

- BASA BUGLE -

No BASA Meeting in December

There will be no BASA meeting in December. The next BASA meeting will be January 31, 2007. Allen Silver, Master Parachute Rigger, will give a presentation about parachute use and care (i.e., how to survive a bailout).



New BASA member Francois Brahic enjoys some early-December wave lift near Hollister .

Treasurer (Charles Hanes)

Checking account balance: \$15,810.
Insurance account balance: \$45,898.
6DS loan balance: \$11,415.

We will be making a loan payment of principal and interest on the 6DS loan by the end of Dec. in the amount of \$6,000. That will bring our loan balance down to about \$5,600.

This month's billing amounts include \$23 per member for PASCO dues.

The following members are delinquent on their dues payments: **Scott Boynton, Chris de Roulet, Ricardo Mestre, John Murayama, Lee Edling and Steve Woolery.** Please bring your accounts current as soon as possible to restore your flying privileges.

Membership Chairman (Miguel Flores)

New Associate Member. We have one new member this month, **Francois Brahic.** Francois is a Hollister "graduate" who passed his check ride for a private glider rating last month and already has a Panoche checkout.

Sponsor Memberships. There are four sponsor memberships up for sale. Contact me if you are interested in saving \$40 a month in dues. I'll direct you to the selling member where you two can make a deal.

Members Leaving. None.

One member joining and none leaving this month brings our membership count up to 72.

2007 US Team XC Camp

Garret Willat is organizing the 2007 Western US Team XC Camp at SkySailing in Warner Springs, CA. The camp will be held May 7-11th and is open to any private glider pilot capable of flying at least 100km on a soarable day who would like to build XC experience.

While this is not a BASA affiliated event, it could be an excellent opportunity to build flying skills at a different soaring site with skilled contest pilots. They plan to have several two place ships available for use (Grob 103, Stemme, Duo, Nimbus 4D), several single seat rentals, and are encouraging attendees to bring their own ships if possible. The cost is \$875 for 5 days. That includes dinner, lectures, mentoring, daily 2000 foot tow, but not lodging.

Contact Jeremy Zawodny or Garret Willat (giderstud@hotmail.com) for an electronic flyer or more details.

[Note: The annual Air Sailing XC Camp will be during the first week of June and will likely feature several BASA pilots. It's also quite a bit less expensive.]

New DG-1000 Tail Battery, Connector, Solar Panels

There's a new style connector (Anderson PowerPole) on the main battery in 1CH. PowerPole connectors are a pair of red and black plastic housings that will mate with another pair (producing a "snap" as they come

together) to provide a simple and positive power connection. Please grip the red and black plastic when connecting or disconnecting the main battery – don't pull on the wires. The 1CH battery charger will be fitted with PowerPole connectors soon as well.

In early January, we will be installing a new tail battery in 1CH. The existing battery is essentially dead and remains installed for weight and balance purposes. At that time we'll also temporarily replace the small 5 watt flexible solar panel with a pair of larger 10 watt flexible panels. We'll send a note to the basanews email list when this change takes place.

Finally, we hope to take 1CH to Williams before spring to have a set of permanent fuselage mounted solar panels installed just behind the rear pilot's head. These panels should do a much better job of keeping the tail battery well charged and remove the need for the flexible panels we use when not flying. More details on that when we have them.

Glider Locations

As of December 15, glider locations are:

DG-1000 1CH	In service at Hollister.
Grob 36L	In service at Hollister.
Pegasus 1LV	In service at AirSailing.
Schweitzer 1-34	In service at Hollister.
Pegasus 9JH	In service at Hollister.
Junior 6DS	At Williams for maintenance.
Pegasus 2BA	Grounded.

Book Review

By Harry Fox

I recently picked up some books in the "Gliding Mentor" series edited by Bob Wander. Two that I can heartily recommend are "Thermals" by Rolf Hertenstein and "Practical Wave Flying" by Mark Palmer.

Hertenstein is a meteorologist and glider pilot. His "Thermals" book is focused on how thermals form and how to forecast thermal soaring conditions. He does one of the best jobs I have seen of explaining how to read a sounding chart – thorough, but understandable. The book is not all charts and numbers, though, and there are good sections on locating thermal sources and triggers, the effects of wind, cloud streets, thunderstorms and other thermal phenomena.

"Practical Wave Flying" is divided about 1/3 on how waves form and how to forecast wave conditions, 1/3 on equipment and preparation, and 1/3 on wave flying techniques, including how to deal with a rough tow and how to avoid the rotor on the way back down. If you are thinking of joining the BASA Wave Camp this spring, this book would be a good primer on things you need to know.

These books are available direct from Bob Wander at <http://www.bobwander.com/>, and they are available other places such as <http://www.soarmn.com/cumulus/books.htm#Title> and www.sportys.com. If it's too late to ask Santa to put these in your stocking, maybe you can buy them for yourself a little later, to distract yourself from the fact that Santa didn't bring that LS-8 you asked him for.

