



ChicagoLand Glider Council Newsletter

January, 2005

Board of Directors

President - John DeRosa
Vice-President - Scott Wolf
Secretary - Logan Weck
Treasurer - (currently vacant)
Past-President / Director - Curt Lewis

<http://chicagolandglidercouncil.com>

CLGC Mid-America Spring Soaring & Safety Seminar Saturday, March 19th, 2005

The ChicagoLand Glider Council is proud to sponsor a day long spring soaring and safety seminar open to all soaring pilots. Safety, medicine, racing, competition, gear, gliders and gab will be on the agenda.

The cost of this event is being underwritten in part by the ChicagoLand Glider Council and is being kept as reasonably priced as possible to allow as many pilots to attend. Cost of the seminar will be \$25 for CLGC members and \$40 for non-members. Cost includes a breakfast buffet, break refreshments and a luncheon. Non-member cost will also include a free one year membership in the

CLGC An optional social dinner is being planned and is available for \$30 additional per person.

The location of the seminar is Elgin, Illinois at the Business Conference Center of Elgin Community College's impressive and modern Seigle Auditorium (pictured).



Confirmed speakers at this event;

Dennis Wright Executive Director, Soaring Society of America
George Thelen Soaring magazine's "Safety Corner" columnist
Dr Dan Johnson Five time past SSA convention speaker on aviation medicine
John Cochrane 2004 Sport Class National Champion
Herb Kilian 2004 Region Seven 15 Meter Class Champion

You should definitely NOT miss this event. Sign up soon! A registration form is included with this newsletter. Registration deadline is March 5th. More details can be found at the <http://chicagolandglidercouncil.com> web site.

CLGC Contributes to SSA Funds

As you are most likely aware from reading Soaring magazine, the Soaring Society of American (SSA) is working to raise funds in two different and important areas.

The first is the ongoing Eagle Fund effort to raise money to "...enable the SSA to improve existing services, respond better to member needs, and enhance our ability to champion and defend against regulatory encroachment." See <http://ssa.org/society/eaglefund.asp> for more details.

The second, somewhat more recent, fund raising effort is the SSA Building Fund to repair and upgrade the offices in Hobbs, New Mexico. Information on the ongoing efforts in this area can be found in the SSA's online newsletter at <http://ssa.org> (members section).

The CLGC board has spend many weeks in determining how best the council can help the SSA. With important input from the members of the CLGC during the December monthly meeting, the board has agreed to the following gifts to the SSA.

Eagle Fund - The ChicagoLand Glider Council will contribute \$1,000 to the SSA Eagle Fund to be used by the SSA on projects of their choosing.

Building Fund - The ChicagoLand Glider Council will contribute \$2,000 to the SSA Building Fund to be used by the SSA on the repair and upgrade of the SSA facilities in Hobbs.

I want to personally thank every member of the ChicagoLand Glider Council without whom these important contributions to the SSA could not have been possible. These are your council dues in action at a national level. Congratulations.

Electronics Review

Lascar Panel Mount Voltmeter

By John DeRosa

Every glider pilot needs to know the charge condition of their glider's battery before each flight. Yet most don't. The average pilot charges the battery and assumes that they are ready for their flight. Batteries become more and more critical as you add more and more electronics to the avionics system. Audio radios and transceivers (radios) are the two most common on board energy consumers. Add in flight computers, artificial horizons, transponders and electrically heated socks (we wish!) and we only add to the burden on the electrical system.

Typically knowing the voltage of the battery is a simple and fairly accurate way of knowing how your battery is doing. Most sailplanes have no indication of battery voltage whatsoever. Even though my Cambridge 302 flight computer has a built in voltmeter, I find that it is difficult to find the right 302 information screen at the same time as flying safely, especially in a crowded gaggle. I needed something different.

My winter project was to find a voltmeter that I could quickly glance at as I flew and before I took off, to immediately and constantly know how my battery was doing. I looked at standard aviation instrument panel sized voltmeters (too expensive), simple inexpensive light emitting diode gauges (cheap but difficult to mount and to see in direct sunlight) and some of my own design (the current draw was too high or the indicator was too simple). Nothing seemed to be the right combination for me.



After reading a review in rec.aviation.soaring (see "Internet Resources" below) about the Lascar panel mounted voltmeter I found myself interested to see if this device would fit my requirements. The answer is a resounding YES!



The Lascar model EMV 1200 is small enough to fit easily in the cockpit and yet large enough (7/8" x 1-11/16" with 1/2" display) to easily read. It is

light weight (less than an ounce), easy to read in direct sunlight (LCD display) and easy to mount (a simple threaded stud). It reads from 0 to 24 Vdc and only draws 3ma with reverse polarity protection and is splash proof. The device is relatively inexpensive at \$25.

