



# BASS NEWS

## The Baltimore Area Soaring Society Newsletter

Year XXVI, No. 1

"Information Provider to the Glider Guider"

February 2006

### 2006 Officers:

#### *President*

Al DeRenzis  
(410) 448-0808

#### *Past President*

Kevin Sharbonda  
(410) 560-6675

#### *Vice President*

Erich Schlitzkus  
(717) 993-3950

#### *Treasurer*

Don Vetter  
(410) 256-3220

#### *Secretary*

Randy Kleinert  
(410) 931-2611

#### *Contest Director*

Dudley Whitney  
(410) 484-5609

### Appointments:

#### *At-Large Director*

Russell Bennett  
(410) 744-2093

#### *Field Marshall*

John Appling  
(410) 374-2463

#### *Field Safety Officer*

Randy Kleinert  
(410) 931-2611

#### *Web Master*

Don Vetter  
mail@dvetter.com

### Newsletter Staff:

#### *Editors*

Zeke Brubaker  
Randy Kleinert  
Dudley Whitney

#### *Website*

[www.soarmd.org](http://www.soarmd.org)

## 2006 ELECTIONS

Elections for BASS's 2006 officers were held at the December club meeting. Officers and appointed positions for this year are:

### Officers:

President -  
Vice President -  
Treasurer -  
Secretary -  
Contest Director -

Al DeRenzis  
Erich Schlitzkus  
Don Vetter  
Randy Kleinert  
Dudley Whitney

### Appointments

At-Large Director -  
Field Marshall -  
Field Safety Officer -  
Web Master -

Russell Bennett  
John Appling  
Randy Kleinert  
Don Vetter

## BASS 2006 Schedule

See the newsletter insert for the 2006 contest schedule. Highlights include 8 contests and 8 fun flys, the East Coast Hand Launch Classic on May 6-7, our 2-day, AMA sanctioned Woodie contest on June 3-4, and the CASA/BASS contest to be flown on October 15. Contests will include a variety of duration tasks, while fun flys include an electric pylon race, aerial combat (with streamers), and a family fun day.

## Awards Dinner

The Awards Dinner this year will be held once again at Don Vetter's house on March 4. Time: 2:00-5:00 PM. Please bring a covered dish to share. Directions on insert. Address: 11624 Jerome Ave. White Marsh, MD. 410-256-3220

## Club Meeting Location

Club meetings will be held in a new location beginning March 2 while asbestos is removed from Ridgely Middle School. An announcement will be made on the BASS website and via email as soon as the location has been determined. Note that meetings during the summer are held at Villa Maria, weather permitting.

## Bernie Sovitsky, Old Timer

### Bill Cavanaugh

*Note: This is one of a series of mini-bios of BASS members.*

Bernie qualifies as a bona fide old-timer, having been in the hobby since he was 11 years old. Like many of us senior citizen modelers, he started out building ten cent stick and tissue jobs in the days when a 50-cent kit was considered expensive. Bernie was a merchant seaman deckhand in 1945 when he enlisted in the US Army. After a 28-year career, he retired with the rank of Warrant Officer as a Special Agent in Army Counterintelligence. During his military service he continued his modeling whenever possible and flew mostly U-Control stunt models, the Ringmaster being one of his favorites. He was in Tokyo in 1952 when OS and Enya produced their first motors, acquiring several at the price of \$5 each.

After retiring from the Army, Bernie expanded his modeling interests, buying a glider and Sanwa radio from Joe Doehler at Lloyd's Hobby Shop in Towson. Joe introduced him to a few other sailplane modelers, including Joe Radoci, who had just formed BASS. He joined and has been a member ever since. He became Vice President in 1986 and President in 1988. In those days the president produced the newsletter, and Bernie typed it out on his 50-year old Royal typewriter that he bought at a flea market for \$10. In March of that year he had to have a heart bypass and I took over as newsletter editor.

Bernie recovered from his operation and has been an active BASS member ever since. He has always been in the middle of BASS activities with his efforts to improve the club. He is a charter member of BASS's little sub-group of retirees, the Bald Eagles, and flies with them at Villa Maria on Wednesday afternoons when the weather permits. Since 2000 he has been BASS's representative to the Lutherville-Timonium Recreation Council, of which BASS is a member, making sure our interests are considered. In 2004 Bernie was appointed to the LTRC board of directors, and continues to serve to this day.

Bernie has been an active, continuous member of BASS longer than any other member, his tenure going back to the very beginnings of the club at Lloyd's hobby shop. He provides valuable continuity and perspective at meetings and is always willing to help with club activities.



