

# CONVECTOR

December  
2008

photo by Baude Litt

NEWSLETTER OF  
THE MID-ATLANTIC SOARING ASSOCIATION

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## From the Board

by Michael Higgins

**Off-Season Aircraft Support.** M-ASA's 2008 scheduled operating season has wrapped up and we're heading into the dark winter months. Although M-ASA doesn't schedule OD/tow duty during the winter months, there is still a lot to do to support the club operation. First and foremost is aircraft maintenance and repair. Fortunately, we did not see any serious flying accidents or have serious damage to club aircraft this season. But we did have some fairly significant dents, scrapes, and dings occur that have grounded a couple of gliders, which will require winter repair. Two gliders (the K7 and 1-36) are grounded at Frederick due to runway light strikes. And the Grob Twin Astir needs a fiberglass repair due to a suspected light strike as well. Yes, each glider has a Godfather who will be coordinating and managing the repair efforts (as well as doing much of it themselves). But they need help. If you have a free weekend, please email Gary Baker, Paul Rehm, or Victor Filipchuk and offer to spend a couple of hours assisting. As we all know, M-ASA has successfully been running on volunteer support, but unfortunately, we've seen the same small group of volunteers doing much of the work (such as glider repairs). It's time for other members to step up and help with these off-season tasks. Working on a glider with friends is a great way to spend a cold rainy winter day. Almost any winter weekend day there is some sort of club aircraft repair or maintenance activity going on. So, come on out and help.

**Another Safe Year.** Other than the light strike incidents mentioned above, we've had a largely accident-free year. Certainly, we've not severely damaged any glider, or injured any people, or violated any TFR, or inflicted any other big problem on ourselves or others. So I thank all the M-ASA glider pilots, tow pilots, operation directors, and other support members for another safe

## Events Calendar

*December/January*  
**Club Introductory Meeting, contact Wayne Elseth (see page 12)**

*December 18th-Deadline for Campbell Award Submissions*

*January 10th- Annual Banquet*

▶▶ year. One of the strengths of glider clubs, and of M-ASA in particular, is the operational safety that develops due to peer review, feedback, and training. We all watch each other and step forward to point out potential problems and to assist if needed. Our more experienced members and instructors have been, and continue to be, very diligent with overseeing safe glider operations. We must all continue to work hard at fostering this safety culture and not become complacent. Various operational safety items and training will be focused on as we approach the new flying season in March.

**Annual Banquet – 10 January.** One of the highlights of the off-season at M-ASA is the winter Annual Banquet. This year the banquet is scheduled for Saturday January 10th – much earlier in the winter than in past years. The site is again at the Ceresville Mansion, just north of FDK. Also note that it is on a Saturday evening this year rather than a Friday evening. This should make attendance easier for those having to travel some distance through rush-hour traffic zones. We're now working on the evening's agenda and will be announcing a dinner speaker within a few days. Please get your reservation and check to Sharon Pixton, our Banquet Manager, as soon as possible.

**Campbell Award Nominations.** Each winter we recognize a member of M-ASA with the Campbell Award. The Campbell Award is given to the member who over an extended period of time has voluntarily contributed extraordinary time, knowledge, and skills to the benefit of M-ASA. This is for non-flying achievement – for contributing to the administration, management, maintenance, organization, membership, or other necessary functions of the club. This year the Board is accepting nominations until December 18th. After that date, the Board will review the candidates and select the individual for the honor. Please email or US mail your nomination, with a short description of why the individual nominated should be considered, to any of the current M-ASA Board members.

**Special Winter Ops.** Even though the scheduled flying season is over, please remember that we do have occasional nonscheduled flying operations throughout the winter. One winter event that is now in the planning stage is a "Ridge Camp" at Front Royal, Virginia. Once we get a weather forecast indicating a Saturday or Sunday ridge day, we intend to trailer our Grob 103 to Front Royal and conduct dual instruction on the Massanutten ridge. Our friends at Skyline Soaring have been very accommodating about having M-ASA members visit and fly there. If you're interested in participating in such a road trip, either with your own glider or by riding in the Grob, please contact me and I'll see that you're on the email distribution list.



*M-ASA president Mike Higgins in his Discus 2 on the Massanutten ridges*

*photo by Baude Litt*

I hope all M-ASA members enjoy the holiday season and have fond memories of their 2008 soaring adventures.

## Schedule Preferences

*by Ray Watson*

It is time to get ready for the 2009 Soaring Season.

Preferences for next year are accepted, either by postal mail or e-mail. Go to M-ASA web site and click on members preferences <http://www.m-asa.org/cgi-bin/schedulePref.pl>. Congratulations to newly rated glider pilots, I have no way of knowing this unless you indicate this on your duty preference form.

In preparing for the new season, it is necessary to update and review the scheduling database. All preferences are cleared at the end of each year and new data is requested from all members. Exemptions must be requested and are subject to the approval of the president. Send your preferences in early, have your assignments early and fly during the best part of the season. ▶

▶▶ Please provide me with information on your preferences for OD and tow pilot duty for 2009. If you have preferences you wish to be considered, you must fill out and mail this form. If no form is received by the end of the annual meeting, it will be assumed that you have no preference. I would like to receive the new forms as quickly as possible for making the new season duty schedule.

