

News FROM Clubs AND Members

CALIFORNIA

Laws

The members of the Inyo-Mono Soaring Association have now incorporated and are hard at work finishing their Baby Albatross. Inasmuch as the Association's members are scattered over a 75-mile radius and they can meet only on Monday nights to work on their ship, progress has not been too rapid. However, they have finished installing their spoilers which are 8" x 40", cable opened, spring returned and are far enough out on the wing to eliminate tail buffeting. The control quadrant is unique in that it has an electrical slide connection so that when the spoilers are open a buzzer will sound. They wish to avoid this "I forgot I had them open" stuff.

They have obtained a plexiglass nose piece which they are cutting in half and mounting permanently on the pod so that the rearmost edge comes back about three inches into the pod opening. This plexiglass nose piece will enable them to place some of their instruments up in the light and out of the way, leaving some room for long-legged pilots.

The back part of the cockpit will have a detachable cover made of thin sheets of pyralin on wood formers. They have lined their pod with thin insulating and sound-proofing sheet and have upholstered it for warmth in winter flying.

"We just have to cover the ship and varnish it," writes Robert F. Symons, "We are going to paint a large golden trout with wings on the pod. The ship will be named 'The Sierra Flying Fish,' emulating that most highly colored and beautiful of all fresh water fish, the Golden Trout, which was found originally only in the high waters of a small stream flowing from Mt. Whitney."

He also reports that plexiglass nose pieces may be had for \$10.00 by writing Salvage Department, Lockheed.

CALIFORNIA SCSA

Visitor at the last Soaring Association meeting and in California for the winter is Parker Leonard, well known in New England for his soaring activities. He has polished ridges and scraped dunes all over Cape Cod for more than a decade. Among the many people he has introduced to soaring is Richard DuPont who was three times winner of the national soaring championship and served three terms as president of The Soaring Society of America. Parker is making the rounds of all the back-yard workshops, getting acquainted with all the California boys he can find, giving all the encouragement he can, and getting a lot of new ideas to carry on with back home.

Parker flew a "Wolf" sailplane for many years, and competed with it at Elmira in 1939, turning in consistently good cross-country flights. He recently renewed acquaintances with John Robinson and Dick

Essery in San Diego, doing several hundred turns around the ice rink in intense conversation with Johnny.

Parker holds U. S. Silver "C" license number 24.

Dr. Klemperer writes as follows:

"On November 8, the SCSA had their regular membership meeting. The films of the SSA were shown and new officers were elected for 1941: Wm. Harvey Stephens, President; Vic M. Saudek and Wm. Gus Briegleb, Vice-Presidents; Mrs. Reva Stiglmeier, Secretary-Treasurer; W. B. Klemperer, Jay Buxton, and Harland Ross, Directors.

"Tow Force measurements for the NACA have been resumed. There has been plenty of activity on the dry lake at Palos Verdes and at Corona.

"We are shocked and grieved by the untimely death of Peyton Watkins in a glider accident at Rosamond dry lake a week ago. He was leader of the "Avions," that enthusiastic group of high school students sponsored by the NAA, which have been doing a real good job of introducing youngsters into aviation. The reasons for the accident are not yet clarified, since both the flying condition of the ship and the flight (power) experience of the pilot were beyond suspicion."

GEORGIA

Atlanta

Bill Plage, our faithful Atlanta correspondent, contributes again:

"It's about time I dropped you a line on our activities down here again, so here it is.

"There hasn't been any flying done here this winter, everybody being too busy getting ready for the thermals this spring. I am still at work on my "Baby Albatross" and making pretty good progress. I'm working on the wings now, and hope to have the whole job done in about three months.

"Avery Hall is rebuilding his Franklin which is a little the worse for wear because of an argument with a Georgia pine tree over the right of way. The pine won. No one was hurt, but the shop was damaged somewhat.

"Shelly Charles now has his new "Minimoa" which he bought from an English owner, and boy, what a beautiful job it is. It came through the sea trip in fine shape, and looks like a million dollars. It has more gadgets than any sailplane I ever saw. Ventilators in the cowl, a small overhead sunshade, plexiglass enclosure, and the slickest trailer you ever saw.

"The latest news is our acquisition of a shop and trailer storage space. We have a stone garage about 50' x 60' with a work bench, stove, with chairs for the gang to chew the fat during those rainy winter days. Avery Hall and myself are working on our ships there and Shelly keeps his "Minimoa" there also. He is also working on a winch mounted on the rear of a 120 horsepower Packard.

"The shop is to be a sort of club room for the Southeastern Soaring Association and we plan on having future meetings there.

"I am hoping to bring my ship to the Elmira contest this year, providing I am not called into active duty in the Navy before then, so it looks as if there will be a delegation of 2 or 3 ships from Atlanta next year.

"I was down in central Florida on a business trip recently, and saw some fine soaring weather. On many occasions, I saw groups of 20 to 30 buzzards working the same thermal, and going upstairs fast. I believe that thermal soaring would be good down there all year, and if I get my ship completed soon enough, I intend taking it down there and trying some winter soaring on Florida thermals."

ILLINOIS

Chicagoland

Glider Council, Inc.

Alfred Marchev, a No. One Glider Pioneer, Accepts Council President Nomination.

Mr. Alfred Marchev, an executive with Signode Steel Strapping Co., and an ardent believer in motorless flying as a sport and as a defense measure, has accepted the nomination for President of the Chicagoland Glider Council, Inc. "Fred" believing in the Council's future, outlines a platform of accomplishments for which he will stand if elected president.

All of us remember the fascinating story he told in Council meeting last season about his early experiments with "hang" gliders in Switzerland at the opening of the century. "Fred" is practical in his views on soaring and his platform for the Council's accomplishments calls for (1) new club formation, (2) contest, (3) building assistance and counsel, (4) publicity, and (5) actual flying at a specified airport (probably Rubinkam).

With sincere hard work by committees and a central (Chicago city) office location as headquarters, Marchev says that the potential interest and participation in gliding and soaring in Chicagoland can be brought to real accomplishment.

Nominated with Marchev are the following: For President: Art Hoffman, formerly an officer of the famous Airhoppers of New York; Harold Krueger, formerly of Glen Ellyn, and Wayne Thomis, Aviation Editor of the *Chicago Tribune*. For Vice President and Secretary: Art Hoffman, Clem Leubeker, a founder of the Chicagoland Glider Council, and Fred Eade of Purdue Glider Club, a director and restless worker for the Council. For Treasurer: Mr. John Ferdinandsen, of Air Associates, whose sincere interest in Council affairs has been demonstrated time and again; Galen Asher, an active Council member and glider pilot for many years. Also nominated for Treasurer were Stan Corcoran, who needs no introduction, and Herman Schocke, a relatively new member whose enthusiasm and eagerness to assist in Council work have singled him out.