



The Air Bubble

The Newsletter of the
Chicagoland Glider Council
Est. January 17th, 1937

- December 2013 -

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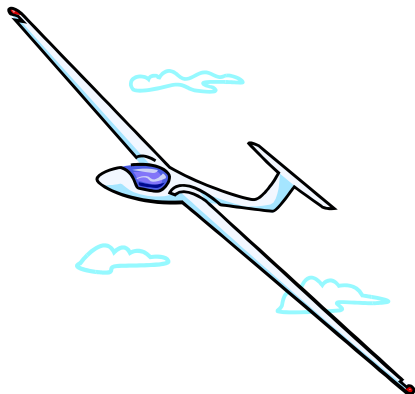
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<http://chicagolandglidercouncil.com>



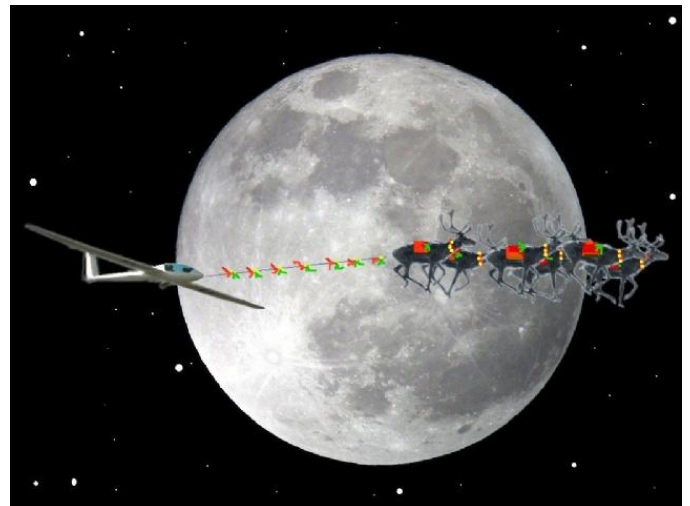
December CLGC Meeting "Radio Controlled Drones" Speaker: Mike Garrett of the Palos Radio Control Club Don't Miss It!!

Tuesday, December 10, 7:30PM
Herrick Junior High School

Synopsis: Mike will be presenting on 'drones' and similar remote controlled civil airplanes. He will do a show-and-tell on his machines and fly them in the cafeteria, "weather permitting". He will also bring some videos of scenes he took from those devices.



The Palos Radio Control club (<http://palosrc.com>) flies often at the Cook County Forest Preserve at 107th and LaGrange Road in Palos Hills on a paved runway. The club has a general meeting on the first Monday of each month. And they host a glider event every year!



Palos Radio Control Club's 2013 Glider Event



The Night Before Christmas (for Aviators)

(Author Unknown)

Twas the night before Christmas, and out on the ramp,
Not an airplane was stirring, not even a Champ.
The aircraft were fastened to tiedowns with care,
In hopes that come morning, they all would be there.

The fuel trucks were nestled, all snug in their spots,
With gusts from two-forty at 39 knots.
I slumped at the fuel desk, now finally caught up,
And settled down comfortably, resting my butt.

When the radio lit up with noise and with chatter,
I turned up the scanner to see what was the matter.
A voice clearly heard over static and snow,
Called for clearance to land at the airport below.

He barked his transmission so lively and quick,
I'd have sworn that the call sign he used was "St. Nick".
I ran to the panel to turn up the lights,
The better to welcome this magical flight.

He called his position, no room for denial,
"St. Nicholas One, turnin' left onto final."
And what to my wondering eyes should appear,
But a Rutan-built sleigh, with eight Rotax Reindeer!

With vectors to final, down the glideslope he came,
As he passed all fixes, he called them by name:
"Now Ringo! Now Tolga! Now Trini and Bacun!
On Comet! On Cupid!" What pills was he takin'?

While controllers were sittin', and scratchin' their head,
They phoned to my office, and I heard it with dread,
The message they left was both urgent and dour:
"When Santa pulls in, have him please call the tower."

He landed like silk, with the sled runners sparking,
Then I heard "Left at Charlie," and "Taxi to parking."
He slowed to a taxi, turned off of three-oh
And stopped on the ramp with a "Ho, ho-ho-ho..."

He stepped out of the sleigh, but before he could talk,
I ran out to meet him with my best set of chocks.
His red helmet and goggles were covered with frost
And his beard was all blackened from Reindeer exhaust.

His breath smelled like peppermint, gone slightly pale,
And he puffed on a pipe, but he didn't inhale.
His cheeks were all rosy and jiggled like jelly,
His boots were as black as a cropduster's belly.

He was chubby and plump, in his suit of bright red,
And he asked me to "fill it, with hundred low-lead."
He came dashing in from the snow-covered pump,
I knew he was anxious for drainin' the sump.

I spoke not a word, but went straight to my work,
And I filled up the sleigh, but I spilled like a jerk.
He came out of the restroom, and sighed in relief,

Then he picked up a phone for a Flight Service brief.

