



SOARING SOCIETY OF AMERICA

THE OFFICIAL SITE OF THE SOARING SOCIETY OF AMERICA, INC.

## USA SOARING TEAMS

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## 2007 USA Soaring Team News

### The latest from our soaring teams



### 2007 U.S. Soaring Team News

#### 01/08/2008 - ZIMMERMAN WINS COMMITTEE ELECTION

In a closely contested election, Sam Zimmerman won a three year term to the US Team Committee, edging out John Godfrey and Bill Elliot. Congratulations to Sam, and many thanks to John and Bill for their interest in supporting our international competition efforts.

Sam will take over from Tim Welles, who has done outstanding work over two terms for the Committee. [More on the US team committee...](#)

#### 01/08/2008 - JUNIOR ACHIEVEMENTS IN 2007 RECAPPED

Aside from the Junior World Gliding Championships in Italy ([see the team here](#)) John Campbell, Chairman of the SSA Youth Committee, recaps 2007 junior pilot achievements. "A new young pilot on the scene this year was Boyd Willat (Garret's younger brother), who flew Region 9 and the Std Nationals. Corey Sullivan placed best for the year at the Sports Nationals and also best at the 15m Nationals and looks to be our 2007 Junior Champion. Devin Bargainnier was just a few places behind him at both contests, and both pilots also flew Region 3. Kevin Christner made it to the Sports Nationals in now his 3rd self-owned glider at age 21 (a Mosquito). Sylvia Szafarczyk flew Region 9S in her first own glider (a Libelle). The USAFA was very active on the contest scene with their new X/C coach Matty Matticola) and Discus gliders (Duos and D2bs, contest numbers 4AF through 8AF). They flew Region 9, 9 South and 10. Junior National Champion (Rudy Mozer trophy) best percentage of winner's score at ALL Nationals was Corey Sullivan (.8730 SPT) Nationals Junior Award (Bronze Medallion) best percentage of winner's score at a Nationals Corey Sullivan, Sports Class (.8730) Corey Sullivan, 15m Class (.7391) Boyd Willat, Standard Class (.5637)." For more on the 2007 Junior achievements see the SSA Youth page [here](#).

#### 12/19/2007 - GRAND PRIX STARTS IN NEW ZEALAND

Let the racing begin! Follow Tim Mcallister as he competes in the FAI Grand Prix in New Zealand. The First day was today, December 19 and Tim reports "Today dawned with a heavy overcast and another day of cold winds - this time from the southwest. The weather man promised a soaring day and the weather gods delivered. it was not the boomer of a day we all hope(d) for but the flying was the

### ARCHIVE

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*Archive in Adobe pdf*

### WGC DATES

**1st FAI World GP**  
Dec 19-29, 2007  
Omarama, New Zealand

**Multi Class Team**  
FAI 30th  
Championships  
Open, 18-M, 15-M  
Jly 26-Aug 16, 2008  
Luesse, Germany

**Multi Class Team**  
FAI Championships  
Std., Club, World  
Jly 6-20, 2008  
Rieti, Italy

[Calendar Link](#)

toughest in my racing career." See [Tim's Blog](#) (its excellent!) or go direct to the official [Grand Prix web site](#).

### 12/12/2007 - CHANGES TO SPORTS CLASS TEAM SELECTION

Beginning in the 2008 soaring season, the US Team Committee will change the criteria for selecting members to the Club Class Team. In the Club Class World Championships, pilots must fly in a glider with a (US) handicap approximately between 0.900 and 1.140. In the past, US Club Class selection has been open to all pilots flying the Sports Class Nationals regardless of handicap. It has been suggested that the criteria for selection of the US Club Class team should be better match the IGC Club Class in order to better prepare our pilots for WGC competition and that this should include selecting only those pilots flying gliders, in Sports Class Nationals, with performance levels similar to the IGC Club Class.

To do this, the Board of Directors approved a change to the Team Selection Policy that pilots who want to be considered for the US Club Class Team must fly gliders on an approved list of gliders in the Sports Class Nationals. This list will be maintained by the US Team Committee. It should be pointed out that this suggestion would not limit the Sports Class Nationals to such gliders --- the purpose is only for selection to the U.S. Team. The list of Club Class Eligible gliders and a discussion of the Selection Policy change are posted on the US Team website [here](#).

