

## CALENDAR

**Annual Banquet 2003** - Saturday, February 15, 2003 (snow date Sunday, February 16, 2003) at the Southbury Hilton, Southbury, CT - Cost is \$39 per person. Reservation form inside. Hurry, the deadline for reservations is February 10!

Do you know someone who might enjoy soaring? Bring them to the field this spring for a first hand look at what soaring with Nutmeg is all about! We need everyone to actively contribute to membership growth to ensure a stable and affordable future for the club at our new home in Freehold, NY. And for all of you who do not already own a share in Freehold LLC consider the advantages of purchasing one. Benefits include a \$500 discount on annual dues, access to improved creekside campsites, and a in the future of the Nutmeg Soaring Association!

For the latest info check out our website at:  
<http://nutmegsoaring.org>



Nutmeg News is the official publication of the Nutmeg Soaring Association, Inc. Edited by Jim Sidway, 211 Lum Lot Road, Southbury, CT 06488-1960 203.264.6170 [jsidway@earthlink.net](mailto:jsidway@earthlink.net)

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# Nutmeg News

Volume 44, Number 2

February 2003

Editor: Jim Sidway

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Submitted by Bill Kenyon

### Upcoming events:

Banquet, Saturday February 15, Southbury Hilton. Features - presentation of the Nutmeg Award; Kudos by Jeff Driscoll and Chris MacIntyre.

### Mandatory Safety Meetings:

First meeting: Danbury Fire House on Friday, March 7. (Date hasn't been confirmed yet).

Second meeting: At Freehold, on the afternoon of put-together day. Put-together day could be as early as March 15, but it depends on the weather.

We hope most people will attend the March 7 planned meeting, so we can get things moving faster. Please note that each Nutmeg member is required to attend one of the 2 safety meetings.

One of the subjects at the safety meeting will be how to handle emergencies: e.g., how to handle a power plane which ground-loops and bursts into flames on the runway. Or what to do if someone is bitten by a dog or cat. Please give these questions some thought before you come to the meeting.

### Put-together day:

The flying insurance will be reinstated on all Nutmeg aircraft on March 15. The weather may still be too cold on March 15, so we have not set a definite date for put-together. In 2002, we had our first glider flights on April 7.

### Upcoming stuff for 2003

### Officers:

The 2001-2002 slate of officers agreed to serve for one more year. To fit the bylaws, this was handled by electing them for another 2-year term and planning for them to resign after the first of those two years.

### Dues and tow fees:

They remain the same as last year -- \$1100 dues for Full Members (plus SSA) (minus \$500 discount for Freehold LLC shareholders), \$100 for Associate Members (plus SSA) , and \$30 for a tow to 3000 feet.

### Bookkeeping:

Chris Hanak has turned in his bookkeeper's eyeshade, because he got very frustrated with less-than-clear-and-complete flight logs and towplane logs. We ask everybody: please put a big effort into good flight records in 2003. Bob Cox has

volunteered to do the bookkeeping and he has been authorized to use the ultimate sanction.

### Cross-country - airport tour by auto:

Bill Kenyon has put together written-out directions for a proposed driving tour of airports and other land-out places in the Freehold area (170 miles). This is still being discussed, but the idea is to carpool in one or two cars, probably on a weekend day that doesn't look good for soaring.

### Cross-country - stepwise development of pilot skills:

We have drafted a list of development steps, that goes something like this:

Catskill soaring: Windham High Peak; The Gap at Windham High Peak; South and West of Windham High Peak; Thomas Cole Mountain.

Developing cross-country routes:

First route: North to Greenville/Rainbow, Westerlo, Heldeberg, Duanesburg.

Second route: NW towards Middleburgh

Third Route: West toward Schoharie Reservoir

Fourth Route: SW to Maben

Fifth Route: South to Ellensville.