*Editor's Note: The BASS Board awarded Bernie Sovitsky a life membership in January, 2006 in appreciation of his long history and continuing contributions to the club. Thanks Bernie.*

## Club Member News

### Third Grade

On June 1, John Appling and Randy Kleinert spent an afternoon with third graders at Charles Carroll Elementary School in Westminster, Maryland. They explained how airplanes fly, how radio controlled planes work, and gave a flying demonstration on the school's ball field.

In appreciation of their time, the 3rd grade students wrote thank you notes to Randy and John, a selection of which are shown here.



## Electro Flying Models Fusion

### Joe Allulis

The aircraft pictured here is the FUSION, which was built from a kit manufactured by ElectroFlying, Inc. of 2547 83rd Court North, Minneapolis, MN 55444. FUSION was designed from the beginning by ElectroFlying to be an electric powered aircraft capable of aerobatics and lively sport flying. The company recommends powering the Fusion by either an Astro 25 geared motor or a Jeti Phasor 45/3 brushless motor utilizing a 16 cell NiCad battery pack.

The kit contained an excellent selection of balsa and lite ply, and all parts were laser cut. As a result the parts fit was exceptional. The CAD prepared plans are extremely accurate and easy to utilize. The complete construction manual and building plans for the FUSION are available for viewing on the company's web site: [www.electroflying.com](http://www.electroflying.com) The specifications for the FUSION are as follows:



500+ Watt Sport Aerobatic Electric  
 Length: 45.3"  
 Wing Span: 57.5"  
 Wing Area: 569 sq. in.  
 Weight: 82-92 oz.  
 Wing Loading: 20.8-23.2 oz .per sq.ft.  
 16 Cells 2400 mah @ 34 amps Max.  
 Total Input Watts: 600 (103 watts per lb.)

I installed a Jeti Phasor 45/3 brushless motor with a Master Airscrew 10-7 electric prop on the model. Instead of the 16 2400 mah NiCad cells recommended by ElectroFlying, I'm going to use a 4 cell LiPo pack of 3200 mah capacity. This will save about one pound in flying weight, which should considerably improve performance. The model hasn't flown yet as I'm planning to purchase LiPo batteries and charger at the WRAM Show.

## Schweizer TG-2

### Zeke Brubaker

Over the next few months I will be documenting the progress (I hope) of one of my next parkflyer projects – a Schweizer TG-2. I've always liked the look of early Schweizer sailplanes and when I came across the article and plans of Earl Stahl's 30" span Schweizer TG-2 from the December 1942 issue of Model Airplane News, I knew I found what I was looking for. I love parkflyers, but 30" is too small even for me, so I plan to scale the drawings up to about 42". I'll be using Earl's drawings only for reference (outlines and cross sections) since his design wouldn't really be suitable for a slightly larger plane in my opinion. I'm not a scratch builder by any means, so my TG-2 will first be built digitally in CAD. One of the biggest benefits for me when designing in CAD is I can get a fairly close estimate to the final weight of the airframe before it's ever built. This way I can determine Center of Gravity and placement of electronics without having to rely on trial-and-error.



To keep the design simple and light weight, I've decided to use rudder and elevator only for the controls. Since I'm not trying to build a high performance sailplane, I'm planning on using a good all-around airfoil – the Selig 3021. Wing area will be around 146 in.<sup>2</sup>, so I'll be aiming for an AUW (All Up Weight) of 4oz–5oz. Construction will be the traditional 'stick-and-tissue' type for the most part. Covering will most likely be Solarfilm's SoLite or similar lightweight iron-on covering.

## Bubble Dancer

At least four club members are building the famous Bubble Dancer, a 126" sailplane designed by Mark Drela. With a light wing loading of 4.5-5.1 oz. per square foot, the BD is a floater.



Pete Schlitzkus is the first to put his new BD in the air, flying it for the first time on an unseasonably warm day on January 28. With temperatures climbing into the mid-50s, Pete's BD took to the air with a successful flight, caught on video by Marv Tedrow. Sporting an AVA fuse and tail feathers, the BD's built-up wing uses special construction for the spar, with very light balsa ribs and leading edge. With rudder, elevator, and spoiler, the BD will be a strong competitor in this year's Woodie contest.

## BASS Board Meeting Minutes

### January 24, 2006

President Al DeRenzis called the meeting to order at 7:10 PM. There were 7 members present, six voting members.