### 12/01/2007 - US TEAM ELECTIONS UNDERWAY

Created in 1995 and redefined in 2003, the US Team Committee has been tasked by the SSA Board of Directors to, "*oversee the affairs of the Soaring Society of America with respect to its representation at Federation Aéronautique Internationale (FAI) approved World Gliding Championships.*" Each year the committee calls for candidates from the soaring community and holds an election for a new committee member who serves a three year term.



Stepping down this year will be Tim Welles after many years of great service to the team particularly team camps and the juniors. This year we're lucky to have great candidates including **Sam Zimmerman**, **John Godfrey** and **Bill Elliot**. To vote find you SSA number and go to <http://adamsfive.com/survey/surveys.php>. The election will conclude at the end of the year.

### 11/21/2007 - BILL ELLIOTT SELECTED AS RESERVE PILOT

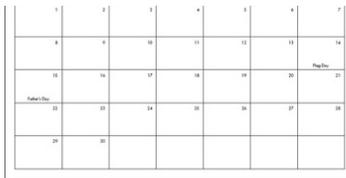
Competitor Bill Elliott (WE) has been selected to the 2008 US Soaring Team heading to Germany in 2008. Based on a high finish at the 15-Meter Nationals and prior performance Bill will be on hot standby should one of the pilots not participate at the 30th World Championships to be held in Luesse, Germany starting next summer. [See Bill's biography](#).

### 11/04/2007 - NEW JUNIOR 2008 CALENDAR

The new Junior Team Calendar is hot off the presses just in time for the new year. A great gift that helps fund our Junior Teams, these calendars are created by Junior Pilot Mike Westbrook and incorporate images from Italy and the USA. Your purchase of the 2008



Junior Team Calendar will help send the next Junior team to compete against the worlds best junior pilots. Support our Juniors! These calendars are first class featuring soaring photographs taken by the Juniors themselves at legendary soaring sites around the globe. See the [Junior Team Calendar page](#) for more.



### 11/01/2007 - TEAM COMMITTEE ELECTIONS EXTENDED

The US Team Committee has extended the nomination period for candidates interested in running for a three year term to the Committee until the end of November. All who are interested in joining this exciting work are encouraged to contact their regional directors for nomination purposes. Elections will take place in the first part of December.



### 10/09/2007 - HARRIS HILL SUPPORT APPRECIATED

The US Team Committee just received word that board of the Harris Hill Soaring Club decided to donate the bulk of the profits from the recent US Team Cross-Country/Racing camp held at Elmira to the US Team fund. As has been widely communicated, the Cross-Country/Racing camp is

not a fundraising vehicle for the Team Fund, but represents an effort by our most accomplished Team members to generate interest in flying cross country and competing, and to give something back to the racing community that has so generously supported them. However, The Team Committee is delighted with this action taken by the board and thank them warmly for their donation. See more on the [Harris Hill Camp](#) (Adobe PDF) and visit the [Team Camps page](#).

### 09/13/07 - TEAM COMMITTEE ELECTIONS

The US Team Committee has issued a call for nominations from Regional Directors for a three year term. The Committee consists of three elected members and three appointed members and is responsible for Team selection, organization, and promotion of all aspects international soaring competition. For more information on the US Team Committee, its mission and activities, please [see this link](#). The full [Team Committee PDF](#) is available as well. **We encourage all interested parties to contact their Regional Director in pursuit of a nomination.**



### 09/13/07 - CHANGES TO CLUB CLASS TEAM SELECTION

There have been important changes made to how Sports Class pilots will be selected to future Club Class world championship teams. The primary thrust of the changes is to restrict selection to future US Club Class Teams (our Sports Class) to a narrower range of gliders of older vintage in line with IGC Club Class requirements for international competition. This restriction was the subject of a SRA Poll question last year and was well supported by the US competition community.