This information will help me accommodate your wishes, while fulfilling the club's needs. Preferences will be accommodated only as long as club needs are met. If there are any days you prefer, or dates when you will not be available for duty, please list them below. If you do not get Federal Holidays off work, you should mark the space below. When completed, please cut out the form and mail it to me.

## M-ASA 2008 Duty Preference Form

Member Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Duty Type:           \_\_\_ Operations Director/Record Keeper           \_\_\_ Licensed Glider Pilot  
                          \_\_\_ Tow Pilot   \_\_\_ I am under 21 years old  
                          \_\_\_ Exempt (requires explanation): \_\_\_\_\_

Field Preference (check one):

- \_\_\_ I have no preference.
- \_\_\_ I prefer Fairfield, but will serve at either site.
- \_\_\_ I prefer Fairfield and do not wish to serve at Frederick
- \_\_\_ I prefer Frederick, but will serve at either site.
- \_\_\_ I prefer Frederick and do not wish to serve at Fairfield.

Federal Holidays:       \_\_\_ I am available for duty on Federal holidays.  
                              \_\_\_ I am not available for duty on Federal Holidays.

Additional Scheduling Considerations — Enter any dates for which you will be unavailable. You may also indicate a Saturday or Sunday preference. Enter the start date and stop date of any period you can't serve. Tow Pilots — enter your desire for any additional assignments. \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

From: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Ray Watson  
M-ASA Duty Scheduler  
7513 Rockridge Road  
Baltimore, MD 21208-5733

## Annual M-ASA Banquet, January 10, 2009

by Sharon Pixton

Please plan to join us for the 2009 Annual Banquet on Saturday evening, January 10th. This year's dinner will be held at the Ceresville Mansion, 8529 Liberty Rd, Frederick, Md., 21701 (301-898-3443). Cocktails will be served beginning at 7:00 pm; dinner will be served at 7:45 pm.

This year's speaker is still to be determined. For now, I would appreciate your completing the coupon below and returning it to me with your reservation (and your check!). It will be necessary to receive all reservations by January 1, 2009. This means you don't have the luxury of waiting weeks to respond – we need you to do so now! You will only have this one Convector reminder unlike previous years. So please don't procrastinate!

Additionally, as you complete the coupon below, please share your guest's full name as well as your own.

Please reserve your seats now by returning the coupon below. The cost is \$35 per person. You may learn more about the site, including directions, by visiting [www.ceresville.com](http://www.ceresville.com).

### M-ASA Annual Banquet, January 10, 2009.

I plan to attend: \_\_\_\_\_

I plan to bring \_\_\_\_\_ as my guest(s).

A check in the amount of \$ \_\_\_\_\_ is enclosed. Make checks payable to M-ASA.

Please return this coupon to:  
 Sharon Pixton  
 8206 Lookout Lane  
 Frederick, Md. 21702

### Help Wanted:

*M-ASA Webmaster (for website maintenance and improvements).*

*Glider Maintenance Manager.*

*Email or talk to any Board member or Officer if you're interested in these one of these jobs.*

# Duty

# Schedule

by Ray Watson

Date	Field	Operations Director (OD)	Tow Pilot	Assistant Ops Director (AOD)
TBD				

**Schedule Operations have concluded for the 2008 season, please see pages 2 and 3 for information on how to designate your preferences for the 2009 season.**

**M-ASA Duty Notes:** Members assigned to operations duty must be on site in enough time to start operations by 10:00 a.m. and stay at the field until operations are concluded. Each person listed on the duty roster is responsible for that day's assignment. In the case of "no-shows," the person acting as OD should indicate this fact on the flight sheet. "No-shows" will be fined \$100. Every effort will be made to accommodate the new member's stated duty preference whenever possible. M-ASA Scheduler: Ray Watson 410-484-0333.



*Airfield Luesse-Berlin (11,000 ft long, 1000 ft, wide) with approximately 130 gliders on the grid, towplanes land up the middle. Location of WGC 2008.*

*photo by Walter Striedieck*

FOR SALE: Libelle H301 N7879. Basic instruments, all aluminum trailer (the "Lufthansa", "Toto Lotto" trailer). Current annual and flown this year. Contact Alan Meyer, 410-833-5979, ameyer2@yahoo.com.

FOR SALE: Security Seat Pack Parachute, highest offer over \$650 will take it, free shipping, contact ex-M-ASA member John Brent at 601-796-4932 or jtbrent@bellsouth.net.

