peyton CO  
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|                                 |                |
|---------------------------------|----------------|
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High Flyer is mailed free to HFSC members and other soaring associations. Please mail exchange newsletters, letters to the editor, and material for publication to: John Scott, newsletter editor; 885 Northfield Rd, Colorado Springs, Colorado 80919; [jdsco at valleypine dot net](mailto:jdsco at valleypine dot net)

## Volume 33 No. 2 March 2011



**Matt Neal's new panel for his ASW-17. That's a Craggy Ultimate in the middle.**

## 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!** Here are the direct links to key pages on the club website:

[HFSC Rooster and Member Accounts](#)

[Current Duty Schedule](#)

[Glider/Tow reservations](#)

**Please remember** to **check the online reservation** the evening before your duty assignments to see if we will have early training activity scheduled. If we do, then you will need to be at the field early, 0800, otherwise, you can arrive by 0930 as usual.

**Next Board Meetings** – Apr 9<sup>th</sup> and May 14<sup>th</sup>. All club members are invited (encouraged) to attend. Board meetings are held in the HFSC Ops Trailer.

We will start **Wednesday Flying** in April contingent on tow pilot availability. Same rules as last year. If you intend to fly Wednesday, you will need to be on the schedule by no later than 1800 on Tuesday. If the tow pilot checks the schedule Tuesday evening and there are no tow reservations, then they probably will not come to the field on Wednesday. Also, there is no ground crew, so you may have to make your own arrangements for a wing runner.

Our first **Soaring Safari** of the year will be a trip to Moriarty, NM. Final dates are still TBD, depending on who goes, but we'll be leaving around Memorial Day (30 May) and plan on staying thru the following Friday. If you'd like to attend, let John Scott know.

### **Salida Camp – 1 July to 4 July**

Save the dates!

HFSC is still planning a soaring camp in Salida on the 4th of July weekend. This year the 4th of July falls on a Monday, so we'll plan to fly Saturday, Sunday and Monday July 2 through July 4. We'll need commitments from members to ferry a 2-33 plus the tow plane to Salida, plus pack and tow gliders. Please let me know if you are planning to attend the camp and willing to help.

Mike Donnelly has negotiated group rates at the Gateway Inn and Suites in Salida, with nightly rates ranging from \$79.99 to \$159.99, depending on the type of room reserved. Reservations can be made by calling them at (719) 539-2895 and mentioning the code of "High Flights Soaring Club." The airport manager offered to keep the back door to the office open so anyone wanting to camp at the airport will have access to the airport bathroom. Other facilities offered at the airport include a BBQ grill, picnic table and canopy.

Fourth of July celebrations in Salida include band performances on July 1 for those wishing to arrive on Friday. Other activities for the holiday include a community parade, music, food and fireworks. There are plenty of activities for non-flying family members. Among the other fun activities available include kayaking, river rafting, fishing, hiking, biking, museum, hot springs pool, and many others. It promises to be a fun weekend!

## **New Fees**

For the last several years, High Fights incomes from monthly dues and flying fees have not covered our operating costs. This has been aggravated by declining flying activity as well as some loss of membership (mostly folks moving out of state). We have been eating into our reserves. This is a situation that had to be addressed.

We have had some significant repairs in the last year to **89H**, **7AS**, and our tow plane. The cost of most of the glider repair has been covered by insurance settlements resulting from hail damage 2 years ago. Even when adjustments are made for these extraordinary expense, our monthly dues are not even covering our fixed costs – those costs we incur even if we never fly. It costs us about \$1,400/yr to have a glider tied down, available to fly even if no one flies it. With the increase in fuel prices and the reduction in tows, our tow fees have not been covering the operating cost of the tow plane. The directors have decided on several actions to address the situation.

First we will be taking 2 gliders off-line. The Blanik has already been put in storage due to the AD grounding it. It will continue in storage until the AD is resolved. We will be dropping insurance on the Blanik when it comes due in April. If we can return the Blanik to flying status, we will put one of our 2-33s in storage unless we have sufficient activity to justify keeping it flying. We will be putting a 1-26, **47S**, in storage at the beginning of April and dropping the insurance. We do not need to sell the aircraft at this time to raise cash, but we do need to reduce the operating costs.

We have adjusted our Fee Schedule (see below). Beginning April 1<sup>st</sup>, monthly dues will be increased to \$50/mo.; Family Members will be \$25/mo.; Youth Member dues will be \$25/mo. The monthly Flight Proficiency Rebate has been increased to \$12/mo. We made no changes to the initiation fees. Associate members will now pay \$50 for a weekend or camp. Out of state members will pay \$50/yr. We have increased tow fees to \$10 per hook-up and \$9/1000' of tow altitude (\$10 at camps). Glider rental has been increased to \$25/hr.