Beginning with the 2008 season, racing results in the Sports Class will only count toward Club Class selection if achieved in an a glider

appearing on the Eligible Glider List (available below). The List was compiled by and will be reissued annually by the US Team Committee, cooperating closely with the Handicap Sub-Committee of the SSA Competition Committee and after review of current IGC glider restrictions. This policy change will not affect scoring in our Sports Class Nationals; it only speaks to whether such scores count for US Team Selection or not. All Sports Class pilots are urged to review the changes for possible impact on their 2008 racing plans. Many thanks to Committee member Dan Cole for working through this complex issue. There are a number of documents that can help you understand these changes. Available here and posted on the [Team Committee](#) page are the revised [Team Selection](#) (3.1 9/29/07) document, the [List of Team Eligible Gliders](#) and the proposed (now adopted) [Club Class Rule Change](#) (9/7/07).



#### 09/13/07 - FINAL REPORT ON 2007 JUNIOR WGC AVAILABLE

Pilots Michael Westbrook and Kathy Fosha, along with Team Captain Richard Maleady represented the USA Junior Team at the JWGC in Rieti, Italy. Both Mike and Kathy were flying in the Standard Class, which had 27 pilots. The Club class

also had 27 pilots. The JWGC had representatives from 17 different countries. The top three finishers in the Standard class were Patrick Gai, Andre Weidlich and Felix Loth—all from Germany. Mike and Kathy finished 25th and 27th respectively. Those finishes are no indication of the efforts and courage of either pilot. Rieti is an extremely difficult and technical site. It is not so fondly called the "glider eater", and for good reason. See the full [Team Report](#) (Adobe PDF) by team Captain Richard Maleady.

#### 09/13/07 - FALL REPORT TO SSA BOARD POSTED

Doug Jacobs, Chairman of the US Team Committee has posted the full [Fall SSA Report](#) (Adobe PDF) to the SSA Board.

#### 09/06/07 - US TEAMS CHOSEN FOR 2008 WORLDS

The US Team Committee has notified those who've earned berths on the 2008 US Team to Luesse, Germany and to Rieti, Italy of their selection. The Committee plans to send the maximum of two pilots per class to both venues, which will mean a total of 12 US pilots competing overseas next summer. Participants to Germany selected last year, both of whom as required participated in the 2007 pre-Worlds are **Heinz Weissenbuhler** in Open Class, and **Rick Walters**, who won the [18 Meter Class](#). **Sam Zimmerman**, who flew in the 18 Meter Class in Sweden in 2006 has agreed to be Team Captain for the Luesse effort. Selected based on 2007 US Nationals performance are **Garret Willat** in [Open Class](#), **Karl Striedieck** and **Gary Ittner** in [15 Meter Class](#), and **Doug Jacobs** in 18 Meter Class. Pilots selected for Rieti who participated there in the pre-Worlds are **Chip Garner** in [Standard Class](#) and **Jonathan Gere** in [Club Class](#). Selected this year based on their 2007 performances are **Mark Keene** in Standard Class, **Manfred Franke** in Club Class, and **Pat Tuckey** and **Francois Pin** in [World Class](#). As yet, not Team Captain for Rieti has been recruited. Our heartiest congratulations to these pilots on their fine performances, and our best wishes for success next summer.



### 09/06/07 - SSA FOUNDATION, US TEAM COMMITTEE AGREE ON TRUSTS

The SSA Foundation, US Team Committee have agreeded on Robertson/ Woods Trust Funding. A Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) dated January 1, 2006 was created by the US Team Committee and the SSA Foundation to document the procedures by which earnings on Robertson and Woods trusts can be utilized by the US Team Committee for purposes of supporting international competition. Under the MOU, funds in the two trusts are designated as either Restricted from use or Available to the Committee. At each year end, based on a request from the Team Committee, the Foundation Trustees vote on what proportion on the income from the trusts should be designated as Available. For the past several years that figure has been 5% per annum, an amount more than exceeded by actual earnings on trust investments. Any such Available funds not spent in a particular year by the Team Committee remain in the trust and accumulate for future use. The Team Committee Treasurer and the SSA Treasurer are required to produce an annual report certifying the calculation. Now that the 2006 SSA audit has been completed, the required report has been certified by both Doug Jacobs and Phil Umphres. See more on the [Team Committee](#) page under Robertson/Woods section at the lower right on the page or the [Robertson/Woods](#) web site.

