



NEWSLETTER - June 2007

President's Page:



Greetings - And good wishes for all of the fun we are having. The summer is full on after a kick off on several fronts. The Mountaineers held the traditional Memorial Day Flyin at Seneca Shadows Campground.

Some of us also went to Eagle Rock where we had fabulous fun on a ridge where we can fly off into the NW or off into the SE.

Ben and I went out to Whidbey Island in Puget Sound and flew at Ft Ebby State Park and then dug up and ate a fresh clam and oyster dinner.

We have also been having good flights with our paragliders at Timberline Ski resort where any



Ben with big oysters



Ben landing at Timberline

disappointment in a decent is offset by just riding the lift back up and giving it another try.

Hope all is well with every one and that we will see you in the air soon.

Upcoming Events:

Jun30 - July 1 Site Maitenance -

Cumberland work day as the sites need mowed/cut and the Fair is coming up.
The weekend of (July 7 - 8) as the back-up
rain dates

JUNE 30 - JULY 1 4th of July Party at Micky's –

Fabulous, Fireworks, Food,
Flying, Fun, Family, and
Friends.

Micky's is located 6 miles
West of Harman WV on
Route 33 to Elkins, WV,
There is a blue farm gate on
the right just before the hill.
**There will be some
streamers on a stick beside
the gate.**



Ben on Micky's launch

Micky's phone number is 304 636 4569

The dinner on Saturday night is pot luck so bring a covered dish. There will be music around the campfire so bring any instrument.

Ben and LE phone number is 304 866 3312 -

JULY 15-22 ALLEGANY COUNTY FAIR

<http://www.alleganycofair.org/>

Flying every evening scheduled at 7:00 but we launch when we can. The fair is really cool and fun to fly. The rides generate a lot of thermals.



Airtimes – the only edition

4/29/07; Woodstock; WNW 10 – 25 mph; A banner day for Tom McGowan who flew a declared task flight to Mannequin Flight Park near Richmond, VA for 106 miles (straight-line distance) or 140 miles counting the dog leg. Bruce Engen flew a portion of the same flight, but wasn't able to make it over the Blue Ridge. Homer flew off the south end of Short Mtn landing near Mt. Jackson, VA for about 20 miles. Although they were sometimes getting to almost 6000' msl, Gardinator, JR, and Hugh McElrath all chose to land in the Bridge Field LZ after an hour or so of being spanked in the "sporty" conditions. JR confirmed what he'd known all along – his T2 154 is a PIG!

5/9/07; Pinnacle; ESE 5 – 10 mph; Pete was off first on his S2 and was able to hang on above the ridge long enough to catch a thermal and go OTB. He flew north up the valley getting to 7000' near the prison. He ended up landing near Pocahontas, PA for 16 miles. Meanwhile, back at launch JR and Pat H take sleds or extended sleds to the LZ and since they were both flying S2's, they couldn't blame it on the glider.

5/11/07; High Pt; NW 0 – 10 mph; JR launched first on his S2, followed by Pat H (S2) and Bruce Engen (T2). There was little wind and virtually no ridge-lift, but weak thermals were abundant. JR and Bruce went OTB after finding the best thermal of the day (7.0) to 7500'. Even at altitude, there was very little drift. Bruce went out ahead and JR lost track of him in

the haze, but they hooked up briefly just before Springfield, WV for a climb to 7000'. Bruce left first, again, as they pushed more towards the SSE hoping to avoid potential airspace issues further downwind. JR got relatively low south of Three Churches, WV (3000' msl/1500' agl) about the same time Bruce was trying to dig himself out of a hole north of Augusta, WV. They joined forces again just prior to Capon Bridge, WV and worked weak lift (.4 – 2.0) crossing Great North Mtn together well south of Gore, VA, eventually getting back up to 6000'. Once in the Shenandoah Valley, they chose different downwind tracks with Bruce heading for Strasburg, VA and JR taking the more direct downwind glide towards Front Royal, VA. He got one more weak climb at the I-64/I-81 interchange to 4200' before gliding to a landing beside the Rt 340 bridge at Front Royal for 55.3 miles. Bruce landed along Rt 11 south of Strasburg for 48 miles. Meanwhile, Pat had missed the best part of thermal that got Bruce and JR on their way. He waited patiently for the next ride to come along and was eventually able to make it OTB, but wasn't high enough to cross the dinosaur-country behind Ft. Ashby, WV and landed there for 6 miles (but within walking distance of a bar).

5/17/07; High Pt; NW 2 – 8 mph; Pete, John F, Pat H, and JR (test-flying Greg's new Sport 2) enjoyed late-afternoon soaring flights in "poosh-out" conditions. Pete had the highest climb to about 4000' and everyone got between 1 – 1.5 hrs of sweet air. The cold beer in the LZ only increased the size of the grins on their faces.

