



**EXPERIMENTAL SOARING ASSOCIATION (ESA)  
Eastern Workshop 2007  
Chilhowee Gliderport, Benton, Tennessee**

Following last year's successful event, the Eastern Workshop of the Experimental Soaring Association (formerly Sailplane Homebuilders) will be held again this year at **Chilhowee Gliderport**, Tennessee. Dates this year are **Friday May 18 to Sunday May 20**. As in previous years, the 2007 Eastern Workshop will include a mix of talks, demonstrations, and flying.

Planned for the 2007 Workshop are updates on multiple projects: two Silent 2 projects (Steve Arndt and Mike Hostage), Pioneer III flying wing (Jim Marske), Concordia open-class glider (Leo Benetti-Longhini) and 13-meter Woodstock (Jerry Gross); also talks on a new South African JS1 19-meter sailplane, load testing of Magic Dragon, acquisition of an HP-14, and possibly several other Schreder sailplane topics; and a few other surprises still in the works. And, of course, plenty of flying for anyone who has a sailplane, or can beg, borrow, steal, or rent one. A more detailed agenda will be issued closer to the event.

If you are interested in giving a presentation or sharing ideas, contact one of the people listed below—don't be bashful.

Chilhowee Gliderport is located in southeastern Tennessee, adjacent to the Cherokee National Forest, not far from Chattanooga. The gliderport has a 2600-ft grass runway, and there is a nearby 2500-ft high ridge. Available for rent are two Blaniks, a Ka-7, Ka-6, and Silent 2 (pure glider version). The Gliderport offers on-field camping, and the nearby Sleep Inn offers special rates to Gliderport customers. There are also numerous log cabins for rent in the Cherokee National Forest (see listing on the back). Directions to gliderport: on US Highway 411, 5 miles north of Benton, TN, between the Ocoee and Hiwassee Rivers. If traveling north on Highway 411, the gliderport is on the left, with large signs.

We invite all ESA members to the workshop at this exciting location. But you don't have to belong to ESA to attend—any interested soaring enthusiast is warmly welcomed. If you missed last year's event, you won't want to miss this year. Events will start around noon on Friday and end Sunday whenever we're tired listening and flying. If you can't come for all of it, come for part—Saturday will be the big day, with flying in the afternoon, and a cook-out in the evening.

**Special Note:** This year the National Vintage Sailplane Meet will be held just down the road in Manning, South Carolina, the following Memorial Day weekend, May 26-28. Contact Bob Gaines ([caseinglue@earthlink.net](mailto:caseinglue@earthlink.net)) or Dennis Barton ([denbar@bellsouth.net](mailto:denbar@bellsouth.net)). Why not stay for both events?

For further information on the ESA workshop, contact **Jerry Gross**, Eastern ESA Vice-President (814-692-5233) [ggross27@comcast.net](mailto:ggross27@comcast.net), **Dave Hudnut** (610-584-6691) [dhudnut@juno.com](mailto:dhudnut@juno.com) or **Al McCarty** (215-453-7602) [almccarty@enter.net](mailto:almccarty@enter.net). For information about Chilhowee, contact Sarah Kelly, (423-338-2000, daytime, or 423-506-9015, evenings) [info@chilhowee.com](mailto:info@chilhowee.com).

REGISTRATION FORM- EXPERIMENTAL SOARING ASSOCIATION, EASTERN WORKSHOP, 2007

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

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

Member: ESA SSA VSA USHGA EAA (circle)  
Pre-registration: \$22 (ESA members \$20)  
At the door: \$25 One day: \$10  
Check payable to Experimental Soaring Association

Send to: David Hudnut  
951 Harleysville Pike  
Schwenksville, PA 19473

The Experimental Soaring Association (formerly the Sailplane Homebuilders Association) is a division of the **Soaring Society of America**, which has been an important organization in the development of the sport of motorless flight since the 1930s. The ESA/SHA was formed in 1979 by a group of pilots, designers, and craftsmen, and has been energetically active ever since. The purpose of the ESA/SHA and its Workshops is to encourage the design and construction of sailplanes which optimize performance and safety. Builder cooperation and the sharing of knowledge within the experimental soaring community are emphasized as a means of achieving these goals. There is a long tradition of homebuilding sailplanes by soaring enthusiasts in the United States and around the world, which goes back to the beginning of aviation. This rich heritage continues today with a spirit of camaraderie in the activities of learning and accomplishing building and flight skills. The ESA's three regional, annual events (Eastern, Central, and Western Workshops) consist of lectures and demonstrations by people who are highly knowledgeable about many theoretical, technical, and practical materials fabrication subjects, related to the aviation sciences. Of course, these events always precipitate many informal small group discussions, when participants give talks and display ongoing building projects, as well as fly their aircraft.

