

CLUB NEWS

Edited by NIKKI DELP

Contributions to "Club News" should be sent to Nikki Delp, 5545 Rab St., La Mesa, Calif., before the 10th of each month for inclusion in the following month's issue. Clubs and associations are requested to send their newsletters and other publications to Nikki Delp, also. Photographs are welcome.

Antelope Valley Soaring Club, Inc. A Chapter of SSA

Memorial Day weekend brought three of the most fabulous soaring days in recorded history to El Mirage and the Antelope Valley Soaring Club. Saturday started off very unobtrusively with forecasts of only about 8000 ASL possible. The first hints of excellent soaring ahead came at about 1100 when small cu started popping over the mountains to the south. Very soon came the reports of steady 3 to 4 meter lift to fourteen and fifteen thousand feet and everybody wanting a barograph. In the middle of the afternoon, two club members took one of the faithful TG-3A's to seventeen thousand feet and quit good lift at cloud base. By this time the sky was about half covered with "Fair Weather Cumulus." The day ended when Bill Brinkmann landed the 1-26 at 8:10 PM after getting his Gold C altitude.

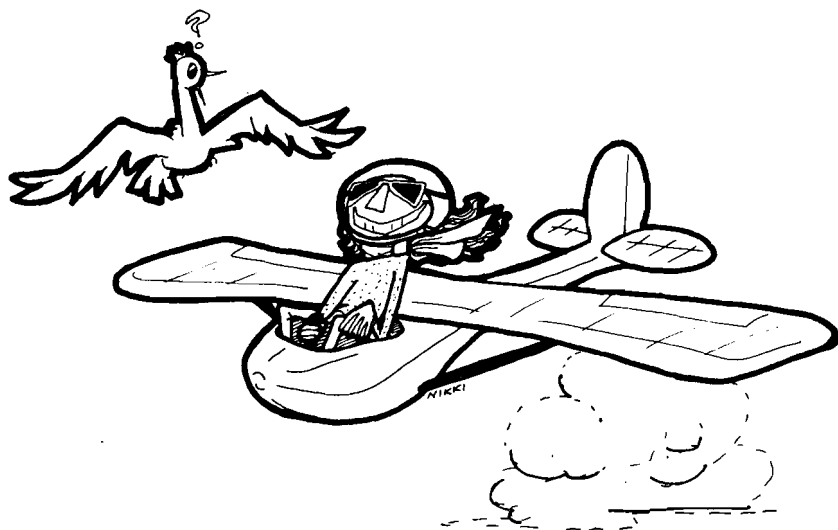
Sunday the 29th started out just as did Saturday except the first cu started at about 1000. Paul LaFrenier

started the day with a quick trip around the Silver C triangular course. Several altitude legs were accomplished along with many hours of just plain fun flying. This day cloud base was at about fifteen thousand feet with several people reporting the use of full spoilers and max speed even spinning to keep from going into cloud. The good soaring at El Mirage ended at around 6:00 PM when a stable air mass moved in but altitudes up to 14,500 were possible until 8:00 PM to the south near the mountains. I know, I missed my Gold altitude by 60 feet down there.

Monday was just like Saturday and Sunday only more so. The excellence of the soaring on this day can be appreciated from the fact that Jim Moeller, John Krey, and I all made Gold C altitude in the same sailplane (the 1-26) with the same barograph in a period of three hours! Meanwhile, Bert Wilkinson had gotten Gold altitude in a TG-3A and Norm Sanders had completed his big sit and Gold altitude. As a result of this weekend Moeller, Sanders, Wilkinson, Krey, Brinkmann, Gable Ray and I have applied for Gold C altitude legs, LaFrenier for Silver C distance, and Sanders for duration. A total of twelve legs. This should complete Silver C for Sanders and LaFrenier and Gold C for Gable Ray. A weekend long to be remembered.

BOB GRAVANCE.

Allowing SOARING's Club News Editor, Nikki Delp, to fly the Schweizer 1-7 owned by SOARING's Editor, Lloyd Licher, produced the below result titled "Grinning girl glider guider learning the joys of open cockpit flying!"



Columbia Basin Soaring Assn. A Chapter of SSA

Soaring around Richland has started to come into its own during May. On May 14th, Jim Hard set what is believed to be a Schweizer 1-19 record by soaring 135 miles from Vista Field, Kennewick, to near Geiger Field, Spokane! He claims he is embarrassed that he didn't make it to Sandpoint, Idaho. His start was late, but he averaged 30 mph.

Gene Rudock in the same 1-19 made his C badge by soaring one hour to 5000 feet early in the month. Last weekend he did it again, staying up for 45 minutes. He thus outflew Bob Moore who unfortunately blew his tire after an unsuccessful attempt to "get away." Bob says that his students always outfly him, but the contest records don't bear out this claim.

A couple of 160 mile out-and-return flights were made by Allemann in the Ka-6, but he seems to need the practice. He only has 60 hours so far this year.

Ed McClanahan is reworking a TG-3 trailer so that it will be worthy of his expected 1-23H. A soaring pilot waiting for a sailplane is a sorry sight. McClanahan is a perfect example of this. He keeps looking at the cumulus and lenticulars as he wields his paintbrush. Pallmer, too, has the urge and has been checking to see if he has sprouted any pinfeathers!

Huntsville Soaring Club A Chapter of SSA

As one of the newest Chapters (#27) of the Soaring Society of America, the Huntsville (Alabama) Soaring Club would like to introduce itself. Our club is the result of the untiring efforts of a number of people, particularly Lloyd A. Swann, the President. Less than a year ago, he gave up such things as radio controlled model airplanes and helicopters to try the more difficult task of controlling a group of soaring enthusiasts. Of course he still has to hold down that job as engineer on the Redstone Arsenal, and manage a U-Haul trailer business, so you may imagine correctly that he is a busy man. Under his leadership, the Club has met regularly. Much discussion made it clear that although we brag that this is a poor man's club, no one should embark on a hobby of soaring if he cannot afford to spend time and money. To maintain interest and simultaneously afford some instruction, we rented movies on soar-