Al began the meeting with some general comments about the up-coming year, namely that it will be important for the club to focus and concentrate on specific and limited number of activities. He felt that there is a multitude of different member interests existing today, in contrast to the original focus of the club which was thermal soaring. Because of this it would be easy to get spread so thin with numerous priorities that things would not get done, or not done well. Also, he recommended delegation of responsibilities by those in charge of specific projects, for example, using contest managers under the contest director responsible for specific tasks so everything does not fall on one person.

#### Non Flying activities:

The club has signed up for two tables at the Westminster Aero Modelers Flea Market on February 11th. The club will not have dedicated tables at Lebanon, although several members have reserved tables, which will be located near each other. There was a discussion about the WRAMs trade show in White Plains NY and the Toledo Show. A number of members plan to attend those functions.

#### Flying Activities:

The ECHL Classic will be May 6th and 7th. Don Vetter and Erich Schlitzkus will CD. A number of people volunteered to help. Tasks to be determined by the CD's. Several ideas were reviewed including Night Flying on Saturday night, a meal at the field Saturday night, and a building and or a flying clinic. There was discussion about the size of the contest, with a general sense that the focus should be on the quality of the competition rather than the number of participants.

The Woodie contest will be June 3rd and 4th. Bill Cavanaugh will CD and Randy Kleinert and Dudley Whitney will be responsible for coordinating the activities of each day. Al DeRenzis, and if needed, Don Vetter, will be available for back up.

Club Activities Schedule. There will be 9 contests from March through November. There will also be a number of Fun Flys as were held last year. Fun Flys are an important activity for those members who may not care to participate in contests but want to be involved in organized flying.

#### Contest Discussion.

Should the club allow the use of Varios or related devices, which can monitor climb rate? Currently AMA allows them. All Board members present except one voiced opposition to their use in club contests. This matter will be discussed at the membership meeting.

Timers and stopwatches. Dudley Whitney offered a recommendation to purchase several stopwatches and explained how a winch operator could start the watches for pilots to speed up the launch activity. While there was a wide ranging discussion about the plus and minuses for the particular approach, the purchase of watches would be raised at the next meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:30.

**BASS Club Meeting Minutes****February 2, 2006****Bill Cavanaugh, Acting Secretary**

The meeting was called to order at 7:40 pm by president Al DeRenzis. There were 12 attendees.

The minutes of the January meeting were approved.

**TREASURER'S REPORT**

Treasurer Don Vetter reported that we have \$522.22 in the LTRC account. \$80 was spent on two chargers previously authorized.

**OLD AND NEW BUSINESS**

President Al briefed the club on the Board meeting held January 24.

It is important that safety concerns are kept in mind at all times. Safety and Field rules will be republished in the April issue of the newsletter.

The Westminster Aeromodelers Flea Market at the Westminster VFW is Feb 11 from 9 am to 1 pm. BASS has two tables, #19 & 20. Those with anything to sell should be there at 8 am.

The Lebanon PA Flea Market is March 11, opening at 9 am. Although BASS will not be reserving any, several club members have reserved tables. If you want to sell anything, call Erich or Zeke.

Ridgely school will be closed for renovation before the March meeting for an indefinite time and we will have to find a new meeting place. Dudley will check with LTRC. It was suggested that we check out Charmuth school, where we used to meet.

The BASS Awards Meeting will again be at Don Vetter's house March 4 starting at 2:00 pm. Bring your culinary specialty.

The BASS ECHLC contest was discussed. Don suggested the club purchase a boom box for the event countdowns so we do not have to depend on a borrowed one, as we did last year. A vote was taken authorizing this purchase. Don will be sure the volume is great enough to be heard across the field. He has a countdown CD.

It was noted that ESL has established a Novice category, which we will offer, in addition to Expert and Sportsman.

Help is needed at this contest. Members are encouraged to come out to help even if you are not flying.

Food was discussed. Arrangements will be made by the contest committee.

There was further discussion of the one-design contest for 2007. Joe, Zeke and others are working on details of this contest and will make recommendations.

The tentative dates of the Woodie contest have been changed due to conflicts. The final dates are June 3 & 4. Dudley will ask LTRC for exclusive use of Villa for these dates.

Bill Cavanaugh will be AMA CD and process sanction paperwork. Randy will be Assistant CD to run the Sat contest and Dudley will be Assistant CD to run the Sunday contest. Pre-registration will be required since there can be only one contestant per frequency. Contestants should indicate alternate frequencies, if possible.

Club contests will be held monthly, if possible without conflict, to be divided between Villa and the Polo field. No thermal sensors will be allowed in club contests. There was a discussion of fun-flies. Everyone seemed to be in favor of them, to sometimes include family picnics.