### 08/20/25 - HARRIS HILL HOSTS SUCCESSFUL US TEAM CAMP

On August 20, 2007, seventeen cross country soaring/racing hopefuls gathered at Harris Hill, Elmira, NY for the long awaited Soaring and Racing Camp. Instructors Doug Jacobs, Mike Robison, Dave Welles and Tim Welles were well prepared with extensive presentations on the art and science of cross country soaring and racing, and a fleet of two place gliders for instruction. (three Duo Disci, and one ASK-21). The instruction material was well organized on Power Point presentations which were given to each participant on a CD. The work done for previous camps at Sugarbush, Perry, PGC, Warner Springs and Harris Hill has really paid off in developing an excellent and complete curriculum. Doug Jacobs deserves a real vote of thanks in being the main driving force in pulling this information together. [Full report](#) in Adobe PDF format or see the [US Team Camp Page](#).



### 07/28/2007 - JUNIOR WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS UNDER WAY

The 5th Junior World Championships are now underway in Italy. See the [Junior Team Day Report Blog](#) for the latest Junior team news Direct form the flight line in Italy. Lots of pictures and great pilot commentary. You can meet the team [here](#) and visit the organizers web site [here](#).

### 07/27/2007 - RICK WALTERS WINS PRE-WORLDS IN GERMANY

Consistent flying with an exciting final day allowed U.S. Team Member Rick Walters to take top honors in the 18-Meter class at the warm up for the 2008 30th World Gliding Championships held in



Lusse Germany. This unique contest combined the German nationals with the pre-worlds. Congratulations to Rick on his win. Heinz Weissenbuehler also took

The winners of the 18m class: Makoto Ichikawa - Japan (ranked 2nd, left), Rick Walters - USA (champion, centre), Thorsten Tacke - Germany (ranked 3rd, right)

the opportunity to familiarize himself with the contest area flying a Nimbus 4D. See the team page [here](#) or visit the organizers web site [here](#).

### 07/17/2007 - JUNIOR TEAM HEADING TO ITALY, BLOG

Members of the US Junior team are heading to Italy today to compete in the 5th Junior WGC in Rieti Italy, starting July 28th and running to August 11. Mike Westbrook will be flying a Discus 2b and Kathy Fosha an LS-8. Team Captain Richard Maleady will be doing double duty as crewman and the last member of the team is Giorgio Marchisio who will be helping out while the team is in Italy. Team reporting will be accomplished via a Blog direct from the flight line in Italy. See the [Junior Team Day Report Blog](#) for the latest Junior team news. You can meet the team [here](#) and visit the organizers web site [here](#).

### 07/14/2007 - 4th WOMAN'S WGC UNDERWAY

Over fifty pilots are flying in this championships hosted by the "aéroclub de Sologne" from July 6th to the 22nd in Romorantin France. The 15-Meter, Club and Standard Classes are represented. As of the 17th Agnete Olesen of Denmark is leading the Club Class, Sarah Kelman of the United Kingdom leads the Standard Class and Kathrin Senne is ahead in the 15-M Class. See the US team page [here](#) or go direct to the organizers web site [here](#).

### 07/13/2007 - LILIENTHAL GLIDE STARTS SOON

The warm up for the 2008 30th World Gliding Championships is about to start in Lusse Germany near Berlin. A note from the organizers, "*Earlier on this morning training only took place on the ground. Now the sky is clearing up and we have the first take-offs of the day. Bustling activity on the ground. Today the organizers and helpers outnumber the pilots. Tomorrow it will be the other way around. Some 50 pilots have gotten their documentation cleared. And lots of ipaqs, Zanders und LX'e are being fed with waypoints and airspace. Last minute adjustments and repairs in front of trailers lined up in long lines.*" Both Rick Walters and Heinz Weissenbuehler are flying this event. Meet the team [here](#) or visit the organizers web site [here](#). The contest starts on the the 15th of July.

### 07/09/2007 - SABINA GLIDE GETS STARTED

Members of the 2008 soaring team Chip Garner (Standard), Jonathan Gere (Club) and Francois Pin are taking part in the Italian Pre-Worlds as warm up for the 2008 World Gliding Championships. The championships runs for July 8th to the 15th. You can meet the team [here](#) or go directly to the organizers web site [here](#).



