

Pilot Briefing

Volume 1, Issue 11

December 2009



Upcoming Events!!!

Regular Meeting. December 7, 2009

7:00 PM, Poughkeepsie United Methodist Church

Officers:

President :
Warren Batson

Vice President:
Vic Horton

Secretary:
Flavio Ambrosini

Treasurer
Whitney Philbrick

Membership:
Rob Stubbs

Field Director-Hopewell
Mark Monroe

Flight Instructor
Walt Ericson

Safety Officer
Jerry Rohling

News Editor
Bob Magee

Directors at Large
Bob Allen
Rick Knight
Bob Magee

Pilot Briefing Editor
Ron Revelle

Hi members,

I would first like to take this opportunity to wish everyone a Happy Holidays.

This year started out being one of the wettest spring and summer in recent years. Even with all this rain many of us found time to get a lot of flying. I know I did and the comments from other members suggest had they did as well. As winter is setting in I look forward to next year already.

As we are approaching the end of 2009, many will remember this as the year of change for the MHRCS club. It is a year in which we were lucky enough to gain the new Red Wing field and in the same year to lose our Hopewell field which has provided 40+ years of service.

If you talk to any long time member of this club you will hear countless stories about how well Hopewell has served this club all these years. There are many of us that will miss having this field.

Many of you may not know this but last Tuesday (11/24), Toll Brother erected a sign along Fishkill road. The sign announces that homes will be available for the spring/summer of 2010 market. There were some that thought this would never happen as MHRCS has faced this for the last 20+ years, this time it is real. All things indicate MHRCS will have to shut down operations at the Hopewell field within the next 4-6 weeks.

I have been on the phone all this week making arrangements to remove MHRCS equipment from the field before the winter sets in. Also talking to the board members about what to do with the Dues structure for 2010 since Hopewell may not be usable at all. We will talk more about this at Monday's meeting. We will not have all the answers and we would like to get input from our members on how they see the MHRCS club progressing into the new year. If you have time, I encourage you to attend our Monday meeting.

Happy holidays to all.
Warren Batson
President

Jonathan Elie Solos! Congratulations to our own Jonathan Elie for his successful solo in a full scale sailplane. In his own words: “Hi everyone

I went flying today at a new field with a long paved runway. I clocked my plane at 65 MPH. Can you beleive, I got it up to 2500 feet - without binoculars. How did I do this you ask? I was flying *in* it!

I soloed on a full scale glider today at Wurtsboro Airport. I started out the day taking a couple flights with my instructor, lasting just 10 minutes each, cause it was a calm day with no thermals. On my third flight, sitting on the ground getting ready to take off again, the ground crew hooked the rope to my plane and I gave the tow pilot the signal to take off. It was a normal takeoff with my instructor; one of the smoothest takeoffs of the day. After about 30 seconds, at about 300 feet I hear a big clink. I started to lose airspeed and immediately realized that my instructor pulled the cable release to test me, so I did a sharp turn back to the airport and landed downwind with an 8 knot tailwind. The landing was pretty good and we went right back up again. After such short flights, my instructor asked me if I wanted to solo. At first I was very nervous. I sat down and thought about it for about a half hour while someone else was using the glider. I started to think to myself, it'll be fine, so once the glider landed I got in the cockpit, checked over everything, closed the canopy, and signaled the tow pilot to take off. The takeoff was a little scary but I got used to flying without my instructor. Once the tow plane got up to 2500 feet I looked to my right - there was no traffic, so I released the cable and turned to the right. After that, it was just like any normal flight. I flew around for a little bit and then started to setup for a landing. On final approach, the runway looked a little far away to me so I came off the air brake and flared for the landing and landed a tiny bit short, but the landing was still smooth. After that I got out of the plane and everybody was congratulating me. My instructor asked if I wanted to go up again, and I said sure. It was an awesome day!

Jonathan

Home Team Having Fun at Rhinebeck ‘09



Whit, did a \$20 bill disappear from your pocket at Rhinebeck? I think I know where it went!



Ron, You like those Piper Cubs....don't you? But what is that pink band on that one?





The Pres. having a little fun....look at that patch on Bernie's back! I know that means he has been to Rhinebeck a few times!



Whit's beautiful D7 making an appearance at Rhinebeck!



In the old days the guy in blue didn't have time for coffee!



Can Ron Knapp still lift his leg that high? The editor starting his Nieuport 17...in those days you had to leave the club to fly in Rhinebeck! So he chartered a club upstate and came back with his buddies to join the fun. 1975 photo

Auld Lang Syne..... The MHRCS Holiday Party! by the Editor

The MHRCS Holiday party took place at COCO's in Hyde Park on Dec. 4, 2009. There were forty-one in attendance. Thanks to Jim Rangitch for making all of the arrangements. Almost everyone was seated before the 7 pm starting time except for a couple who crashed the party after being unsuccessful to do so at the White House recently! They were seated near Bob Magee and his lovely wife Joan. And yes, Bob, the editor's great grandmother Augusta spelled her name Magee too! So, the Holiday Party was also a Magee family reunion! The evening was very enjoyable with many door prizes given away and special recognition given to club members who have made special contributions to the club.

Allow me to wish all of you a very Merry Christmas, Happy Hanukkah and Happy New Year. May God Bless you and your family with a wonderful Holiday Season and healthy new year. A year with many successful flights and smooth landings! Ron Revelle



Bob Magee presents Jim Rangitch with the Honor Roll Plaque now bearing his name



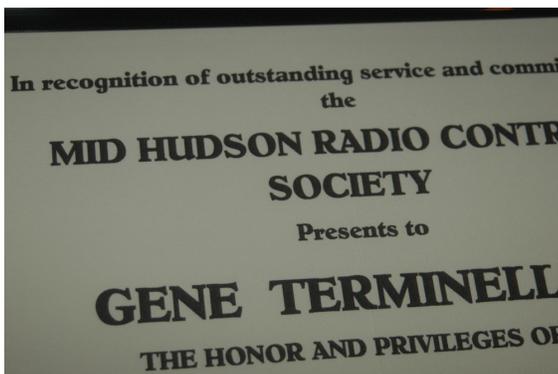
Whitney Philbrick receives the plaque for his outstanding contributions to the club



President Warren Batson receiving the Honor Roll plaque for his many outstanding contributions



Thank you gentlemen for all of your efforts!



Gene Terminello was awarded Life Membership for his many contributions. Gene was unable attend the event.



This man who has always been outstanding in the field (this photo is no exception) was also in attendance and has like all of us aged a few years since 1968. But he stands more upright now! The 1968 Rhinebeck CD and mentor to so many of us.. Thanks George! It is always a pleasure to be with you!

CAVU till the next time, Ron