

# GEHRLEIN'S CASH AWARDS PROVED GREAT BOON TO HARRIS HILL

Mr. Lawrence "Larry" Gehrlein of Erie, Pa., SSA Director, sportsman and businessman flyer and great motorless flying enthusiast, concluded some time ago that the average American soaring pilot was entirely too prone to sit over his home soaring site rather than striking out for distance flights.

Larry set about to do something about the situation — particularly as regards those pilots flying from the famous Harris Hill site at Elmira, N.Y. He and his noted flying family spend many week-ends and holidays at H.H., it being the largest active site nearest his home town of Erie, Pa. And it is from this site that Larry and a host of other soaring pilots in a three-state area are accustomed to gathering for their soaring. It is Larry's theory that a soaring pilot cannot consider himself proficient in the art, unless and until he has extensive XC experience.

With this in mind he established for 1953 a series of cash awards to be

given for the best cross country mileage on flights launched from the Hill — setting up three categories dependant upon performance capabilities of the three most common types of gliders flown by the pilots at this place. He very thoughtfully excluded flights accomplished during any sanctioned competition, thinking that, after all, there was offered otherwise in connection with a tournament good and sufficient reward for XC tries — and that his awards should be sought on other occasions when the average soarer has maybe, not sufficient inducement to trouble himself with a distance flight.

The results gained by Mr. Gehrlein's generous cash awards are now well known. Probably more non-tournament XC soaring flights have been made from the famous old Harris Hill site, than ever before in any one year.

Winner of the top prize \$500.00 in the 'A' classification was Bernard Carris, who made his qualifying flights in the new Schweizer 1-23D.



"Larry" Gehrlein, chief of the "Flying Gerhleins," SSA director, sportsman, sailplane enthusiast and businessman flyer.

The 'B' Classification award of \$250.00 went to Emil Lehecka. The 'C' classification money was not won as no pilot with that equipment qualified.

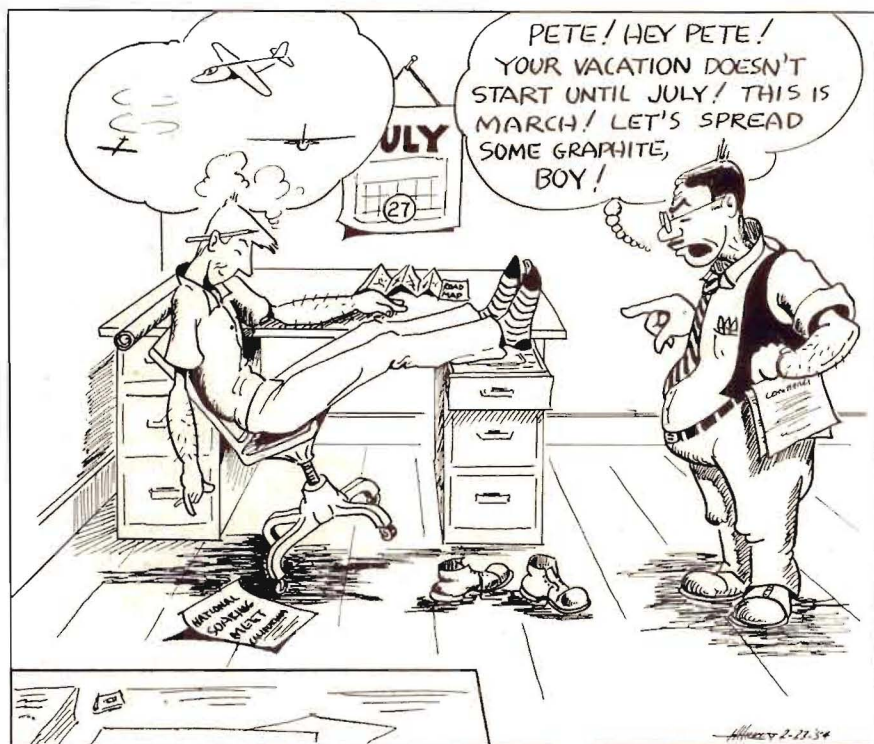
It will be hoped that this splendid example set by Mr. Gehrlein will be an incentive to other generous persons who might like to encourage better soaring performances in this country.

## Second Volume of OSTIV Papers Now Published

This Second Volume of the OSTIV is a paper bound book 8 x 10½ containing a summary of the lectures held during the IV congress in Madrid, Spain. 3-13 July, 1952.

All told a total of twenty papers are included in this publication of some 140 odd pages. Included are the studies of such eminent Americans as Raspet, Carmichael, Cronkite Et Al. The majority of the material contained in this volume is printed in the English language and throughout the works are profusely illustrated.

This publication and its predecessor, would seem to be of very great interest to all devotees of motorless flight, not only to those of technical inclinations but to the layman as well. These volumes are, we presume, available at nominal cost, and those interested in securing copies might contact Dr. August Raspet, Chairman of the SSA Scientific Committee.



Idea submitted by R. Knight.