### 06/20/07 - HARRIS HILL TEAM CAMP OPENINGS GOING FAST

As previously announced, Harris Hill Soaring Corporation and the US Soaring Team will be hosting a Soaring Cross Country and Racing Camp to be held at the famous Harris Hill soaring site in Elmira, NY August 20-25. The Camp will be



followed by the Region Three Contest August 26 through September 1. We still have three

openings available for the Camp. If you are interested in improving your skills in cross country soaring and/or racing, this is a great opportunity to learn from experienced US Team pilots including Doug Jacobs, Mike Robison, Tim Welles and Heinz Weissenbuehler, as well as experienced cross country and racing pilots Kai Gertsen and Dave Welles. Mornings will be devoted to presentations on cross country and racing techniques, and in the afternoons we will apply our learnings in "Lead and Follow" flights and dual instruction. For dual instruction, we will have three Duo Discus sailplanes available. For more information and an application, visit the [HHSC Camp website](#) at

or contact Justin McMaster at [2007xccamp@harrishillsoaring.org](mailto:2007xccamp@harrishillsoaring.org).

See the team camp page [here...](#)

*Sean Murphy, Camp Manager & Tim Welles, Lead Instructor*

### **06/19/07 - DICK BUTLER INDUCTED INTO ALABAMA AVIATION HALL OF FAME**

Dick Butler, five time national open class soaring champion and five time member of the U.S. World team will be inducted into the Alabama Aviation Hall of Fame on Saturday October 13th in Birmingham. There is a planned reception on Friday evening at the Southern Museum of Flight in Birmingham. This will be a wonderful opportunity to meet Mr. Butler who is an internationally recognized sailplane designer, builder, and competitor.



### **06/19/07 - US JUNIOR TEAM WGC IS NEAR**

The 5th FAI Junior World Soaring Championships will start in Reiti, Italy, July 28 and run through August 11. Mike Westbrook will be flying a Discus 2b and Kathy Fosha an LS-8. Team Captain Richard Maleady will be doing double duty as crewman with a car and the last member of the team is Giorgio Marchisio who will be helping out while the team is in Italy. The team goes to Italy July



18th and will have the gliders in Rieti starting the 20th. In preparation Kathy, Richard and Mike met in California to discuss the trip. Kathy and Mike flew at the US Team camp (free of charge thanks to [Sky Sailing](#)). Chip Garner was also in attendance to practice for the pre-worlds at Rieti. Mike flew a Ventus C (thanks to Bob Backer) and Kathy had a Discus B

(thanks to the Douglas Soaring Club). There was also a Duo Discus at Warner that the team flew several days in. The results were excellent flying 6 days straight with flights up to 550 km and average speeds up to 80 mph. Team Captian Richard Maleady adds, "I would really like to mention all the help Leo Benetti-Longhini has provided with the car rental--cars with hitches in Italy are pretty rare--as well as with Italian license validation. Also Biggo Berger and Bernd Weber with Shempp-Hirth have provided invaluable help with the German license validation, and Pete Stratten with BGA with the UK validation. This was necessary as the Discus is registered in the

UK and the LS8 in Germany. Marino Vigorito, Deputy Director of the contest, has been exceptional in providing help on virtually every question that has come up. Also, our Italian crewmember's name is Giorgio Marchisio, and he will be working as a full crewmember, as well as providing a car for retrieves." Most of the details are finally worked out for the trip and now it's just packing up and hitting the road. See the Junior team page [here](#).

### 05/05/06 - US TEAM BULLETIN 32 IS READY!

The US team eBulletin is delivered direct to your email box packed with team and international news. Join the over 350 subscribers to this free news bulletin brought to you by US soaring teams and the US team committee. Subscribe [here](#).