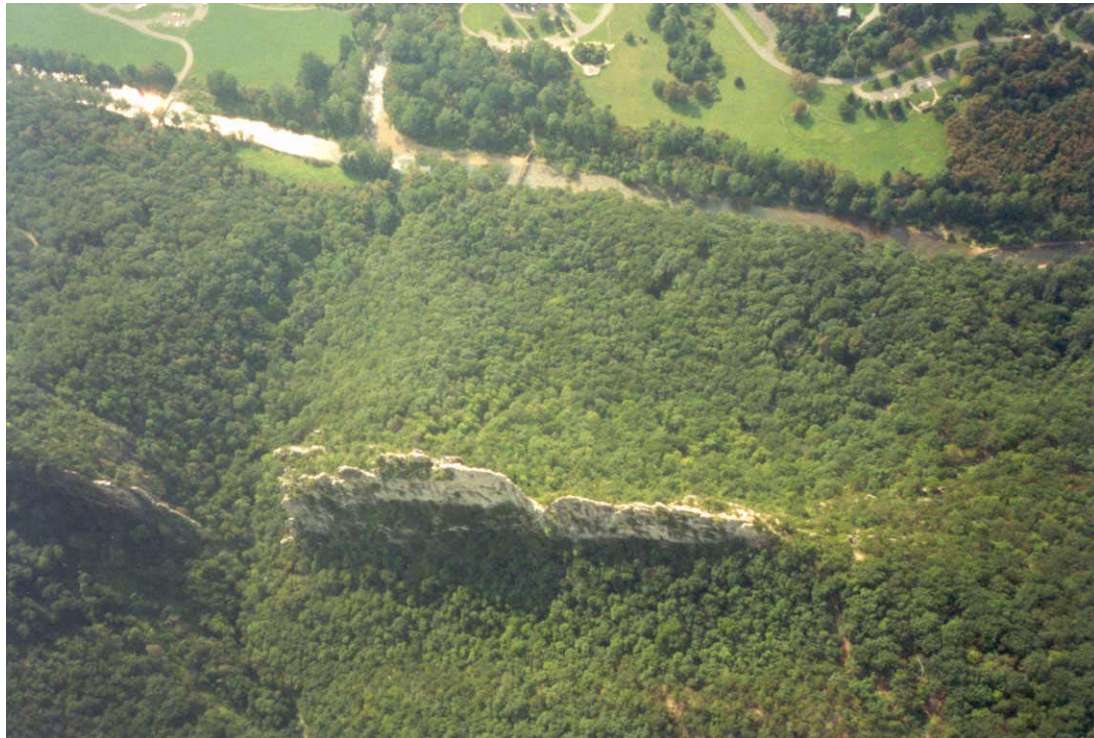


Gardner on the ramp North Mountain

5/25/07; North Mtn; NNW 2 – 5 mph; JR (Falcon 195) and Larryboy (T2) arrived at the Memorial Day fly-in for a Friday flight. They both took plummet-off-the-ramp sled rides and pulled off nice landings in the sometimes-challenging main LZ (the hay wasn't all that high, for a change).

5/26/07; North Mtn; NW 3 – 8 mph; JR (S2) was off first in the building conditions. He ended up getting an extended sled of about 10 minutes working the foothills before getting scraped off. Larryboy (T2) joined JR in the LZ after getting briefly above the ridge and managed about 15 minutes before gravity had its way with him. Will (Talon) showed them how it was supposed to be done by getting up at launch and then flying north to Seneca Rocks before landing at Yocum's Campground. Gardinator launched last after JR was kind enough to go back to the top and help Lisagirl wire him off the ramp (something he had neglected to do for JR when their roles were reversed a couple years prior). Gardinator got about 500' over launch and a half hour before getting scraped off and landing in the main LZ.

6/7/07; High Pt; W 5 – 15 mph; Greg takes his maiden flight on his new Sport 2 155 and managed about 40 minutes before being scraped off the ridge. JR (S2) had the best gain of the day getting to 4774' in a reasonably good thermal (4.4) before flying upwind to Haystack Mtn. Gardinator (Stealth) launched last and joined JR in the buoyant late afternoon "poosh-out" conditions. Conditions in the LZ were light, but a little challenging as is often the case on westerly days, but everyone landed with reasonable aplomb



LE over Seneca Rocks

6/10/07; High Pt; NNE 3 – 5 mph; The sky looked great, but alas, it was not to be. After standing on launch awhile, John F (Litespeed) backed off and let JR (S2) take his place. While there had been some reasonable cycles earlier, it had turned downwind and as soon as a puff came up the hill, JR was off followed immediately by Pete. They briefly worked a little piece of something in the Crotch before JR was scraped off to the LZ followed shortly thereafter by Pete. John F didn't learn from their mistake and soon joined them in the LZ. Then, they all got to watch as Florent (Sigma 6 PG) bombed out to the Dogpit. He hiked up the mountain saving himself from becoming the French equivalent of Alpo (Alpaux?). nice!!!



Will Receives the Goat Turd Trophy