FOR SALE: 1/5 memberships offered in '47 Luscombe 8E, all metal, 30 gal fuel, good looking interior, new glass, Cessna seats, GPS, Com+transponder, low-time engine, hydraulic breaks, wheel pants. Based at FDK, well run LLC, 3 year operation. Put the fun back in flying basic stick and rudder, plus tail wheel endorsement. All at a cost that is really affordable. Call me for a demo. Dick Bernstein 240-446-5827

FOR SALE: **SGS 1-26B-#338**, recent museum quality restoration-Army Air Corp color scheme, with trailer and many accessories. may be one of the best 1-26's around. Located: M-ASA Frederick \$7300 Call Jack Goehring, Cell 703-727-8941, Office 703-821-8222

FOR SALE: **Discus B** with only 350 hours. Manufactured by Schempp-Hirth (Germany) in 1986. Sage vario with averager, M-Nav, Becker Radio, ELT, oxygen, tilt up instrument panel, tail wheel, light blue tinted canopy. All aluminum Cobra trailer with glider assembly gear. This glider and trailer is in mint condition, always hangared and cared for. Gel coat, canopy and interior are in excellent condition, extremely clean. Glider is located at Fairfield, Pa, registration n44uu Contact Milan at e-mail: petkovicmilan@aol.Com



FOR SALE: **1969 Slingsby T49B "Capstan"** For Sale. S/N 1664, 2-Place side by side, 479 lb payload, 30:1 L/D, laminar wing, all wood construction, May 2008 Annual, basic instruments, US standard airworthiness certificate, mild aerobatics, terminal velocity divebrakes, worlds largest Cobra trailer (2001), true one man rigging system (20-30 minutes), great dual cross county trainer. Lots of fun to fly. \$24,000.00 Located in Northern Virginia. Contact Shane Neitzey (C)571-259-0042 (O)703-335-8185 (H)703-753-3806 shanessigns@mindspring.com



*Belgian Ambassador to the United States, Dominique Struye de Swielande after a flight with Baude Litt at Fairfield on December 2nd. Baude was able to show the Ambassador thermal, wave and ridge lift in a single flight.*

*photo by Baude Litt*

**WHO TO CALL**

## Godfathers:

Grob 103 (FDK)	Victor Filipchuk
Grob 103 (FFD)	Chris Williams
Grob 103 Trailer	Vacant
Ka-7	Paul Rehm
Ka-8	Jeff Rose
Pilatus B-4	Danny Brotto
Pilatus trailer	Ed Breau
SGS-2-33 (FDK/Orange)	Jean Posbic
SGS-2-33 (FFD/Yellow)	Jerry White
SGS-2-33 (FDK/R&W)	Jim Furlong
SGS 1-36	Gary Baker
SGS 1-36 trailer	Jeff Rose
Tug N7799Z (FFD)	Bob Gardner
Tugs N82096 and N8658L	Bob Andrew (FDK)
Tug N9809 (FDK)	John Vaughan

Chief CFI:	Glenn Collins
Chief Tow Pilot:	Lance Nuckolls
Fairfield Glider Maintenance:	Rich Horigan
Frederick Glider Maintenance:	Dave Schober
Tug Maintenance Officer:	Bob Gardner
Field Safety Officer:	Rick Fuller (FFD) Paul Rehm (FDK)
Fairfield Facility Manager:	Val Brain
Frederick Facility Manager:	Mehrdad Bayat
Mentor Program Lead:	Wayne Elseth
Membership Chairman:	Hope Howard
Convector Editor:	Fred Mueller
Flight Sheet Manager:	Rick Cordell (FFD) Bob Dutilly (FDK)
Hangar Waiting List Officer:	Danny Brotto (FFD) Bill Whelan (FDK)
Roster / Mailing List:	Dan Meyer
Scheduler:	Ray Watson
Task Day Chairman:	Chris O'Callaghan
Webmaster:	Alan Meyer
SSA Regional Director:	Jim Kellett (jim@kellett.com)

(Volunteers are requested to fill empty slots above. Contact the Board if you are interested.)

**Mid-Atlantic Soaring Association**

Board of Directors:	Preston Burch Michael Higgins Hans Jorgensen Jean Posbic Daniel Morris
Officers:	President - Michael Higgins Vice President - Dan Morris Secretary - Manfred Beutgen Treasurer - Michael Hearn

**Club Introductory Meetings****By Wayne Elseth**

We are continuing our series of M-ASA Club Introductory Meetings for 2008. The intent for these meetings is to quickly bring a prospective, new, or returning club members up to speed in club procedures, safety, flight operations, and related topics. The meetings are held monthly, typically alternating between Frederick and Fairfield (but not always), on the Saturday after the monthly club meeting, at 9am. We have a prepared presentation that takes around 1.5 to 2 hours to run through explaining how we run our operations. Intro meetings are held the Saturday after the General Club meeting, rain or shine. Check with Wayne Elseth for last minute changes to time or location via email: [masa@elseth.net](mailto:masa@elseth.net) or 443:812-8815. If you can't make it to one of these flying-day meetings, I'm always happy to get you going with a personal briefing if you contact me. The information being presented is important and we want everyone to attend one of these briefings prior to flying.

If you are interested in being a presenter please contact Wayne Elseth.

December/January Only if requested

**Events Calendar**  
*see front page*

*If you have an event you would like to appear in the Convector, email [convector@m-asa.org](mailto:convector@m-asa.org)*