And I thought as he silently scribed in his log,
These reindeer could land in an eighth-mile fog.
He completed his pre-flight, from the front to the rear,
Then he put on his headset, and I heard him yell, "Clear!"

And laying a finger on his push-to-talk,
He called up the tower for clearance and squawk.
"Take taxiway Charlie, the southbound direction,
Turn right three-two-zero at pilot's discretion"

He sped down the runway, the best of the best,
"Your traffic's a Grumman, inbound from the west."
Then I heard him proclaim, as he climbed thru the night,
"Merry Christmas to all! I have traffic in sight."

Glider Ground School! Jan 12-Feb 23, 2014



In the absence of some good glider flying weather it is a great time to focus on the administrative side to aviation. Ground school!!

Sky Soaring will be hosting a winter ground school Sunday's from 3PM to 6PM at the Schaumburg Municipal Airport, January 12th, 2014 and concluding Sunday February 23rd.

The cost will be \$225 per participant for the 7 weeks of instruction and will include Dave Seymour's wonderful FAA Exam Preparation Guide. This course will prepare participants to pass the oral examination and written test required at either the private or commercial levels. Also serves as a great refresher course for those that want to make sure their knowledge is ready for the 2014 flying season.

Note* - Those who need to take a written exam will receive the required logbook endorsement to take the test upon successful completion of the course.

If you are interested, please RSVP no later than December 29th, 2013 directly to me (aaron.scicluna@gmail.com) with your full name and desired training objective (private, commercial, or refresher only). Please RSVP ASAP so that the books can arrive on time! Watch for more detailed information to be sent out within the next few weeks. Questions please let me know.

Aaron Scicluna,
CFIG and Sky Soaring Flight Chairman

Review of the Glider Driver Battery Monitor LED

There are many ways to monitor the voltage of your batteries in your glider. In some cases your navigation equipment or other avionics will let you know the input voltage it sees on the 12Vdc bus. Quite a few gliders have installed simple analog or digital voltmeters in their panels (see the review in the January 2005 issue of the CLGC newsletter which can be found at; http://chicagolandglidercouncil.com/newsletter_files/CLGCNewsletterJan05.pdf).

Well, the Glider Driver folks based in the United Kingdom have come up with a simple go/no-go LED (light emitting diode) that can tell you at the glance how your batteries are doing.

Based on a two color LED and some circuitry optimized for non-powered aircraft, this simple system will indicate you glider's battery voltage at four different levels as shown below.

Green - Good Battery voltage more than 12.1V
Yellow - Battery voltage between 11.75V and 12.1V
Red - Low Battery voltage is less than 11.75V
Flashing Red - Battery voltage is less than 10.0V

Mounting is ultra easy by drilling a 6.5mm (1/4") hole for the included mounting ring. Connect it to your power bus and you have a complete installation. Simple, small, easy – it is a great device!



For more details and pricing, see this web site http://gliderdriver.net/battery_monitor.htm.

Directions to the CLGC Meeting Location

At Herrick Junior High School located at
4435 Middaugh Rd, Downers Grove, IL.

Detailed directions are available at;

<http://tinyurl.com/CLGCDIRECTIONS>

2014 CLGC Dues Are Due!

Please send in your ChicagoLand Glider Council dues no later than January 1, 2014. The dues are \$10 for the 2014 calendar year. Reminder that for the following clubs' members, your CLGC dues are included in your membership; Chicago Glider Club, Sky Soaring Glider Club and Windy City Soaring Association.

The 2014 membership renewal form can be found at the end of this newsletter. Please complete it and send your dues payment via check or money order to;

ChicagoLand Glider Council
6538 N. Nordica
Chicago, IL 60631

Thank you for your support.

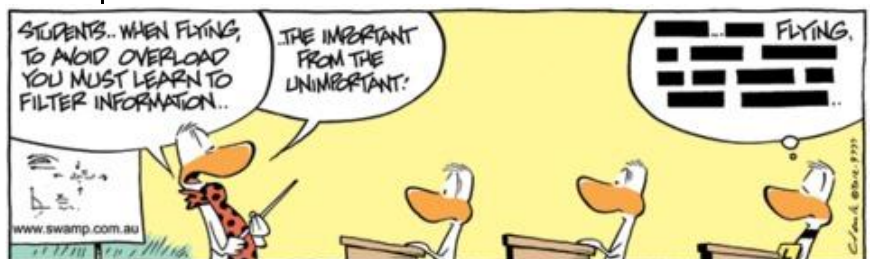
2014 CLGC Youth Grant!!