BASS will be represented at the LTRC Bull Roast by Bernie, as usual.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:00 pm.

**SHOW AND TELL**

Al brought in a fighter plane ARF kit, one of a series put out by Cox, for \$20

Zeke showed a Cessna 206 on floats which he is kitting, and a Blade indoor helicopter, which he flew in the hallway.

Russ brought in a rugged M60 foam slope soarer and an Ultrafly BA Hawk with a Speed 400 motor.

## **Baltimore Area Soaring Society Flying Field Rules**

With the 2006 flying season soon upon us, it is timely to review the club safety rules:

- 1 All flyers are required to have a valid AMA license.
- 2 All transmitters must have an AMA approved frequency identifier attached to the transmitter antenna.
- 3 If more than one person is present with the same frequency, flying will be limited to 15 minutes on that frequency.
- 4 Launching sailplanes have the right-of-way over thermaling sailplanes.
- 5 Landing sailplanes have the right-of-way over launching sailplanes.
- 6 All inexperienced flyers are required to have an instructor present at all times.
- 7 Visiting flyers must be accompanied by a club member and must comply with all field rules.
- 8 The AMA safety code must be adhered to at all times.
- 9 Parents are responsible for their children, and must keep them under control at all times.
- 10 All members are responsible for keeping the flying field free of litter and in good order.
- 11 All motor vehicles will be parked in the designated parking area.
- 12 The pit area is designated to be behind and to the right of the winch.
- 13 Flying over the pit area and the spectator area without sufficient altitude is prohibited.

## **LASS Woodie Contest**

Bruce Musser is now taking registrations for the 2006 LASS Woodie contest. To reserve a frequency the pilot must send a nonrefundable entry fee. Fees this year are \$20 for one day and \$30 for both days. Send entries with payment made out to LASS to Bruce Musser, 731 Pleasant Dr., New Holland, PA. 17557.

Event Date: August 5-6 2006. The contest is open to all AMA members. Sailplanes that are all wood buildup except a glass fuse and any spare mods will be allowed (no molded leading edges). There will be 2 classes: Open and RES of 100" and smaller (only one class allowed per day). Only one person per frequency. Event will be a ladder on Saturday and a mix of scored tasks on Sunday.

Lunch and drinks will be available both days. Pre-entry forms are available for download from the LASS Website: [www.lancareasoaring.org/](http://www.lancareasoaring.org/).

## **BASS EVENTS**

Mar. 2 BASS Meeting, location TBA  
Mar. 19 Fun Fly, Villa Maria  
April 2 Club Contest, Villa Maria  
April 6 BASS Meeting, location TBA  
April 15 Club Fun Fly, Polo Field  
April 22 Club Contest, Polo Field  
May 6-7 BASS Hand Launch, Villa Maria

BASS Meetings during the summer are held at Villa Maria with flying before the meeting, weather permitting. Other times at a location to be determined. See website for further information.

BASS Contests start at 10:00 AM unless otherwise noted. All skill levels are encouraged to attend. Be at the field 1 hour early to help set up contest. Fun flying after events. Spectators welcomed.

## **SOARING SCENE**

Mar. 5 Indoor Flying - National Building Museum  
Mar. 11 Lebanon Flea Market, PA  
April 8-9 Toledo, OH R/C Show

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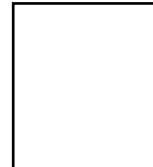
NOTE: ESL schedule is tentative and subject to change