### 05/03/07 TEAM CAMP LEADS THE WAY

Organized and sponsored by the US Team Committee, there have now been seven team camps over the last several years, a couple focused on Juniors and the rest for everybody. This spring's effort was held at Perry, South Carolina, and was scheduled to take place the week before the Region 5 North competition so that graduates of the camp could go right into a week of racing to hone their skills. Led by mentors Doug Jacobs, Sam Zimmerman, Tim Welles, and Dave Welles, spiced up with a presentation or two from Richard Kellerman, and operated flawlessly by Sam Giltner, the camp attracted over 40 applications. Unfortunately capacity limitations forced that number to be narrowed down, but 23 eager beavers traveled to rural South Carolina from as far away as New England, Texas and Ohio to enjoy the experience. Many thanks to those who participated, the mentors and to Doug Jacobs for his tireless support of team camps. See the full camp news report [here](#)...



### 05/01/07 JUNIOR TEAM GETS A NEW CAPTAIN

When Junior Team Captain Billy Hill was forced to step down due to an unavoidable scheduling conflict Richard Maleady stepped into Billy's big shoes. Richard began soaring a bit later in life - in 1989 -



Richard Maleady

but has accumulated 1380 hours in gliders. He soloed in a 2-33 at Bermuda High Soaring in Chester, SC. He is a soon to be retired General Contractor in North and South Carolina and has operated his own business in Charlotte, NC for the past 14 years. Currently he flies his DG-808S out of Bermuda High Soaring (now outside Lancaster, SC) where he served as club president for two years. He is also a member of the Carolina Soaring Association as well as the New Castle, VA

Soaring Club. Richard began competing about six years ago and has competed in numerous regionals as well as 7 National Contests. He is excited about his upcoming involvement with the Junior Team in Rieti, Italy, and the opportunities to contribute to the team's success. Thanks to Billy Hill for all his help early on getting things on track for the Juniors. For more on the 07 Junior Team go [here](#)....

**05/01/07 PILOTS READY FOR 2007 PRE WORLDS**

This summer our Open, 18-Meter and 15-Meter pilots will take part in Lilienthal Glide 2007 (July 15-28) the warm up to next years 30th World Gliding Championships in Lusse Germany southwest of Berlin. The contest will be run concurrently with the German Open, 18-Meter and 15-Meter nationals and the participants will be scored all together making for some interesting comparisons. Rick Walters will be flying an LS-10 in the 18-Meter class while Heinz Weissenbuehler will be flying the mighty Nimbus 4. Two pilots will be selected in the 15-Meter class from the nationals in Mifflin and a single pilot will be selected from the 18-Meter class in Albert Lea to complete the 2008 team. The mountain site of Reiti Italy will host another Pre-Worlds (Sabina Glide July 8-15) this year prior to the 2008 Standard, Club and World Class WGC. Chip Garner and Jonathan Gere will be competing in the Standard and Club Class respectively. See the team page [here](#)...



Mike Westbrook and Kathy Fosha - 2007 USA Junior Team

**4/30/07 JUNIOR TEAM FUNDRAISING SUCCESS**

Kathy Purvis at the SSA reports that total 2007 Junior team has raised \$18,632 through several means, including a fundraising dinner and glider rides at the Seniors, a booth at the Convention, the Junior Team calendar, and the all important fundraising mailer. Support for

the Junior team has been outstanding with stand out contributors including the Women Soaring Pilots Association, Rudy Mozer, Frank Paynter, Bob Barber, Lee Kuhlke, Don English, Chris Woods and Scott Finkboner. **Thanks to all of you who contributed!** Special thanks go to Junior pilot Mike Westbrook for his work raising funds. Mike sets a new standard of going for the gold in the fundraising department. From updating the team database, mailing the team letters with the help of fellow junior pilot Ryan Vihlen, running a fundraiser dinner at the Seniors and creating the Junior Team calendar, his efforts have been first rate. Kathy Fosha has been very helpful as well in the team booth and at the annual start of season bash in California. Billy Hill has done good work on the fundraising front and reports that his hand recovering from signing the over 700 team letters. Last but not least Denise Layton and Kathy Purvis at the SSA office have been very helpful in supporting in this years Junior centric fundraising effort. These funds will be used to send our 2007 Junior team to the 5th FAI Junior World Soaring Championships Reiti, Italy, July 28 - August 11. Meet the team [here](#).

**03/25/07 TEAM COMMITTEE MINUTES PUBLISHED**

The minutes from the US team committee meeting in Memphis have been published on the Team Committee page [here](#)...