The wires are routed through the mounting stud so all you need is one small hole (7/32") and a little panel space to enjoy the benefit of constant battery status. The device is available from Allied Electronics (<http://www.alliedelec.com>) and other electronics sources. I have even seen it on eBay.

A Word of Caution – You should work with a licensed FAA avionics technician before you perform this type of work on your sailplane. 'Nuf said.

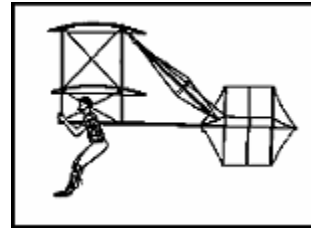
January CLGC Meeting!

"One Hundred and Twelve Years of Gliding and Soaring in Chicagoland"

Don't Miss It!!

January 11th, 2004

See an exciting multimedia presentation of vintage photography and video footage showing how Chicago has been a center of soaring and glider activities, research and development stretching back to the dawn of flight. Presented by Simine Short who is an aviation historian and National Museum's Program." She more than 100 history of flight, United States is a collector of



the Chair of the Soaring "Landmark has written papers on the motor-less published in the and Europe. She Glider related

postage stamps. In her professional career, Simine is currently employed as an instrumental analytical chemist at the Materials Science Division/Intense Pulsed Neutron Source, Argonne National Laboratory, Argonne, Illinois.

ChicagoLand Glider Council Youth Scholarships

Each year the CLGC presents one or more youth Scholarships. We all know that the youth is the future of soaring and we must foster their efforts as often as we can. This scholarship is your CLGC dues in action in a direct and positive way. Please pass the application form included with this newsletter to any soaring youths that you may be aware of.

The requirements to apply for the scholarship are;

- Be a member in good standing of the ChicagoLand Glider Council,
- Be between the ages of 14 and 21 (inclusive as of March 19th, 2005),
- Provide proof of a private glider pilot rating (or higher) or solo log book endorsement,
- Obtain a written recommendation from a Certified Flight Instructor Glider (CFIG) who is familiar with the applicant's qualifications and,
- Write an original typed essay of 500-1000 words on "What Soaring Means to Me....".

Again, please pass the attached application form to any soaring youths who would like to take advantage of this important program.

Your Dues Are Due!

Dues are the way that the ChicagoLand Glider Council does it work. Without you, your volunteerism and your dues the Council cannot bring speakers and seminars to the area and reach out with youth scholarships, etc. Please use the form included in this newsletter to pay your dues and update our records. Stay current and stay informed. If you have received a hard copy of this newsletter the date of your last year of paid dues is on the mailing label. If it doesn't say 2005, your dues are due today! Thanks!

UPCOMING EVENTS

- Jan 8-9 SSA/SSF Flight instructor Refresher Course, Lombard, IL (see details in this newsletter)
- Jan 11th Regular CLGC Meeting "One Hundred and Twelve Years of Gliding and Soaring in Chicagoland" (see details in this newsletter)
- Feb 8th Regular CLGC meeting - TBA
- Feb 9-13 Soaring Society of America Convention, Ontario, CA
- Feb/Apr MCC Glider Pilot Ground School (see details in this newsletter)
- **Mar 8th Regular CLGC Meeting CANCELED see Mar 19th CLGC event**
- Mar 19th CLGC Spring Soaring & Safety Seminar All day long event!
- Apr 19th Regular CLGC Meeting – "Glider Electronic and Electrical Wiring Basics"
- May 28/June 4 Region 7 Contest, Albert Lea, MN. See <http://www.soarmn.com> for details.

The CLGC Needs a "Financier"

Have you ever balanced a check book? Do you know how to type? Then you are our man (or woman as the case may be)! The CLGC needs someone to help out on the books. The duties are light and the past Treasurer, John Harrison, is willing to help out in any way that he can in the transition. Duties include; maintain Council checking account, maintain savings account, direct investment strategy, receive dues and disburse payments for Council authorized business and maintain the membership list. Not too tough.

Glider Pilot Ground School



Pass this on to anyone you know who might want to become a glider pilot or are in the process of working on their private pilot exam. Learn the fine points of gliding through this McHenry County College hosted adult education course. Learn what you will need to know to complete the FAA glider pilot written exam. The class will discuss the theory of flight and weather, the FAA regulations and airspace, as well as considering the options for flight instruction in gliders. Must be at least 14 years or older. Class will meet on Thursday evenings, from Feb. 24 through April 14 in Marengo, IL. Cost is \$79. More info from McHenry County College - 815 455-3700.