Rather than having a formal cross-country school this year, the plan is for mentors to work with pilots who have an interest in strengthening their cross-country soaring. (The airport tour by auto is part of this plan).

### Instruction:

Wally Moran has drafted an instruction syllabus, in coordination with Randol Webb, who is working with instructional material that Nutmeggers have drafted in the past. We expect this to lead to a more structured instructional program this year.

### Pawnee:

Randol Webb has led a willing crew to remove the Pawnee engine. Engine work was required by a recent FAA Airworthiness Directive, so the engine was removed from the Pawnee, taken to John Drenkhahn in Danbury for the engine work, and is now back in the Pawnee and is not far from being operational.

### Field Phone:

High on our priority list this year is to obtain a field phone that actually works at the launch line. Bruce Stein found a phone

with a several-mile range, and an optional external antenna that should do the job. It costs about \$475, but we'll probably buy it. The phone is important for handling emergencies, as well as for land outs.

### **Membership and Marketing:**

We need to find new members to keep our finances in good shape, so please share your ideas on where to find new members, and how to get good publicity, e.g. favorable articles in newspapers.

### **Bob Ward's Civil Air Patrol kids:**

Bob Ward is formulating a plan to bring a group of Civil Air Patrol youngsters to Freehold one day and get them up in gliders. Contact Bob if you want to contribute.

### **Snow removal:**

About half-a-dozen Nutmeggers participated in shoveling 30" of snow off the roof of the barn and hangar in early January. I figure about 30,000 pounds of snow were removed from just the barn, with probably another 30,000 pounds being taken off the hangar. Many thanks to the participants.

Clem says the snow hasn't been this heavy in 20 years, so let's hope we won't have this need very often. Because there is so much physical labor involved, it is not a simple matter of hiring one guy at minimum wage for a day to do the work

The metal Quonset hut that houses the two training ultralights collapsed after holding up the snow for a week. We don't want that to happen to the barn or metal hangar.

### **Runway plowing rules:**

Early in December when Clem was out of town, an unnamed person plowed the runway. Two dangers are: damaging the runway (especially if the ground has not frozen), and creating snow banks that constitute a hazard. In fact, Clem spent a day and a half after the plowing incident, knocking down the snow banks that resulted. After some discussion, here's the basic rule: Clem must give permission for each particular case of plowing. (Clem is the airport manager, and he also has 40 years of experience in caring for the runway). Obviously, glider pilots would not appreciate having big ice banks in the middle of the south turf when the glider season starts.

## **MINUTES NOVEMBER 2002 MEMBERSHIP MEETING**

**Date and Location:** November 9, 2002 @ Freehold Airport

**Officers Present:** Kenyon, Stein, Webb, Marty Opitz, Ramsdell, Krebs

**Number of Members Present :** 24

**Called to order:** 6:15 p.m.

Minutes of August 2002 meeting were approved as printed in the September newsletter.

### **New Business:**

Bill Kenyon thanked all that worked this weekend and throughout the year. He reported that Mike Ampela and Kim Golden passed their practical test.

Kenyon reported that tow log sheets and flight log sheets were missing for October 1 - 17. Duckworth stated that there were no operations on 10/14.

### **Community Relations:**

John Boyce spoke about community relations. He explained the Freehold Beautification Fund and encouraged members to donate through Nutmeg. We are looking for a donation of \$1,000 and we are currently only half way there. He also reported that in spite of the bad weather approximately 100 people participated in the October Freehold Aviation Association fly-in, resulting in a \$75.00 donation to Nutmeg.

### **Airport Status:**

Kenyon mentioned that the highway department would like to use some of our property adjacent to their building in exchange for doing some improvements to the airport.

The seventy-five foot strip of land adjacent to the grass runway still needs more work. The grass that was planted mid summer has come in and was rolled and mowed.

Following the recent elections there is no new news on the \$20,000 state grant for the runway improvements.

There was discussion regarding hangar rent and new hangars. We need to develop long range plans including the addressing of zoning questions, etc.

