

An Editorial

Our New Directors

IN a few weeks you will be called upon to exercise your privilege of electing a new board of 18 directors for the Soaring Society of America. It will be the duty of this new board to carry out the chief function of the Society; the fostering and promotion of all phases of gliding and soaring on a national and international basis.

This election is not something to be entered into lightly since the Soaring Society is far more than merely a body of sportsmen with the national contest as its only major activity. From its inception the Society has envisioned gliding in its true perspective as a marvelous form of training, as well as a means of advancing the sciences of aircraft construction, flight and meteorology.

This threefold aspect of our activities: training, science and sport, makes it imperative that our directors be men not only of ability and personal integrity but that they be men who take seriously their responsibilities as members of a professional group. We must all take cognizance of the fact that ability as a soaring pilot does not of itself qualify an individual for a directorship in what is, essentially, a professional society.

This professional attitude is impersonal rather than self seeking. It manifested itself during the war years by a willingness to work to maintain the Society, by regular payment of dues and through contributions to the body of our special knowledge and skills.

We urge you as a responsible member of the Soaring Society of America to weigh these foregoing factors carefully when you cast your vote for the new Board of Directors on whose shoulders will fall the burden and the pride of continuing our work in the field of motorless flight.

Ben Shupack.

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