### **BASS NEWS**

**The Baltimore Area Soaring Society Newsletter**  
**7982 Honeygo Blvd # 48**  
**Baltimore, MD 21236**

**February 2006**



First Class Mail

## BASS 2006 Schedule

<u>Date</u>	<u>BASS Functions</u>			<u>Other Functions</u>
<b>March</b>				
	4-5			
	11-12			
Sun.	19	Club Fun Fly	Villa Maria	<i>Lebanon Flea Market (3/11)(c)</i> <i>CASA Monthly (19th)</i>
	25-26			
<b>April</b>				
	Sun. 2	Club Contest	Villa Maria	
	8-9			<i>Toledo R/C Show (c)</i>
Sat.	15	Club Fun Fly	Polo Field	<i>(Easter weekend)</i>
Sat.	22	Club Contest	Polo Field	<i>CASA Monthly (23rd)</i>
Sat.	29	Make-up Date	Polo Field	
<b>May</b>				
Sat/Sun	6-7	BASS HLG	Villa Maria	
Sat.	13	Club Contest	Polo Field	<i>CASA Monthly / (Mom Day 14th )</i>
	20-21			<i>F3J, Tom Kiesling CD</i>
Sat.	27	Club Fun Fly	Polo - Electric Pylon Race	<i>CASA Spring Sizzle</i> <i>(Memorial Day weekend)</i>
<b>June</b>				
Sat/Sun	3-4	Woodie Contest	Villa Maria	<i>IGLGF (Not ESL)</i>
	10-11			<i>SKSS 1</i>
Sun.	18	Club Fun Fly	Villa Maria	<i>Polecat Challenge HLG</i>
Sat.	24	Club Contest	Polo Field	<i>CASA Monthly (25th) / LISF 1</i>
<b>July</b>				
	1-2			<i>(July 4 weekend)</i>
	8-9			<i>DBSF</i>
Sat.	15	Club Contest	Villa Maria	<i>CASA Monthly (16th) / CRRC HL</i>
	22-23			
weekday	21-28			<i>NATS</i>
Sat.	29	Club Fun Fly	Polo - Family Fun Fly	
<b>August</b>				
	5-6			<i>LASS Woodie</i>
Sun.	13	Club Contest	Villa Maria	<i>CASA Monthly (13th) / CRRC TD</i>
Sat.	19	Club Fun Fly	Polo - Electric Combat	<i>CASA HLG</i>
	26-27			<i>SJSF 1</i>
<b>September</b>				
Sun.	3	Club Fun Fly	Villa Maria	<i>(Labor Day weekend)</i>
	9-10			<i>CASA Open</i>
	16-17	Club Fun Fly	TBA	<i>SJSF HLG</i>
	23-24			<i>LISF 2</i>
	30-1	Club Contest	TBA	<i>F5B at CASA</i>
<b>October</b>				
	7-8			<i>Reading ESL EOS</i>
Sun.	15	CASA/BASS contest at CASA ( <i>location TBA</i> )		
	21-22			
	28-29	Make-up Date	TBA	

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# Baltimore Area Soaring Society

## 2006 Membership Application

Full memberships are \$30.00. Junior memberships are \$12.00, and associate memberships are \$18.00. If you would like to join BASS, or have not renewed, please take a moment today to write out a check and send it in along with a copy of this application. Please complete all information.

2006 promises to be another award-winning year for BASS. Be part of it!

### *Personal Information*

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

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone (work): \_\_\_\_\_ Phone (Home): \_\_\_\_\_

AMA Number: \_\_\_\_\_ (Valid AMA Membership is required)

League of Silent Flight and Level (if applicable): \_\_\_\_\_

Primary Radio Frequencies Used: \_\_\_\_\_

Primary Planes Flown: \_\_\_\_\_

Name of Spouse or Significant Other: \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

In what areas of the club would you  
be interested in becoming involved? \_\_\_\_\_

How can BASS help you? \_\_\_\_\_

Please return this application with a check or money order payable to BASS.

Send  
To:

Mr. Don Vetter  
11624 Jerome Avenue  
White Marsh, MD 21162



THE BALTIMORE AREA SOARING SOCIETY  
A.M.A. Charter Club #493



# The BASS “WOODIE” CONTEST

Saturday & Sunday, June 3 & 4, 2006 at Villa Maria, Timonium, Maryland  
Pilots meeting 9:45 AM Flight window opens at 10:00 AM

**Pre-registration required.** Registration fee - \$15/day (\$25 for both days)  
BASS Medals will be awarded First through Fifth Place for Expert and Sportsman

AMA sanctioned (not ESL)

Wings must be built-up open bay construction

(Composite reinforcement ok, not structure. No molded leading edge)

Stab/elevator may be built-up or wood

No thermal sensors

LADDER SCORING WILL BE USED

**One Contestant per Frequency**

Contest Director - Bill Cavanaugh 443-535-0220

Assistant CD Saturday – Randy Kleinert 410-931-2611

Assistant CD Sunday - Dudley Whitney 410-484-5609

For directions to site, please see BASS's web site: [WWW.SOARMD.ORG](http://WWW.SOARMD.ORG)



Name \_\_\_\_\_ AMA No. \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Tel No \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail Address \_\_\_\_\_ Frequency \_\_\_\_\_  
Alternate Frequency \_\_\_\_\_

Sailplane \_\_\_\_\_  Expert  Sportsman

Contest Days:  Saturday  Sunday

Check enclosed for  \$15.00  \$25.00

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Send this entry form and check to: Bill Cavanaugh  
3538 Lakeway Drive  
Ellicott City MD 21042