Runway 30 needs to be widened an additional 50 feet from the alfalfa.

We need to work on new memberships by creating news articles for magazines and newspapers to encourage interest at Freehold.

### **Financial:**

Krebs reported that the tow budget has almost been fulfilled.

Hanak mentioned that the on-line billing has worked relatively well except for some outstanding balances, some gas sales and tie-down fees.

The club probably closes the year with a \$4,000 deficit, about what we budgeted.

Overall Nutmeg seems to be in pretty good shape, and there will be a full report at the January annual meeting.

### **Miscellaneous:**

The 7346 phone number will be canceled. We are looking for a workable field phone (range!).

There was discussion regarding winter flying. Some of the issues to consider are insurance, annuals, and cost vs. benefits. A suggestion was made that we should start flying earlier next spring.

Freehold LLC meeting to be held on November 22<sup>nd</sup> :Stein will discuss admin. details, bylaws, contracts etc.

Kenyon thanked everyone that worked on tonight's dinner.

Albrecht talked about the local community – supporting it and getting to know the area people better which can only be beneficial for Nutmeg's operations.

Stein congratulated Wally Moran for getting his D.E. status which helped in allowing Nutmeg to move to Freehold. Driscoll presented Wally Moran a classic airplane kit.

Stein also thanked Bill Kenyon for all his efforts this year and Frank Molnar and Rudy Szigetti for all their time mowing.

Sidway expressed gratitude to Ramsdell for his invaluable construction expertise and hard work in getting Freehold ready to use.

Meeting adjourned at 7:30 p.m.

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### MINUTES JANUARY 2003 BOD MEETING

Board of Directors Meeting, January 15, 2003 at Ridgefield, CT

Present: Bill Kenyon, Bruce Stein, Chris Hanak, Marty Opitz, Linda DeMarco, Peter Krebs, Randol Webb

Convened 7:10 P.M.

It was discussed and recommended to issue a yearly statement for FALLC loan holders indicating principal, interest payable etc. In addition Nutmeg needs a proposal for the lease agreement with FALLC. Kenyon and Stein promised to draft these documents in short order having some ready for the annual meeting on 1/17. In addition Stein will provide to all shareholders a document detailing the operation of FALLC. Krebs will propose to the membership that Nutmeg purchases 20 shares from the FALLC at a total of \$ 120,000 financed at 6 % interest p.a. guaranteeing the debt service with liens put on the aircraft owned by Nutmeg (Hanak). Starting 4/2003 Nutmeg will retire \$ 20,000 p.a. to FALLC who in turn services the Hoover mortgage with that money forming part of the annual budget. Nutmeg (through its President) has full voting rights for shares as they are paid for (i.e. approx. 3 per year). Krebs reported that at the request of Hanak and according to the bylaws Nutmeg's books and supporting financial documents were audited in early January 2003. All was found satisfactory and so officially noted in writing by Kenyon.

Krebs and Hanak presented the draft of the Annual Report 2002 which was accepted with minor changes. The different aircraft funds were discussed at lengths to come to an understanding

when overhauls for the tow plane engines might be needed. It was agreed that in all likelihood the moneys reserved per 12/31/02 are about 50% of overhaul cost estimates and that the engines are at about half their life span before necessary overhaul. As to the costly 3000 hour overhaul / inspection of the Grob it is estimated that given the current usage of ca. 100 hours p.a. there might well be at least five + years of use before overhaul. With data from Hanak, Webb will attempt to bring the logbooks up to date to obtain more reliable figures.

Drafts of 2003 budgets for Freehold and Nutmeg were discussed in detail. Apart from the aircraft reserve funds, main topics were potential costly surprises to keep the Freehold structures safe and sound and the likely number of existing and new paying members (Kenyon will write personal notes to ex members inviting them to rejoin the club maybe waiving the initiation fee). After commenting on the conservatively budgeted tie down and gas sale numbers a balanced budget was agreed upon maintaining the entire fee structure of last year!

