



Lee Edling in the Pegasus Spring Soaring

Spring Cleanup Is April 5th

Here are some of the tasks needing attention. Some items have volunteers already; some are waiting for you. Contact Cindy Donovan for the latest at 510-339-6315 or 925-980-4882 (c),, donovan_c@sbcglobal.net

Antenna on the side of the Visitor Center needs to be reinstalled using the pre-installed wiring.
Iron Pipe gates at entrances
Runway cracks
Golf Carts
Irrigation system
Lunch
Windsocks
Storage Shed
Gazebo
Generator Room
Bathroom Clean Up
House Trailer Clean up
Club Room Clean up
Kitchen Cupboards
Kitchen Refrigerator
Memorial Trees Trim
Memorial Trees pull grass

Hanger Office
Bath house clean up
Kiosk clean up
Clear weeds around trees

Fall '07 ASI Trustee's Meeting

By Pam Sutton

The Fall meeting of the Air Sailing Board of Trustees was held on Saturday, September 29, 2007 with all trustees present except Bernald Smith, Terry Duncan, Rolf Peterson and Dick Horn.

Reports and issues discussed include:

- In Terry's absence, David Volkmann briefly reviewed the 2007 Treasurer's report. Revenue and expenses were both down, due to substantially fewer tows throughout the summer. The camps did well though and the \$18,000 spent to overhaul the Pawnee's engine was covered by the sinking fund established for towplane maintenance.
- Karol Hines has been appointed as the ASI Director of Community Relations reporting directly to the Executive Committee. She gave an update on the Winnemucca Ranch project, now known as the Spring Mountain. It is now planned to have more houses on the same acreage. A projected increase in traffic through Palomino Valley is a major concern for ASI, as are the possibility of zoning density changes and BLM land conversions.
- Steve Smith has updated a proposal to install a solar system to supplement the diesel generator for existing power usage.

New to Air Sailing? Would you like to go for a ride in a sailplane, or learn how to fly? Call Lee Edling at 775-722-9188.

Newsletter of Air Sailing, Inc. is published quarterly and is free to members of ASI and to clubs with which we exchange newsletters. Correspondence should be addressed to Editor: Eric Norris at 2635 Benton St., Santa Clara, CA 95051 or gliderboy1955@yahoo.com. Air Sailing, Inc., a 501(c)3 corporation, owns and operates Air Sailing Gliderport exclusively for scientific and educational purposes.

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Standing Committees	Chair		
Executive:	Ty White	Steve Smith	Terry Duncan
Finance:	Terry Duncan		
Fund Raising:	Bernald Smith		
Maintenance:	Ty White		
Long Range Planning:	Pam Sutton		
Nominations:	Terry Duncan		
Publication:	Pam Sutton		
Safety	Dick Horn		

Area Managers	Manager
ASI Tow:	David Volkmann
Memorial Trees:	Pam Sutton
Membership:	Ty White
Operations:	Dick Horn
Tie-downs and Hangar	David Volkmann
Web Master / Guest Book:	Pam Sutton
Facilities:	Lee Edling

Nevada Soaring Association

A club operating at Air Sailing that offers low-cost soaring for members. It also provides introductory rides, instruction, BFRs, a cross-country safari, land out training, encampments, overnights, the Gerlach Dash, and a guest membership program. Contact: Bob Spielman, 250 River Bend Dr, Reno, NV 89523, 775 560-2406, thudpilot1@msn.com

Air Sailing Membership

New members, changes of address, lost members coming home... Send your personal information and check to:

Ty White			\$ 50.00
ASI Membership	Donation (Tax Deductible)	+	
41600 Marigold Drive	TOTAL		_____
Fremont, CA 94539			

Use of Mode C Transponders

The potential conflict between gliders and commercial air traffic near Reno has increased with the growth of commercial jet traffic into Reno-Tahoe Airport (RNO) during the past few years. PASCO (Pacific Soaring Council, Inc.) emphasizes that glider pilots operating in the Reno area must be alert for all air traffic arriving and departing RNO.

Transponder signals are received by Traffic Collision Avoidance Systems (TCAS) on board commercial aircraft as well as by Air Traffic Control (ATC) Radar. By ATC Letter of Agreement, gliders in the Reno area can transmit on the 0440 transponder code in the blind without establishing radio contact with Reno Approach Control.

PASCO recommends, and Air Sailing endorses, that gliders operating cross country, within 50 nm of Reno-Tahoe Airport, install and use a Mode C altitude encoding transponder.

An engineering design review, project plan and detailed costs are the next step.

- The board is seeking someone to take over management of the Memorial Grove.
- Proposals by Neita Montague for a “Gathering of the Libelles” in 2009 and the Women’s Soaring Seminar in 2010 were accepted.



