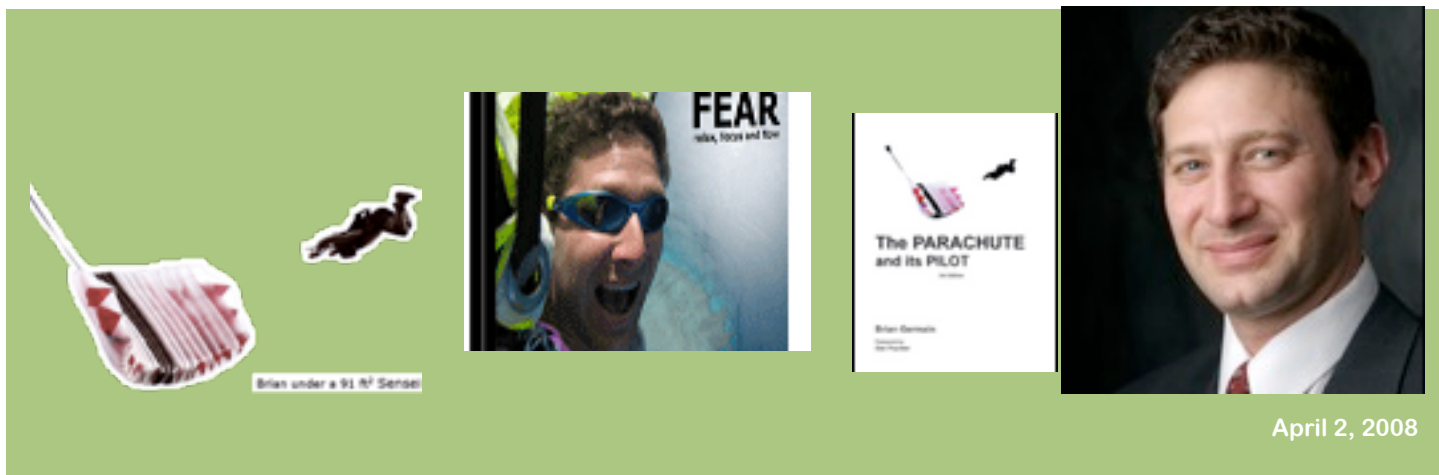


Downwind Newsletter - Supplemental

John H. Lyman/FAA Master Rigger 3291510SOY/AFFI/TDMI/PRO



Brian Germain in Skydiving Education

Dawn and I have been familiar with Brian for several years. I started jumping his canopies about 10 years ago with my first Jedei and his seminars at PIA have always been a highlight of our trips in 2001 and 2003. His book *The Parachute and Its Pilot* is not only one that I have read and often refer to other jumpers, regardless of experience level, but one I often refer to from time to time as a reference source. In it he explains in detail the physical dynamics of why a parachute does what it does. As an AFF and Tandem Instructor, I can personally attest to the fact that teaching canopy flight is the single hardest aspect of skydiving instruction. Additionally, far too many people who are involved in skydiving instruction are themselves, not particularly good canopy flyers. How then are they going to properly teach a new jumper to fly a parachute. Reading Brians book and attending his seminars at PIA, as well as other articles he has written have helped me immensely in teaching canopy flight to new jumpers. I always have a copy in my Rigging Loft and anyone who wants to borrow it is welcome as long as it does not leave the loft. I do encourage anyone interested to purchase a copy from his website www.bigairsportz.com, it is well worth the price. More information about Brians teaching seminars and books is also available on the website. He is also available by email at bgermain@bigairsportz.com.

Brian has long tried to get us to hold a course here. Cost is \$195.00 plus travel and lodging. Please respond by email to Dawn Larsen at dawn.downwindnc@gmail.com and include "canopy course" in the subject line. Even if you have previously replied by email or signed up on the sheet outside the loft, please do so one more time here as we have been in the process of cleaning up our email list and things got kind of messy.

Thanks, JHL

Just a quick update from the Downwind store and loft.

We have been in the process of cleaning up our email newsletter list and hope we have a more accurate list. We now also have a new website, which is admittedly still very much in the process of being constructed. Most of our previous safety and gear related newsletters are available on it as well as information about used gear we have for sale in the store, including photos and rig information sheets, and other projects such as CSS Freefly, RW skills camps, Organized Chaos and Carolina Skydiving League. URL links to event calendars are available and as soon as I figure out how to embed them correctly I will do that as well.

The new website url is:

<http://web.mac.com/downwindnc>

The previous domain name of downwindnc is used by our older and badly outdated website, so the one above will have to suffice until I can clear that up. On the site are links to RW Skills Camp and Organized Chaos, as well as CSS Freefly and others.

RW Skills Camp

This Saturday is the April RW skills camp held by the Flying Majeronis and myself. Anyone wishing to attend, please let me know at downwindnc@gmail.com and please cc Melissa Majeroni mmajeroni@nc.rr.com.

April Organized Chaos

Just for a switch, we are going to try having April OC at Raeford on Saturday April 12th. This is because some of us are going to be flying with Louis French at 11PM the night before in the Paraclete wind tunnel, and also to see if any of the local Raefordites want to join. We should have either the PAC 750 or Otter as a platform. Also, since the CaSL now includes 8way competition, I am hoping

to use Organized Chaos as a way to help get some 8 way teams started. An official Google cal invite list will be sent but let me know anyway if you plan on attending, I especially need to know who I can count on for video from my video roster.

Finally, since I do not have a specific safety topic to cover on this newsletter, please see the older ones on our website and please let us know if you have any questions or dis-agreements. On a personal note, I have long approached skydiving and rigging from the standpoint that there is more yet to learn than what I now know.

Also, one last thing, some of you might remember Peter Kimosh, who used to jump at CSS was suffered a broken heel a couple years ago. Peter has had many serious complications from that injury that have required repeated surgeries. Whether you know him or not, I have included his email address below and I ask that you all please send him best wishes. His injury has resulted in repeated infections including gangrene and during something like that lots of moral support can be just as helpful as penicillin. His email address is:

kimosh@gmail.com

Safety Puppy Fix

For those new to the newsletter, last year I introduced Gus the “Safety Puppy”. I figured that if the prospect of death from blunt impact trauma was not enough to get people to read safety related material, then maybe a cute cuddly puppy dog would be. In this article, Gus finally snaps during safety training and attacks his handler. Gus is ok, but the handler had to be put down.