Miscellaneous: Our tie down and hangar "clients" need more guidance and supervision to improve our relationship with them (Kenyon and Stein). A working long range field phone is expensive (\$450 ?) but needed for safety (911 !) and operational reasons. Two safety meetings are being proposed (3/8 in Danbury and 3/15 afternoon in Freehold following put-together of gliders ). Insurance coverage starts on 3/15 as well. Gliders need to be annualled in February before Clem leaves for vacation (Webb + club help). Hanak is unable to continue as bookkeeper for the coming season and a replacement is sorely needed. Suggestions are welcome! He strongly suggested that a big educational effort is made in 2003 to streamline and better control the flight statistics (log sheets) cutting down on unnecessary detective work and time wasted.

Given Nutmeg's instruction capacities, new scholarships are temporarily suspended. This is subject to change as the situation dictates. We will continue to subsidize (variable tow fee and assessment by status) the current and active students through completion of their college years.

Meeting adjourned 11:00 PM

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### MINUTES JANUARY 2000 MEMBERSHIP MEETING

**Annual General Membership Meeting:** January 17, 2003 @ Bethany

**Directors/Officers present:** Kenyon, Stein, Ramsdell, Webb, M. Opitz, Krebs

**Number of members present:** 24 full members, 2 guests;

**Called to order:** 07:40 p.m.

The minutes of the last membership meeting (11/9/2002) were read and approved with a minor correction. They will be published shortly.

Kenyon summarized noteworthy developments of 2002: No flying incidents; progress at Freehold; important cost saving work done by many members on the field and with the equipment; relations with Clem and other users of Freehold;

Election of Officers: Present slate was unanimously reelected for two more years with the understanding that the officers intend to serve for only one year and will therefore resign at the end of 2003.

Krebs presented and explained financial situation 2002 and budgets for 2003:

After a budgeted shortfall in 2002 of approx. \$4,000, 2003 should show a balanced result. Annual report 2002 and budgets 2003 (with unchanged fee structure and slightly lower funding for reserve funds) were unanimously approved. In 2003 Nutmeg will continue to have a financial cushion amounting to one extra year debt service.

Stein presented and explained the contracts that need to be signed between FALLC and Nutmeg for exclusive use and administration of Freehold Airport (lease and 20 share purchase - \$120,000 over 6 years - secured by liens to be put on Nutmeg aircraft/gliders). Nutmeg through its President has the right to vote the shares in the FALLC as they are paid, i.e. about 3 per year. Upon motion made and seconded the membership empowered the admin. (23 votes to 1) to sign the contracts. Kenyon advised that everybody who has loaned money for the acquisition of Freehold will receive an annual statement detailing outstanding amounts and interest receivable (4/1/03).

Kenyon and Krebs informed that the present bookkeeper Hanak has asked for a replacement. Volunteers were sought and Cox agreed to take the position if the club provides him with the necessary fast Internet access (DSL or Cable). Motion was made and unanimously carried to appoint Cox and pay for the Internet service (approx. \$500 p.a.). The membership thanked Hanak for his services and his willingness to ensure a smooth transfer of data, documents etc.

Kenyon talked about the upcoming 2003 gliding season:

Safety meetings (Draganovic) are planned for 3/7 evening in Danbury and for 3/15 afternoon in Freehold following glider put-together. Attendance at one of the meetings is mandatory and details will be communicated in Nutmeg Newsletter, on the website and by email.

Necessary improvements as to the runways were discussed and Rogg will help with raking and rolling equipment.

Better record keeping (flight logs on the ground and by tow pilots) are necessary and Stein again will schedule duty pilots

whose main responsibility will be record keeping. Discussion ensued about how to enforce that duties are fulfilled.