Byron Smith and Colin Aro Head to the Flight Line

Reno Planning Commission Approves “New Town” West of Pyramid Lake

The Reno Planning Commission gave its stamp of approval in early March for the Spring Mountain at Winnemucca Ranch, which the developer described as the first new town in Northern Nevada in 40 years. Read the article in the Reno Gazette-Journal here:

<http://www.rgj.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AIID=/20080320/NEWS05/803200339/1321/NEWS>

Air Sailing Happenings

By Lee Edling

This was a winter of snow. After the first few days of January, a storm hit. It wasn't until the middle of February that the snow had melted somewhat. The ice outside the north end of the hanger is always the last to go. Here we are at the start of March and the ground is dry enough operate the airport, so let's go soaring!

Bear, the dog, has been busy chasing cows. One of our neighbors lets his (and he runs other's critters, also) cattle loose in the valley. This winter there are about 30 head, including longhorn, and so there are more cow pies than normal. When the ground is

wet, the cattle track the airport and that requires attention with the tractor.

Rob Stone, Stoney, has been busy with his new CFIG and has soloed several students and one of them has received license! Good going!

Colin Aro instructed Byron Smith in the ASK-21 this last week. We had a week of great weather and on March first, the day of the check ride, it was very windy. The wind died down enough that Gary Phillips got in the check ride and Byron has a commercial glider add-on to his ATP.

Varian Harris has been in the VA hospital but should be released soon, probably by the time you read this.

I was surfing the web and checked in at www.hpaircraft.com/hp-24/. Bob is planning seminars in April, May, and June. They look very interesting.

In the flight simulator world, X-Plane has a new version, 9.0, that claims to have 20% more terrain elevation detail than ver. 8.0. I don't have it yet but will check it out soon and see how it compares to MS Flight Simulator X. Both are good flight sims that allow you to fly your proposed glider cross country routes in your computer. There is an update to Microsoft Flight Simulator X, service pack 1, available from Microsoft's web site.

See you all on April 5th for spring cleaning (bring cookies, LOL). The weather has to be better this year, right?



Byron Smith and Colin Aro Perform Control Check

Getting People Involved

By Neita Montague

There are lively discussions about getting members to help out. We have a great group which pitches in every year for the Maintenance Party in April but we DO need more of our members involved.

I've often said that all you have to do is asked someone to do something right then and there.....but this email from a friend at another gliderport takes the cake!

From a club in Virginia: "We have the same problem with our scholarship students in the club. I try to get them to participate more in the fringe activities in the club, like washing airplanes, keeping the club house clean and just plainly moving their butts instead sitting in the shade, hooked up to earphones and letting us oldies do the running. The other day I was sweeping out the club house, when one of our youngsters came in to get something to eat. Without saying a word, I handed him the broom. His reaction would have been a worthwhile video for "The funniest Video" show. He was going to solo that day and I told him that when he so desired I would certify for him that he also has been checked out on the broom.

A few years back I did the same with another youngster who had been just accepted to the AF Academy. When he walked in on me and I handed him the broom he told me that he was not on duty that day. Well, I told him "You are now and you better learn to take orders now before you are go to the Academy". He still talks about that.

On the other hand we have a 10 year old in the club who is just incredible. He sees work, he takes initiative and he tells the "oldies" when they do not do things right. He recently finished the Safety Foundation's wing runner course."

It is wonderful to know that there are people all across the United States who care about their gliderports and are willing to speak up to get others involved. How about you?



Byron Smith Landing the ASK-21

President's Message—March 2008

By Ty White

Spring is here, and with it comes the annual Spring Cleaning Day, to be held Saturday, April 5 at the gliderport. Cindy Donovan is organizer this year, with Neita Montague and crew providing lunch. We can use as many volunteers as we can get to do all those necessary tasks before the summer season begins in earnest. If you can't make it, but want to contribute something to the day, make a donation of dollars. One anonymous donor is already contributing \$1 for every person-hour of labor contributed on the Spring Clean Day. You can make a similar pledge to offset your guilt for not showing up in person!

The winter meeting of ASI Board of Trustees was held on February 9 in Cupertino, and at that meeting Robert Stone was elected to join the ASI Board. Robert is a great addition to the Board, being a very active member of ASI and NSA, as well as a freshly minted CFG. Dale Thompson retired from the Board after serving Air Sailing very well for 13 years, and Robert was elected to fill Dale's position. Please congratulate Stoney when you see him, and then you can tell him about all the things the Trustees are doing wrong!

A couple of projects were approved at the winter Trustee meeting. As you know, we have an ongoing Capital Campaign to raise money for several site improvements, including construction of a second hangar and the addition of a solar array to augment the power system. We're in the final planning phase for addition of a 3kW solar array to be constructed in the Fall of this year. This system is sized to provide enough power on summer days to run the electric well pump continuously for irrigation, as well as maintain a high charge on the battery bank in the current electrical system. Keeping the batteries

charged will greatly prolong their life, and we also anticipate a 50% reduction in usage of diesel fuel.

