



NEWSLETTER

MARCH 2024

UPCOMING EVENTS

MONTHLY MEETING

APRIL 13, 2024

BROOKHAVEN AIRPORT

PRESIDENTS MESSAGE- Andrew Apicos

Dear Members,

The good news is that the repairs to the Super Cub are complete and the break in period for the engine has begun. We expect it to be back in full service in early April. John and Steve will be able to check pilots out very soon. Tow pilots will be checked out first, then rated pilots that are also looking to earn their tailwheel rating will also be able to fly. Many thanks to the maintenance team for their hard work and efforts in getting the Super Cub back into service. Therefore, we will be able to resume operations shortly. Unfortunately, the Pawnee suffered damage and I'm awaiting specific information regarding the full extent. Preliminary information from our mechanic is that we'll need a new propeller and repair to the landing gear and left wing. As of this writing, we are not expecting any major engine work. Until then, we will be towing with the Super Cub and we'll need to be cognizant of total weight and climb rates to maintain the appropriate margins of safety especially when towing a two seater. We are considering all possible options to get back to full service.

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CLUB OFFICERS

<i>President</i>	<i>Andrew Apicos</i>
<i>Vice President</i>	<i>Joe Grossmann</i>
<i>Chief Pilot</i>	<i>Brian Robey</i>
<i>Operations</i>	<i>John Bresnik</i>
<i>Maintenance</i>	<i>Ryan Jacobellis</i>
<i>Secretary</i>	<i>Katelyn Erthal</i>
<i>Treasurer</i>	<i>Stephen Cluff</i>
<i>Director at Large</i>	<i>Mike Rudolph</i>
<i>Newsletter/Editor</i>	<i>Stephen Cluff</i>

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OPERATIONS - John Bresnik

We accumulated a total of **58** glider flights in February as detailed below in **Table 1**.
Longest Glider Flight in February: 20 Minutes by Andrew and Alex on **2/24/2024**.

TABLE 1 - GLIDER OPERATIONS

Date	Total	Instruction	Student Solo	Intro Flights	Other	Notes
2/4/2024	14	8	3	0	3	Tow Pilot: Charlie Instructors: Shawn/Andrew Field Manager: Shawn
2/10/2024	9	9	0	0	0	Tow Pilot: Brez Instructors: Brian/Andrew Field Manager: Mike
2/11/2024	12	9	3	0	0	Tow Pilot: Pierre/Wayne Instructors: Steve/Mike Field Manager: Joe
2/24/2024	6	6	0	0	0	Tow Pilot: Brez Instructors: Andrew Field Manager: Joe
2/25/2024	17	11	2	3	1	Tow Pilot: Steve/Wayne Instructors: Steve/Mike/Shawn Field Manager: Joe

The Club 172 (N5361K) flew **16.6** hours and the Pawnee tow plane (N7372Z) accumulated **16.7** hours in February.

- The long-awaited website update is close; the latest iteration includes a built-in scheduling system for morning/afternoon/all day reservations, improved messaging and newsletter support. As mentioned before, the new scheduling system will help to facilitate planning, accommodate guests better, and broadcast last minute cancellations.
- Due to the Pawnee repairs, operations will move forward with single seat ships for the time being using the Super Cub. We are working on attaining a dry lease for another tow plane to cover while the Pawnee is down. Unfortunately, we have to offset the cost in a temporarily raised tow fee to cover it; but it means we can continue training students in the 2-33s.

MAINTENANCE - Ryan Jacobellis

TABLE 2 - AIRCRAFT STATUS

Aircraft	Status	Notes	Annual Due
N2055T (SGS 2-33A)	Grounded	Glider repairs in progress	New Annual Pending Repair
N17956 (SGS 2-33B)	Active	No significant issues	August 2024
N65918 (SGS 2-33A)	Active	No significant Issues	May 2024
N17917 (SGS 1-26E)	Active	No significant Issues	May 2024
N7365 (SGS 1-34)	Active	No significant issues	June 2024
N7372Z (PA-25-235)	Grounded	Under Repair	May 2024
N4016Z (PA-18-150)	Active	No significant issues	March 2025
N5361K (Cessna 172)	Active	No significant Issues	September 2024

FAMOUS GLIDER PILOTS

William Barron Hilton (October 23, 1927 - September 19, 2019), heir to and former President of the Hilton Hotel Corporation, was an avid pilot with over 7300 hours in gliders, helicopters, lighter than air balloons and single and multi-engine airplanes. Hilton was a soaring enthusiast and helped establish the Barron Hilton Cup - a worldwide glider competition, consisting of triangular flights of at least 400 kilometers. Winners of each class were invited to his Flying M Ranch, located in the high Sierra Nevada Mountains, for 10 days of gliding in some of the best soaring conditions around the world.



Barron Hilton and his Duo Discus glider

Glider Exam Questions

1. For a brief summary of the location, movement of fronts, passages, pressure systems, and circulation patterns, the pilot should refer to?
 - a. Graphical Forecasts for Aviation (GFA).
 - b. Terminal Area Forecasts.
 - c. Satellite Maps.
2. What is the expected duration of an individual microburst?
 - a. One microburst may continue for as long as an hour.
 - b. Five minutes with maximum winds lasting approximately 2-4 minutes.
 - c. Seldom longer than 15 minutes from the time the burst strikes the ground until dissipation.
3. Maximum downdrafts in a microburst encounter may be as strong as
 - a. 6000 feet per minute.
 - b. 4500 feet per minute.
 - c. 1500 feet per minute.
4. How long do the maximum intensity winds last in an individual microburst?
 - a. 2-4 minutes.
 - b. 5-10 minutes.
 - c. 15 minutes.

Answers: (1). a (2). c (3). a (4). a

MEMBERSHIP

SSA dues will be billed for March. The rates are the same as last year: **Full member - \$80; Youth member - \$45; Family Member - \$50; Associate Member - \$65**

GOOD AND WELFARE

Not to be outdone by her father, Katelyn Erthal completed her first glider solo on **March 8, 2024**, less than two weeks after her dad James Erthal soloed in a glider. Thanks to recommending instructor Brian Robey and tow pilot Charlie Flagg for the assist. Katelyn is also a private pilot pursuing a tailwheel endorsement, instrument and commercial ratings, in addition to her glider certificate - good luck trying to keep up with her Dad!



Baby Katelyn between mom Sue and pilot dad James Erthal



Katelyn and James no doubt competing on the slopes!