We will probably face some fluctuation in the membership so that an extra effort is needed to hopefully bring back some prior members (letters by Kenyon) and make a marketing push (magazine articles in local press etc.) for new members from the Freehold area. Ward suggested and will undertake to make contact with local high schools and the Civil Air Patrol to promote our sport and Nutmeg. Several attendees are ready to pay for tows to make guest flight possible.

Scheduling of tow pilots and instructors should be undertaken. Moran is preparing an instruction syllabus which will help to make instruction more uniform.

Miscellaneous: Ramsdell reported that 6 more campsites will be set up @ Freehold. 3 are reserved already and 3 are still available to interested parties. The camping group is purchasing their own golf cart to free Nutmeg's equipment needed for ground towing.

Upcoming events are the annual banquet on 2/15 (snow date 2/16). If you have suggestions for the Kudos Awards, forward them to Jeff Driscoll or Chris McIntyre as soon as possible.

Szigeti stressed the need for new tires for the mowing tractor and he was authorized to pursue the purchase of two tires.

DeMarco mentioned that given instruction and financial constraints we will not actively recruit new scholarship students in 2003.

Kenyon reported on the recent heavy snowfall at Freehold and the work involved to help clearing snow from the roofs to avoid overloads. Volunteers might be needed on an ad hoc basis.

The membership was reminded that FALLC shares are available for sale especially for active non-shareholders (thereby avoiding the annual \$500 surcharge for full members). At the same time it was pointed out that loan holders to the FALLC can convert their loans into shares.

John and Betty Boyce and all other contributors were thanked for the food arrangements.

Meeting adjourned 10:15 p.m.

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\*\*\* ET CETERA \*\*\*

**Jeanne Duckworth** has graciously accepted the position of Hospitality Coordinator. Jeanne will be contacting members to assist in the provision of refreshments for membership meetings.

NUTMEG SOARING ASSOCIATION  
ANNUAL BANQUET 2003

Saturday, February 15, 2003

(snow date Sunday, February 16)

THE SOUTHBURY HILTON

Southbury, CT

Reception 6:00 - 7:00 PM

Cheese & Fruit Platter      Crudite of Farm Fresh Vegetables      Assorted Mini Quiche  
Sesame Chicken w/honey mustard      Stuffed Mushroom Caps      Bruschetta

Dinner Buffet 7:00 - 9:00 PM

Tossed Garden Salad      Chicken Florentine      Sirloin Steak w/Mushroom Ragout  
Poached Atlantic Salmon w/Citrus Butter Sauce      Garlic Basil Mashed Potatoes  
Seasonal Vegetable Medley      Rolls & Butter

Heavenly Dessert Display

Assorted Cakes      Homemade Pies      Mini Italian Pastries and Cookies  
Flavored Mousse      Brownies and Blondies  
Coffee, Decaffeinated Coffee and Tea

**ONLY \$39.00 per person includes tax and gratuity!**

Route 84 - Exit 16: Exiting from Route 84 Westbound turn right at the end of the ramp, proceed to hotel on right just past Mobil station. Exiting from Route 84 Eastbound turn right at the end of the ramp, proceed to hotel on right just past Mobil station. Check out our website at <http://nutmegsoaring.org> for a detailed map.

**NOTE:** A special room rate of \$89 per room (single or double occupancy) for Banquet 2003 attendees has been arranged with the Southbury Hilton. You must reserve your room by calling the hotel directly at 203-264-8703. **Deadline for making room reservations at this special rate is Saturday, February 1, 2003.**

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Cut and Mail

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Number of attendees: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Total Enclosed @ \$39.00 per person: \_\_\_\_\_ (checks payable to Nutmeg Soaring Association)

**NOTE:** All banquet reservations must be prepaid and received no later than February 10, 2003. Tickets will be held for pick up at the door. NO phone reservations accepted. NO refunds.

Please Return with Full Payment to:

Michelle Molnar  
175 Old Highway  
Southbury, CT 06488