Applications are being taken for the 2014 CLGC Youth Grant of \$500. The applicant must meet all of the following requirements:

- Be a member in good standing of the ChicagoLand Glider Council as of January 1st, 2014 and,
- Be between the ages of 14 and 21 (inclusive) as of January 1st, 2014 and,
- Reside within 50 miles of Chicago and,
- Did not receive the previous year's \$500 grant (but you might win a secondary grant) and,
- Obtain a written recommendation from a Certified Flight Instructor Glider (CFIG) who is familiar with the applicant's qualifications and,
- Write an original essay of 500-1000 words on "What Soaring Means to Me..." and,
- Send all necessary documentation to the committee **no later than midnight, March 1st, 2014**

Complete details at can be found at

<http://chicagolandglidercouncil.com/grant>



Upcoming 2013-2014 Aviation Events

- ❖ December 10 - CLGC Monthly Meeting
 - Radio Controlled Drones
- ❖ January 1 – CLGC Dues are due
- ❖ January 12 through February 23 (Sundays)
 - Glider Ground School at Schaumburg Municipal Airport
- ❖ January 14 - CLGC Monthly Meeting
 - Topic TBD
- ❖ February 1 – 99's Safety Seminar, Location TBD
- ❖ February 11 - CLGC Monthly Meeting
 - Topic TBD
- ❖ February 27 - March 1 – SSA Convention, Reno, NV
- ❖ March 1 – CLGC Youth Grant Submission Deadline
- ❖ March 11 - CLGC Monthly Meeting
 - Topic TBD
- ❖ April 8 - CLGC Monthly Meeting
 - Topic TBD

Newsletter Contributions?

Pictures? Accomplishments? Suggestions? Articles? Speaker Topics? Please let us know! If you have anything that you would like to have included in future newsletters or meetings. **PLEASE** send them to JOHN@DEROSAWEB.COM or call 847-844-8776.

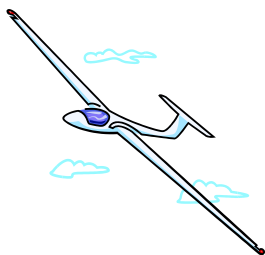
CLGC Newsletter Archive Old CLGC Newsletters Needed!!

Did you know that there is an archive of CLGC newsletters dating back to 2001 on the CLGC web site? Take a look. <http://chicagolandglidercouncil.com/newsletter.htm>.

Do you have any old CLGC newsletters? We would love to scan them in for the archives. Contact John DeRosa at john@derosaweb.com.

Moved? New Email?

Please let us know to keep our database up to date. Send an email to JOHN@DEROSAWEB.COM or call 847-844-8776 Thanks!!



~ Contest Time ~ Who is this Famous Aviator?



Hint: Which way did he go?

Contest Time Answers from
Previous Newsletters
March, 2013 – William Boeing →



Soaring in Utah





**2014 ChicagoLand Glider Council
Membership/Renewal Application & Change of Information Form**

Membership Renewal Due Date: January 1, 2014

Please mail this form with a check or money order for \$10
made payable to "ChicagoLand Glider Council" to:

**ChicagoLand Glider Council
c/o John O'Brien
6538 N. Nordica
Chicago, IL 60631**

Your Name _____

Your Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Email Address (**please print very clearly**) _____

Phone Number(s) Home _____ Work _____ Cellular _____

Primary Airport and/or Club where you fly _____

Pilot ratings that you hold (student, private, commercial, instructor, etc) _____

Type of Glider(s) that you own _____

Please check the appropriate box(es) below

New Member Membership Renewal Change of Street Address Change of E-Mail Address

Change of Telephone Change of Glider/Airport Information

ChicagoLand Glider Council

2014 Soaring Youth Grant

The ChicagoLand Glider Council Grant program is hosted under the auspices of the membership of the council and is paid by their dues. A primary grant of **\$500** is awarded each year. Other secondary grant(s) may be awarded based on merit. This grant will be paid directly to the recipient's home soaring operation and placed "on account" for use by the recipient for their continuing soaring education.

Application Requirements: The applicant must meet all of the following requirements:

- Be a member in good standing of the ChicagoLand Glider Council as of January 1st, 2014 and,
- Be between the ages of 14 and 21 (inclusive) as of January 1st, 2014 and,
- Reside within 50 miles of Chicago and,
- Did not receive the previous year's \$500 grant (but you might win a secondary grant) and,
- Obtain a written recommendation from a Certified Flight Instructor Glider (CFIG) who is familiar with the applicant's qualifications and,
- Write an original essay of 500-1000 words on "What Soaring Means to Me...." and,
- Send all necessary documentation to the email address and surface mail address shown below **no later than midnight, March 1st, 2014.**

Applicant Information

Name _____

Current Age: _____ Birth date: _____ / _____ / _____

Address: _____

City/State & Zip: _____ Phone: _____

Soaring Location(s): _____

Submit this application and all required documentation to the ChicagoLand Glider Council Grant Committee via the email address listed below (required) or via the surface mail address below. The application and documentation must be received **no later than March 1st, 2014.**

The ChicagoLand Glider Council Grant Committee consists of the board of the ChicagoLand Glider Council. Decisions of the committee are final. Grantee(s) will be announced at the regular CLGC meeting during March or April.

Applications and other information is available at <http://chicagolandglidercouncil.com/grant>. Good luck!

Email to: john@derosaweb.com

Surface Mail to;

<p>ChicagoLand Glider Council Grant Committee c/o John DeRosa 35W529 Parsons Rd West Dundee, IL 60118</p>
