

away early and want to get in pre-contest practice. It is suggested each pilot bring necessary maps to Odessa because the number available locally may be limited.

The Hotel Lincoln in Odessa is recommended for housing during the contest. Reservations can be made by contacting:

Mr. Malcolm Kopplin, Mgr.  
Reservation Office, Hotel Lincoln  
Odessa, Texas

Prices at the Lincoln are:

Single occupancy (\$5. to \$10.)  
Double occupancy, double bed  
(\$7.00 to \$9.00)

Double occupancy, twin beds  
(\$9.00 to \$12.00)

Cabanas, two beds sleeps three  
(\$10.00 to \$13.00)

For those who do not wish to stay at the Lincoln there are numerous excellent Motels in Odessa for which reservations should not be necessary.

It is well to point out the Gold C distance requirement was written into this year's rules to restrict the number of competitors at the National Soaring Championships. It was feared that the central location and popularity of Odessa as a soaring site would have resulted in more contestants than could be adequately accommodated on the Ector County Airport in a really fair competition. This is the Odessa Chuck Wagon Gang's first venture into soaring and it is probably wise to go slow at first. The "Gang" is very enthusiastic about the development of Odessa as a soaring site and they probably will want to stage other Nationals or Soaring Camps in the future. As their experience grows more people can be accommodated.

It is certain that many excellent pilots are disappointed in not being able to compete in this year's Nationals. But, perhaps the high entrance requirements are a blessing

in disguise for there are indications that some people who are not now eligible for the contest are making a decided effort to become eligible prior to August. This is a very healthy situation for soaring and it is hoped that more people will take this attitude.

As can be seen, plans for this year's Nationals are well under way and the Odessa Chuck Wagon Gang is hard at work on various details to assure a "really big show." A reminder to those planning on entering a ship, be sure to check those experimental aircraft geographical restrictions so that you don't show up in Odessa and find that you cannot fly. And of course pilot qualifications both with the FAA and SSA are necessary.

To this date sixteen sailplanes and pilots have preregistered. These include: Joe Emons, L-K; A. J. Smith, LO-150; Harold Hutchinson, Prue 215; Gordon Oats, Skylark 3D; Bernie Carris, RJ-5; Ed Keller, 1-23G; Sterling Starr, 1-23D; C. A. Moeller, 1-26; John Randall, Ka-6B; John Williams, 1-23 FT; Wolf Mix, 1-23-H-15; Helen Dick, L-K FT; Charles Yeates, 1-23; Philip Wills, Skylark 3F; Dick Schreder, HP-8; and Marshall Claybourn, 1-26. With these pilots and ships, competition for the National Soaring Championship should be very keen.

If you have the qualifications get that sailplane dusted off and polished up and come on down to Odessa. If you do not qualify do something about it. Use those weekends to fly that cross-country; you might just make it. At least you will have the fun and get the experience.

See you at Odessa.

Beaumont Cooley  
Box 1660  
Midland, Texas

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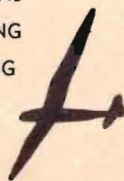
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