

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.

Arizona Soaring Assn., Inc. Phoenix, Arizona A Chapter of SSA

The ASA is justifiably "busting its buttons" with pride this month, as one of its members, Joe Lincoln, has been elected to the Helms Hall Soaring Hall of Fame. Joe, who has been a frequent competitor at soaring contests, former President of the ASA and active in the SSA also received the Lewin Barringer Trophy for the longest flight during the year 1960.

John Ryan, lucky owner of the SISU 1, is now the proud possessor of another high-performance ship, the German K-8B. It was trailered from Ohio to Wichita for the Nationals, and then back to Phoenix.

The Associated Glider Clubs of Southern Calif., Ltd., San Diego, Calif.

Election time is again at hand for the AGCSC, with nominations already made by the nominating committee for the voting in October. A glance at the slate of candidates shows that some of the old timers are fixin' to get back in harness again. However, the group is saddened to realize that the indomitable Frank R. "Robbie" Robbins will not be back with us again this year. After many years and uncounted hours of truly dedicated service to the club he has been forced to step down from his long-held post as treasurer for reasons of health. Each member will feel his loss, as we have all used him as a "sounding board" for all our complaints.

Club members and their families were once again entertained at the September meeting with one of Kon Hanitzsch's entertainment type programs. Films of the latest Indianapolis 500 race were shown, along with a film of the first 500 race for contrast. We look forward to seeing Roman Benn's shots of the Nationals in October.

El Paso Soaring Assn. El Paso, Texas

After six weeks of having our TG-3A laid up for some badly needed minor repairs, we are operating again, and this time with a new canopy which is a pleasure to fly compared to the old.

We are operating from Faben's Airport just south of El Paso and making airtows with a Cessna Skylane which is very satisfactory. For car tows, we operate from Las Cruces, N.M. In August, Walt Bybee took off from Las Cruces on a car tow with an announced goal of Faben's 73

miles southeast. Five hours later he landed at Faben's as announced.

We now have eight members with commercial ratings and several others very close. The club is getting the "buy a second plane" fever, and perhaps by spring we'll be able to get a high-performance, single-place ship.

We find that the club in six months has flown the reliable TG-3A for 73 hours and 35 minutes in a total of 308 flights, 67 of which were airtows. We're looking to double that in the next six months. On the 21st of October we are invited to Alamogordo by the White Sands Soaring Assn. for a weekend of fun and flying. All members are looking forward to the trip with anticipation.

Fred Loeffler was elected vice-president of our club in a recent election, and a better man for the job can't be found.

WALT MCGINNIS

Hawaii Soaring Club Honolulu, Hawaii

After more than two years' struggle, the Hawaii Soaring Club is off the ground. Tom Winkler, the club secretary, has his Pratt-Read fully rebuilt in a new bright yellow Ceconite covering and fibre glass nose. It was christened at the August 20th Jet Age Air Fair with the name of "The Youth Educator" by Professor Dr. Edward Teller, with the words, "May this and similar sailplanes teach many of our youngsters the secrets and beauty of the atmosphere around us, in which we live." Efforts are being made to raise local interest in Hawaii State Government backing for a youth soaring program and the needed facilities. The Land Department of the State Government is expected to grant the long overdue windward Oahu Gliderport which will be the start of general soaring activity expansion both within the Hawaii Soaring Club and other numerous outside soaring interests.

As a matter of interest to the oldtimers, Woodie Brown is club president. He now lives a rancher's life on the Kula slope of the Haleakala Volcano on the "valley island" of Maui.

TOM WINKLER

Dr. Edward Teller christening Tom Winkler's Pratt-Read sailplane "The Youth Educator" as Tom and two boys look on. The ship is scheduled to be used by the Hawaii Soaring Club.



Northern Calif. Soaring Assn., Inc., Livermore, Calif.

Entries are running high for the club's Sawyer Award (described in an earlier "Club News") with over 50 forms received by the contest board in only two months.

Once again, a group of members and their families encamped at Reno's Dry Lake for a bit of holiday soaring. Fourteen sailplanes and over 100 eager soarers turned out for the fun. The Friday before Labor Day brought strong winds and what appeared to be wave action, although no one was able to take advantage of it. On Saturday the spectators flocked to the scene and were able to watch the sailplanes sporting in late afternoon ridge lift to about 10,000 ft. The weekdays were noted by several wind shifts, but with pretty fair soaring most of the time. Meanwhile, back on the ground, Vi Blalock provided for the inner man with her "Banquets in the Desert."

Soarheads Panama City, Florida A Chapter of SSA

We reckon the highlight of August was the letter telling us the Soarheads had won first place in our division of the SSA membership contest. Dave Tobey and Al Uhalt managed to drop in at Wichita and got over to the National Championships Awards Banquet long enough to meet a lot of friends, pick up the coveted barograph and eat supper while chatting with Irv Prue. The barograph was immediately put to good use back here in Panama City with Bob Edwards joining Herb Lunsford as brand-new C Badge holders. Now with a barograph available, we're all eying that Silver C!

Our club lost a "patron saint" at the end of August when Gordon Smith resigned due to his transfer to Tachikawa, Japan. Smitty has been instrumental in getting our new club off the ground, both literally (as tow pilot) and figuratively (directing our TG-3A rebuilding efforts). He'll be sorely missed. Reckon he and Tommy Bryant down in Formosa might start a Far East SSA Chapter?

This correspondent is happy to announce the arrival of a son on August 28th! Tried to take him out to the local air patch the following Saturday to start his checkout, but the wife said he'd have to wait a week or two anyway. Dern aggrivating' females!

AL UHALT