**04/18/07 NZ 2007 GRAND PRIX IS BACK!**

After looking like it would not happen the 2007 final Grand Prix is back on in New Zealand. Slated for December 19 to 24th this unique racing venue will pull together perhaps the most competitive glider pilots in history. Sand by for more news on this big event.

**03/19/07 SENIORS SUPPORT JUNIORS BIG TIME AT SEMINOLE LAKE!**

Contestants at the 17th annual Seniors Contest at Seminole Lake Gliderport were treated to the truly outstanding hospitality of Knut and Ingrid Kjenslie, some mighty fine soaring weather (which produced the fastest task every flown in Florida, by Dick Butler at over 80mph! Dry!), and a rare opportunity to learn about the US Junior Team traveling to the Junior World Championships this summer in Rieti, Italy.



*Doug Jacobs and Mike Westbrook ready to take off on the last day of the Seniors.*

On hand was Mike Westbrook of Sebring, Florida who will represent us there. Mike even went so far as to organize a fajita dinner in the hangar one night, assembling all ingredients, bringing along cooking equipment, and serving them up to most of the 55 pilots and crews who were at the contest – and the dinner was delicious!. When they found out he was good-looking and could cook like that, most of the soaring wives wanted to introduce him to their single daughters, granddaughters, nieces, whatever!



*Doug Jacobs, Junior Ryan Vhlen, Junior Mike Westbrook, George Moffat. Three WGC wins represented!*

We had the pleasure of welcoming long time Junior supporter Rudy Mozer to the dinner, and he said a few inspirational words about the need to support these kids – with money, advice, the loan of gliders, and anything else they need. Rudy recently endowed the Mozer Trophy with a very significant \$50,000 gift, the earnings from which can be utilized to help the

winner defray the costs of attending Junior World Championships. He even went further by contributing \$1,000 on the spot to help send the Juniors to Rieti this summer. The fundraising activity was an outstanding success. Together with the proceeds from contest day passenger rides flown by Doug Jacobs, the Seniors supported the Juniors to the tune of just over \$5,000 – a real tribute to the this generation of glider pilots who want to help encourage the next. Many, many thanks from the US Team Committee to all who helped.

- *Doug Jacobs*

### **03/19/07 - TEAM RIDE ALONG PROGRAM BUILDS SUPPORT, SHARES KNOWLEDGE AND HELPS FUND TEAMS**

Seventeen time national champion, record setter and frequent team member Karl Striedieck has been providing one-on-one competition and performance cross-country flights in his Duo Discus, while contributing the proceeds to US soaring team funding. In 2006 Karl raised \$7,560 for a total of

\$28,255 since starting the program. Karl very generously covers the costs of the program. Over the several years since Karl started the program upwards of 75 lucky pilots have had an unparalleled experience in competition and performance soaring. Karl's effort and dedication exemplifies the best in the sport and the team. Thank you Karl!



*Karl & Iris Striedieck try out the DUO at Mifflin, PA.*

### **03/11/07 - WOMAN'S SOARING PILOTS**

#### **ASSOCIATION (WSPA) HELPS SPONSOR JUNIOR TEAM**

Founded to promote all aspects of soaring for women glider pilots WSPA has made a very generous contribution to the 2007 Junior Soaring team in the sum of \$2,050 which represents \$1,050 in direct donations by members plus an additional \$1,000 provided by WSPA. To see the WSPA web site click this [link](#).

### **01/10/07 - PERRY US TEAM CAMP FULL**

Due to overwhelming demand the Perry Camp sponsored by none other than Doug Jacobs is full. Have a look at the camp page for more team camp opportunities [HERE](#).