Newsletter Contributions Anyone?

Please let us know what achievements are taking place at your club or with yourself can include them in future newsletters. If you have any information or photos and advertisement that you would like to have included in future newsletters please send them to captainlogan_cal7576@yahoo.com, john@derosaweb.com or 847-844-8776. Also if you have any articles you would like to write that are soaring related, please send them as well. Any suggestions at all are very welcome!

Changes? We Don't Need no Stinkin' Changes

Sure we do. Have you moved? Has your email address changed recently? CLGC needs to know. Be sure to use the attached change of address form and return it soon. Don't know if your address is right or wrong in our records? Just send in a change form anyway. Thanks!

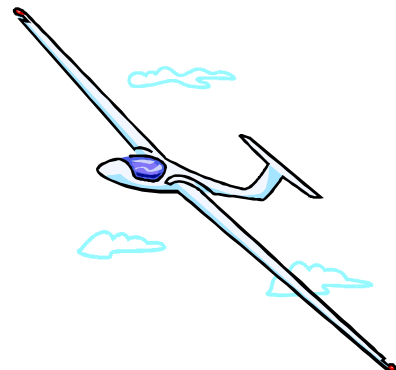
Internet Soaring Resources

Have you ever read the Internet news group related to soaring? The group, known as rec.aviation.soaring is a great resource to ask questions and get answers...or to add your own answers to other's questions. The rec.aviation.soaring Internet news group is available at <http://groups.google.com/group/rec.aviation.soaring>.

AVIATION CLASSIFIED ADVERTISEMENTS

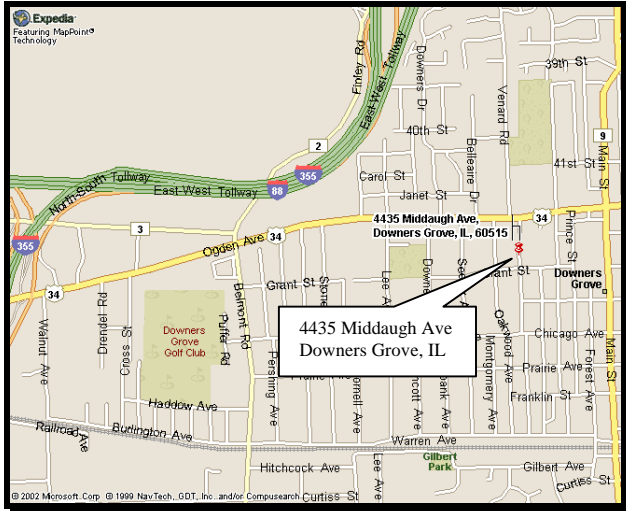
Do you have something to buy, sell or trade? Free listings to all CLGC members. \$10 per listed item per month for non-members. Drop us a line at: captainlogan_cal7576@yahoo.com.

For Sale – ASW20 B in Outstanding condition, Hilton Cup winner. Hangar'ed at Windy City Soaring – Hinckley, IL. Contact Robert Rydin rbydin@comcast.net or 630-513-5947 for more information.



Directions to the CLGC Meeting Hall

at the Herrick Junior High School located in Downers Grove, IL.



Detailed directions are available at;

<http://skysoaring.com/modules/gallery/directions>

2004 Club Totals

Here is a listing of some interesting facts about two of the local soaring clubs in Chicago during 2004. Lots of action in all these clubs!

Windy City Soaring

Number of tows, club and private = 1903
Number of flight hours = 540 in club ships
Badges = 14 A, 6 B, 1 C, 1 Bronze, 1 Silver
First Solos = 14
Certifications = 1 private, 1 commercial, 1 CFIG
Membership = 80 (50 new members)

Sky Soaring Glider Club

Number of tows, club and private = 1514
CAP flights = 45
Number of flight hours = 469.9 Hours in club ships
Badges = 2 A, 2 B, 3 C, 2 Bronze
First Solos = 7
Certifications = 3 private, 3 commercial, 1 CFIG
Membership = 83 (27 new members)

What have the other clubs been doing? Drop us a line at john@derosaweb.com or 847-844-8776.



2005 ChicagoLand Glider Council Membership/Renewal Application & Change of Information Form

Mail to: John DeRosa, 35W529 Parsons Rd, West Dundee, IL 60118
Please remit \$10 for annual dues via check payable to "ChicagoLand Glider Council"

Your Name _____

Your Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Email Address (please print very clearly) _____ Phone _____

Type of Glider(s) you own, if any _____

Primary Airport /Club where you fly _____

Pilot ratings that you hold _____

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 I am able to receive the CLGC Newsletter via E-Mail