Winter Wave at Hollister

With the winter storm fronts passing through, there are opportunities for wave flights out of Hollister. Wave occurs in pre-frontal conditions with the wind out of the south to west, and sometimes after a storm has passed when there are post-frontal winds out the north to east. Recently, Matt Gillis had a flight in pre-frontal wave to 15,500 in November (limited by our temperature restrictions on the DG-1000, rather than the height of the lift). Others had wave to 7,000 feet in early December.

To help predict wave days in advance, there are long-term winds-aloft forecasts from Dr. Jack at <http://www.drjack.info/WINDIP/index.html>. You may need to register on Dr. Jack's website first at <http://www.drjack.info/INFO/registration.html>, but you should not need to pay for a subscription. Keep in mind that long-range forecasts are uncertain, so don't be surprised if a forecast of wave a week ahead changes as the date gets closer, or if a forecast of poor wave conditions changes to a good forecast as a storm approaches.

The National Weather Service Forecast Discussion also provides helpful predictions of high winds and other storm conditions, and also explains how reliable a given forecast appears to be. Go to <http://newweb.wrh.noaa.gov/mtr/forecast.php>, and click on "AFD" for the region you are interested in.

If you like to see the numerical model forecasts in graphical form, the Unisys website displays them at http://weather.unisys.com/gfsx/init/gfsx_850_init.html and related pages. On the Unisys maps, click on the selections at the top of the page for alternative weather models, time periods, or output parameters. The 850mb

chart shows winds at about 5000 feet, while 500mb is at about 18,000 feet and 300mb is at about 30,000 feet. The SL Pres/Precip chart shows the precipitation forecast and the Rel/Hum chart shows relative humidity. Relative humidity in the 30% to 50% range often makes for scattered to broken clouds.

Of course, there is a lot of wave in the winter up at Air Sailing, where 1LV is now based. The main issues with winter wave flying there are the possibility of excessive cloud cover, and the near certainty of very cold temperatures.

BASA Calendar for 2007

A calendar of BASA meetings and other events for 2005 is included with this issue.

Vacation Reservations for 2007

Every BASA member may reserve a glider for up to five days midweek (Monday through Friday), once per calendar year. Up to three of these five days may be for a two-place glider, with the rest in a single-place glider. This “vacation reservation” is in addition to the normal reservations allowed under BASA rules. Reservations may be extended for special events, such as camps and safaris, with the permission of the Executive Committee.

If you want to make a vacation reservation, contact **Harry Fox**. The following vacation reservations are currently in effect for 2007:

Glider and Dates	Pilot
36L; June 2-9	Wolf Weber (Air Sailing XC Camp)
A Pegasus; June 2-9	Steve Saglio (Air Sailing XC Camp)

Executive Committee execs@flybasa.org

President – **Harry Fox**
 Vice President – **Jeremy Zawodny**
 Treasurer – **Charles Hanes**
 Flight Committee Chairman – **Jonathan Hughes**
 Maintenance Chairman – **Matt Gillis**

Flight Committee flightcomm@flybasa.org

Chairman – **Jonathan Hughes (CFIG)**
 Members: **Stan Davies** **Peter Reischl**
Steve Ascher (CFIG)
Harry Fox **Hans Van Weersch**
Miguel Flores **Jeremy Zawodny**
Ruth Cook (CFIG) **Charlie Hayes (CFIG)**

Approved CFIGs: **Drew Pearce (H)** **Brett Hinze (H)**
Russell Holtz (H) **Charlie Hayes**
Jonathan Hughes **Steve Ascher (T)**
Joe Silvestri (T) **Mike Johnson (T)**
Jan Driessen (T) **Doug Lent (T)**
Lee Edling (ASI) **Ruth Cook (H)**
Jeffrey Hazlegrove (H)

Club Aircraft Ship Captains

DG-1000 (451CH) – **Matt Gillis**
 Grob 103 (3836L) – **Peter Reischl**
 Pegasus (642BA) – **John Pierce**
 Pegasus (599JH) – **Steve Saglio**
 Pegasus (101LV) – **Pat Healy**
 SGS 1-34 (7632) – **Wolf Weber**
 SZD-51 (6DS) **Sam Arquilla**

Other Volunteers Officers

Membership Chairman – **Miguel Flores**
 Website Maintenance – **Jeremy Zawodny**
 Insurance Chairman – **Dave Walker**
 Wave Camp Chairman – **Hans Van Weersch**
 Equipment Registration – need a volunteer

Regional Officers Hollister Mountains

Parachutes Officer – **Jeremy Zawodny** **Steve Ascher**
 Instruments/Electrical – **Clyde Cotterell** **Clyde Cotterell**
 Maintenance Trailers – **Michael Nelson** open