Okay then, if any of the above sounds interesting, you will want to attend one of the Experimental Soaring Association's annual Workshops. They are fun and educational weekends. The Western Workshop location is Mountain Valley Airport, in Tehachapi, California, and is held over Labor Day weekend. The Central Workshop location varies, and is typically held later in the summer. The Eastern Workshop usually takes place in summer or late spring. This year it will be held again at **Chilhowee Gliderport, in the beautiful mountains of Southeastern Tennessee, beginning Friday, May 18<sup>th</sup>, and continuing Saturday, May 19<sup>th</sup>, and Sunday May 20<sup>th</sup>.**

A bit more information for interested newcomers: Soaring is the sport of flying motorless aircraft that have been designed for optimal gliding performance. Most sailplanes are towed aloft by a power plane or launched from the ground by a powered winch; once launched, the pilot's challenge is to stay aloft for long periods of time by finding various forms of uplift in the atmosphere. Contemporary materials technology makes possible aircraft designs that address a wide range of flying possibilities. Designs range from the simple Hang Glider/"Airchair" Ultra-Light end of the spectrum, to the traditional high-performance sailplane, which may be constructed of steel tube/fabric, wood/fabric, sheet metal, or the polymer/fiber composite airframes of modern sailplanes. Each of these aircraft types offers its own experience qualities and opportunities to have fun flying in the sport. Many people who love this kind of flying also build their own aircraft from commercially available kits or from plans sold by aircraft designers. Some enthusiasts even develop experimental designs of their own, then build and fly them. Learning about all this is where the ESA comes in. So, come and join in to pursue your interest among new and old friends alike.

#### Lodging, Hotels/Motels:

[Sleep Inn](#) 800-4-CHOICE, (423) 263-4343 Brand new hotel located in Etowah, TN, about 6 miles north of the gliderport on Hwy. 411, **DISCOUNTED RATE** for gliderport customers. [www.tennesseeoverhillsleepinn.com](http://www.tennesseeoverhillsleepinn.com)

[Ingleside Motel](#), Athens, (423) 745-8122

[Ocoee Inn](#) Located on Parksville Lake Route 1, Box 347 Benton, TN 37307 (423)338-2064 or (800)272-7238

[Cherokee Inn](#), 800-301-2732, 423-338-7700

[Holiday Inn](#) - in Cleveland 25 min. 423-472-1504

Lodging, Cabins (for a more complete listing, see the Website: [www.chilhowee.com](http://www.chilhowee.com))

[Stone Creek Cabins](#): real nice @ foot of mountain , less than 2 miles away from airport. 6-8 cabins. 800-780-3459, ph 423-338-2674 ... email [steve@sccabins.com](mailto:steve@sccabins.com)

[Lost Creek Cabins](#) 888-495-7350, (423) 338-0757 Pets are welcome. [www.lostcreekcabins.com](http://www.lostcreekcabins.com)

[Windswept Farm](#) 150-acre private getaway farm with lodging just north of the gliderport - 2889 Highway 163, Delano, TN. 37325 - (423) 263-0440 - Susan & Mort Trew [windswept\\_farm@yahoo.com](mailto:windswept_farm@yahoo.com)

[Gee Creek Wilderness Lodge](#), Rt. 1, Box 62, Delano, TN, 423-263-2086 [caulds@hiwaay.net](mailto:caulds@hiwaay.net)

[Welcome Valley Village](#) Log Cabin Lodging on the Ocoee River in Benton [www.welcomevalleyvillage.com](http://www.welcomevalleyvillage.com)

**Make reservations well in advance.**