

# WRIGHT MEMORIAL MEET

Sanctioned by The Soaring Society of America, Inc.

by JULIAN H. ALLEN

This year the WMGM was held 27-30 May. The first three days were for competition and the final day for fun. Four days of exceptional soaring weather were enjoyed. The day before the Meet, a cold front passed through dropping temperatures to the mid-thirties for record lows for this time of year. The Meet days were clear to scattered with temperatures climbing throughout the four days to seasonal normals. Favorable winds existed for the first two days with practically calm conditions on the 30th.

The divisions of competition were arranged to encourage Silver C and Gold C qualifying flights and were set up as follows:

**Old Pro Division:** Gold C qualification; four entries; three tasks flown.

**Senior Division:** Silver C or 200 hours of power time qualification; 28 entries; distance (\*), distance to goal (\*), and endurance events. (\*-minimum scoring distance, 100 mi.)

**Junior Division:** Qualification less than required for Senior Division; 18 entries; spot landing, bomb drop, altitude gain, distance (\*), distance to goal (\*), and endurance events. (\*-minimum scoring distance 32 mi.)

Points were given as follows: 200/hr. for endurance (at least one hr.); 10/100 ft. for altitude gain (up to 3300 ft.); 20/mi. for distance; 40/mi. for goal; 1000 less 10/in. for spot landing; 1000 less 10/ft. for bomb drop; and 1000 for best task performance, others in proportion.

The 50 pilot entries came from

Ohio, Ind., Ill. and Mich. Ships entered were a 1-19, a Cinema, a BG-7, a Weihe, a LO-150, a Prue 215A, 2 K-8B's, 2 L-Spatz-55's, 2 1-23's, 3 Ka-6's, 4 2-22's and 9 1-26's. Four towplanes (SSD's, BGC's and CISS's L-5's and CSA's Waco made a total of 194 tows.

A summary of the outstanding flights made each day follows:

## Saturday, May 27th

Old Pro task: 168 mi. G & R race, turn point at the Indianapolis speedway. Kit Drew in his Ka-6B was the only one to complete the task, in 6:20 hr., owing to difficult winds. H. W. Jensen in his LO-150 did next best.

Senior Division: Spud Kohler in his Prue 215A made a 196 mi. Gold C distance/Diamond C goal flight to Boundsville, Ohio. Bob Bauer in his Ka-6 made a 121-mi. goal flight to Lexington, Ky. In the distance event, Dean Svec made 153 mi. in his 1-23 D and Jim Dewey made 127 mi. in a Weihe. Best local endurance was 4:04 hr. by Richard V. Hawker in a Ka-6CR.

Junior Division: In the distance event, Don Winn made 44 mi. and Roy McMaster 39 mi., both in 1-26's. There were no qualifying goal or endurance flights submitted.

## Sunday, May 28th

Old Pro task: Two laps around a triangular course. Kit Drew did best by completing one lap. Bill Coverdale in his K-8B did next best.

Senior Division: Goal flights of 198 mi. by Bob Bauer to the Akron-Canton Airport for Gold C distance and Diamond C goal, 133 mi. by Dean Svec to Gallion, Ohio, and 112



Spud Kohler, WMGM Senior Division Champion, receives his trophy from SSD's Vice-President, Bob Christmon.

mi. by Harold Drew and Eric Nacht in 1-26's to Marion, Ohio. Best distance event flight: 133 mi. by Kohler. Best endurance: 3:24 hr. by Harley Shaffer in his 1-26.

Junior Division: No goal flights. In distance event, 112 mi. by Roy McMaster, and 56 mi. by John Warren in a 1-26 for Silver C distance. Best endurance: 2:57 hr. by George Allen in a 2-22C.

## Monday, May 29th

Old Pro task: G & R race, turn point at Connersville. Bill Coverdale in his Ka-8 was first, Kit Drew second.

Senior Division: No previous performances bettered.

Junior Division: Best spot landing, 1 1/4" by Ralph Turner. Best bomb drop, 23 ft. by Ralph Turner. Best altitude gained, 2800 ft. by Ralph Turner. Other events: no previous performances bettered.

## Awards Banquet

The awards banquet was held at 7:00 P.M. on Monday evening in a hangar at the airport. Attractive sailplane trophies were presented to all Division Champions and for best performances in each event. Where Champions won events or tasks, trophies were given to those who placed second in the events or tasks. All event winners have been mentioned. The Champions were:

Old Pro Division - Kit Drew

Senior Division - Spud Kohler, 10,820 points.

Junior Division - Roy McMaster, 2,240 points.

In addition there were a number of special events. Eric Nacht won the 1-26 event with 4,680 points. Ohio State University won the Collegiate team event (best performance in each event by up to five undergraduate pilots). Finally, Spud Kohler was declared Ohio State Soaring Champion.

Bob Bauer of Toledo, Ohio, polishes the leading edge of his Ka-6BR before making the longest flight of the WMGM, 198 miles to his goal at the Akron-Canton, Ohio, Airport.