### **12/21/06 - TEAM CROSS COUNTRY CAMP, ELMIRA, NY 2007**

The Harris Hill Soaring Corporation and the US Soaring Team Committee announce a Cross Country Soaring and Racing Camp to be held August 20-25 at Harris Hill, Elmira, NY the week preceding the Region 3 Contest also to be held at Harris Hill August 26-September 1. This is a **great opportunity to learn from the experts** how to hone your cross-country flying skills, and develop efficient flying techniques by applying racing disciplines. For complete information and an entry form see the [camp page here...](#)

### **12/14/06 - TEAM CROSS COUNTRY CAMP, SOUTHERN, CA 2007**

Sky Sailing and team pilot Garret Willat will host the 2007 Western Team Camp, May 7-11, 2007. Oriented to provide a relaxed learning environment this camp is for glider pilots who want to take their **skills to the next level** from the basics of cross country flying right through to performance cross county and competition flying. Slots are going fast and are limited so **sign up NOW**. For complete information and an entry form see the [camp page here...](#)

### **12/7/06 - JUNIOR TEAM FUNDRAISING CALENDAR, 2007**

These calendars are first class featuring soaring photographs taken by the Juniors themselves at legendary soaring sites Moriarty, Boulder and Marfa plus shots from prior Junior World Championships in England and Italy. The layout is a large 11x17 inch format using high quality 100 pound glossy paper for a calendar you will be proud to show off at work, give as a gift or put in your home or shop. See more on this worthy fundraising effort and [find the order form here...](#)



### **12/2/06 - NEW TEAM COMMITTEE MEMBER**

After a very close election long time soaring pilot and frequent team

member Rick Walters will be replacing John Seaborn on the U.S. Team Committee. Rick has been racing sailplanes since 1985, participated in three world championships and is on the current [US 2008 team](#) in the 18-Meter Class to Germany. Rick will work for increased competitiveness at the WGC level through adaptation of WGC scoring formulas at our nationals, growth of team flying skills, and fostering the very talented young pilots that are currently winning US nationals. Congratulations to Rick.

#### **12/2/06 - NEW TEAM WEB AND eBULLETIN MANAGER**

Dirk Elber will replace John Seaborn as the US Soaring Team's Web and eBulletin manager. Dirk comes from a long time soaring family and actively flies an ASW-20. Dirk is well versed in both the sport and web management and looks forward to helping the team reach new heights in its communication and web presence.



Mike Westbrook and Kathy Fosha - 2007 USA Junior Team

#### **11/11/06 - 2007 JUNIOR TEAM FINALIZED**

Kathy Fosha will join Mike Westbrook and Chris Saunders on the 2007 United States Junior Team competing in the 5th World Gliding Championships in Rieti, Italy from July 27 to August 10, 2007. Long time glider pilot Billy Hill has graciously agreed to become Team Captain for this event. Current 18-Meter National Champion and Junior team pilot Chris Saunders is well positioned to participate in the 30th WGC Pre-Worlds in 2007 which would preclude him from joining his teammates at the Junior World Gliding Championships in Italy. Meet the 2007 US Team Junior [HERE](#).

#### **11/01/06 - US TEAM COMMITTEE ELECTION, SSA MEMBERS VOTE NOW!**

The US Team Committee election has begun! All SSA members are encouraged to go to log in with their name and SSA number, and vote for the candidate of their choice to this three year post. The election period will be open until November 30, results announced shortly thereafter, and winner will take office at year end. Don't miss your chance to help shape the future of US Soaring Teams. Vote online [HERE](#).



#### **10/29/06 - TEAM CAMP ANNOUNCED! YOU ARE INVITED - CAMP FULL**

The US Team organization will sponsor a Cross-Country and Racing Camp at Perry International Airport from April 7-13, 2007, the week before the Regional Contest held there. This is a great opportunity to learn from the experts how to hone your cross-country flying skills, and develop efficient flying techniques by applying racing disciplines. If you're interested, click [HERE](#) for more information and to download an application.

#### **09/01/06 - TEAM COMMITTEE WEB PAGE UPDATE**

The US Team Committee web page has been updated with Minutes from the August 28th team committee teleconference, full report from the Club and World Class WGC team captain Susan McAllister, expense reports from Sweden and France and interim team financial reporting. See the [US Team committee page](#).

#### **08/30/06 - US TEAM BULLETIN 30 IS READY!**

The US team eBulletin is delivered direct to your email box packed with team and international news. Join the over 350 subscribers to

this free news bulletin brought to you by US soaring teams and the US team committee. Subscribe [here](#).

**[See 2006 U.S. Team News Here](#)**

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