We believe our instructor ranks will be increasing this summer. When they do, we will begin membership recruiting efforts to increase our membership. We are again planning on Wednesday operations this summer to make more opportunities to fly available. We will be looking at ways to increase our ride activity.

The bottom line is we need to strictly control our costs while increasing our flying activity and membership. The increase in dues alone will not address our revenue shortfalls. I hope to see more of you at the airport this summer enjoying your club.

**High Flights Soaring Club**  
**Current Fee Schedule**  
 April, 2011

| <i>Description</i>                             | <i>Fee</i>            |
|--|-----------------------|
| Regular Member Initiation                      | \$200                 |
| Family Member Initiation                       | \$100                 |
| Regular Member Monthly Dues <sup>(1)</sup>     | \$50/mo               |
| Family Member Monthly Dues <sup>(1)</sup>      | \$25/mo               |
| Youth Member Monthly Dues <sup>(1)(4)</sup>    | \$25/mo               |
| Associate Member                               | \$50/weekend or camp  |
| Non-resident Member                            | \$50/yr               |
| Tow Plane Hook-up Fee                          | \$10                  |
| Glider Tow Fee                                 | \$9/1000 feet on tow  |
| Glider Rental Fee <sup>(2)</sup>               | \$25/hr               |
| Tow Plane Hook-up Fee At Away Camps            | \$10                  |
| Glider Tow Fee At Away Camps                   | \$10/1000 feet on tow |
| Glider Rental Fee At Away Camps <sup>(2)</sup> | \$25/hr               |
| Aero Retrieve or Wave Tow <sup>(3)</sup>       | \$75/hr               |
| Associate Member O2 Bottle Fill                | \$20                  |
| Private Glider Tie-down Fee                    | \$15/mo               |
| Introductory Ride Of approximately 30 minutes  | \$95                  |
| Introductory Instructional Flights – 3 Flights | \$200                 |
| Introductory Ride At Away Camps                | \$100                 |

- (1) \$12/mo Flight Proficiency Credit if member flies with the club during the month (glider, towing, or instructing)  
 (Only one per family, does not apply to Youth members)
- (2) For Silver Badge 5 hour duration attempts, the 3<sup>rd</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> hours are free.
- (3) Actual tach time
- (4) Youth Members do not pay Initiation Fees

## Current Duty Schedule

Effective Date: 22-Mar-11

| Day       | Date   | Chief        | Line             | Tow           |
|-----------|--------|--------------|------------------|---------------|
| Saturday  | 26-Mar | John Scott   | Benjamin Bookman | Bob Reilman   |
| Sunday    | 27-Mar | Mark Buist   | John Lingwall    | Jim Densmore  |
| Saturday  | 2-Apr  | John Scott   | John Browning    | Mike Donnelly |
| Sunday    | 3-Apr  | John Norton  | Mike Bratlien    | Bruce Mosier  |
| Wednesday | 6-Apr  | No Crew      |                  |               |
| Saturday  | 9-Apr  | John Norton  | Karl Gordon      | Jim Densmore  |
| Sunday    | 10-Apr | Marty Grove  | Mike Gallops     | Bill Bowman   |
| Wednesday | 13-Apr | No Crew      |                  |               |
| Saturday  | 16-Apr | John Norton  | Benjamin Bookman |               |
| Sunday    | 17-Apr | Kevin Brooks | Karl Gordon      |               |
| Wednesday | 20-Apr | No Crew      |                  |               |
| Saturday  | 23-Apr | Dub Wiltrot  | Kevin Williams   |               |
| Sunday    | 24-Apr | Mark Buist   | John Lingwall    |               |
| Wednesday | 27-Apr | No Crew      |                  |               |
| Saturday  | 30-Apr | John Scott   | John Browning    |               |
| Sunday    | 1-May  | Mark Huff    | Mike Bratlien    |               |
| Wednesday | 4-May  | No Crew      |                  |               |
| Saturday  | 7-May  | Marty Grove  | Karl Gordon      |               |
| Sunday    | 8-May  | John Norton  | Mike Gallops     |               |
| Wednesday | 11-May | No Crew      |                  |               |
| Saturday  | 14-May | Dub Wiltrot  | Benjamin Bookman |               |
| Sunday    | 15-May | Kevin Brooks | Kevin Williams   |               |
| Wednesday | 18-May | No Crew      |                  |               |
| Saturday  | 21-May | Mark Buist   | John Lingwall    |               |
| Sunday    | 22-May | John Scott   | John Browning    |               |
| Wednesday | 25-May | No Crew      |                  |               |
| Saturday  | 28-May | Mark Huff    | Mike Bratlien    |               |
| Sunday    | 29-May | Marty Grove  | Mike Gallops     |               |
| Monday    | 30-May | No Crew      |                  |               |
| Wednesday | 1-Jun  | No Crew      |                  |               |