Another project in the works for this spring is a general upgrade to the irrigation system for the trees. The basic backbone of the current system is fine, but the emitters for the trees are currently a high maintenance item as is some of the low-pressure irrigation distribution network. We're planning a general upgrade to the current system to deliver more water to the trees and to reduce the amount of ongoing maintenance that has to be done during the watering season. Our trees are a major investment, and we want to ensure their long-term health.

We have a full slate of the usual spring and summer events coming this year, including the Thermal Camp in May, Cross Country Camp and NSA Bishop Encampment in June, Sports Class Contest in July and Gerlach Dash in August. You can find the details in the ASI Calendar. Right now I'm working hard to entice the Air Force Academy Soaring Team to come participate this year in the Sports Class Contest. If they come, they'll bring 4 or 5 sailplanes and quite a number of pilots and ground crew. It would really be a treat to have them join us.

For next year, Neita Montague has scheduled The Gathering of the Libelles for July 3-7, 2009. I'm sure that pilots of other sailplane types will be allowed to fly in that time frame, but you'll probably get preference if you can prove you are a former Libelle pilot.

The Reno Planning Commission has approved the Spring Mountain at Winnemucca Ranch project, which would involve construction of a planned community near the north end of the Dogskins, up Winnemucca Ranch Road. There are plenty of other bodies, such as the Regional Planning Commission, that have to sign off on all of this before anything can actually happen. The Air Sailing Board of Trustees is keeping itself informed on the process related to this proposed development, and we'll let you know what we know when we know it.

Why April?

By Neita Montague

I often wonder why my glider friends wait so long to start the season and then cut the season too short. There must be a perception that the soaring season is as short as the summer. I wonder if this thought is based on the school vacation. Many of us have kids who are growing or grown and the concept of summer and the days we can soar certainly can stretch beyond the usual months.

Unlike many soaring sites between the California coast and the Sierra Nevada, Air Sailing has excellent soaring most of the year. In fact some of the finest wave flights occur in March, April, July, mid-October and November. We used to hold a Wave Camp in April!

Warm sunny days in April had us out flying and staying up this past year. Wouldn't April be a perfect time to get your BFR and to start polishing your skills so that "summer's" soaring might even be more rewarding and spectacular? Bring your gliders when you come to the Spring Maintenance Party (now under the direction of Cindy Donovan) so that you can start thinking "Soaring!" This might push you to do some reading and getting your equipment ready for YOUR season earlier and give you more soaring days.

We have several instructors on the field at various times, several of them living in Reno and available year round at 775 area codes: Lee Edling, (722-9188) and Rob Stone (240-9461). Others available on an irregular basis are Mark Montague (843-7510) and Rolf Peterson (925 447-5620/4255 or at Air Sailing, 925-784-0344).

It seems that Air Sailing had the most tows of the 2007 year in October. That must mean that there was good weather then. There were some great wave days and good flights on other days.

Keeping your hands on the stick year round (or more of the year) will make you a better and safer pilot. Polishing your skills early will make for even great soaring and longer cross countries for you during the "hotter" parts of the summer, by hot I mean the time when most people come to soar at our gliderport.

I look forward to seeing you in April and May and the summer and September and October and November!



New Commercial Glider Pilot Byron Smith and Taylor Phillips' Dad, Gary, Examiner

Calendar:

April 5: Spring Work Party – Cindy Donovan, Donovan_c@sbcglobal.net or 510-339-6315.

May 3: Spring Regular Meeting of the ASI Board of Trustees, Air Sailing Gliderport, NV – Ty White, 510-504-2217, tylerwhite@earthlink.net

May 26-30: 14th Annual Thermaling Camp – Rolf Peterson, 2618 Tahoe Drive, Livermore, CA 94550, 925-447-5620, 925-447-4255, rolfpete@aol.com.

June 1-6: 22nd Air Sailing Cross-Country Camp – David Prather, 3179 Boeing Road, Cameron Park, CA 95682, 530-748-7275, dwprather68@yahoo.com.

June 15-19: NSA Bishop Encampment – Bob Spielman, 775-345-0410, thudpilot1@msn.com

July 21-26: Air Sailing Sports Class Regionals – Ty White, 510-504-2217, tylerwhite@earthlink.net

August 9-10: Gerlach Dash – Bob Spielman, 775-345-0410, thudpilot1@msn.com

September 6: Fall Regular Meeting of the ASI Board of Trustees, Air Sailing Gliderport, NV – Ty White, 510-504-2217, tylerwhite@earthlink.net

September 6: Air Sailing Awards Banquet and Silent Auction, Air Sailing Gliderport, NV

AIR SAILING NEWS

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