

5th ANNUAL MID-ATLANTIC SOARING MEET

Sanctioned by The Soaring Society of America, Inc.
by WILLIAM C. HOLBROOK

The Cumberland Soaring Group were the hosts for the third time to the Mid-Atlantic Soaring Meet, May 26th through Memorial Day, 1962. Sixteen sailplanes from five eastern states and the District of Columbia attended (a 1-19, two 2-22's, a 1-23, two 1-23H-15's, four 1-26's, 3 L-K's, a BG-12A, a Ka-6 and an EPB-1A). The Kelly Springfield Tire Co. donated the Kelly Springfield Trophy, to be presented to the top individual scorer of the meet, together with all of the other trophies, totalling eight in all.

Dr. Edward Byars, of Morgantown, W. Va., won top honors and his name is now engraved on the perpetual trophy. Dr. Mario Piccagli, of Chevy Chase, Md., placed second in a bunny-nosed L-K he borrowed for the meet from the Hampton, Va., soaring group. Otto Zauner, of Vine-land, N.J., came in third in his white Ka-6.

Dr. Robert K. Poling and William C. Holbrook won the team trophy in Bob's new 1-23H-15. Burt Elliott's first day 1-26 flight brought him and

Harrison Baird in second in the team event, followed by Dick Huppertz and Jack McGonigle in Dick's 1-26.

The weather was unusually poor, only the first and last days were contest days. The U. S. Weather Bureau in Washington assigned a staff to prepare a daily soaring forecast to be ready by 0900 each day. The system worked very well, thanks to the efforts of Dr. Piccagli and Mr. Chilton and his staff.

The first days' task was an 88-mile triangle, Cumberland to Miller Field, south of Keyser, W. Va., to Leap Field, north of Hydman, Pa., and return. Conditions were weak, cloud base about 4000 ft. with a light west wind. Otto Zauner in the Ka-6 was the only pilot to complete the course. George Nash in his L-K F.T. made the second turn point; Mario Piccagli and Bob Poling landed about two miles south of Leap in the same field. Burt Elliott made the best 1-26

flight of the meet on this day by flying to Miller Field and returning to Cumberland, a total distance of 44 miles.

Sunday was 10/10 overcast about 3000 ft. high at the best. A little local soaring, but no contest day. Bud Young won an improvised spot landing contest in the Algonquin Soarers' 2-22. Julian Turner soloed the 2-22 to become the first student the Cumberland Group has brought all the way without any previous time. Ray Shamblen assembled his 1-19 which Ed Byars, dressed complete with scarf and goggles, flew to give the Sunday crowd something to talk about: his demonstration of "soaring in the open."

Monday — rain.

Tuesday—10/10 coverage, drizzle.

Wednesday, finally opened up, but weak, 3500-ft. cloud base, 8-5 mph S.E. wind. The task was a 49-mile triangle, Miller Field, Burlington, W. Va., and return to Cumberland. Bill Holbrook made the 1000 points by doing the course in 2:55, while Ed Byars took 3:30. The others who tried, Mario, Jack McGonigle, and George Nash, couldn't make the first turn point.

The box scores are given in the accompanying table:

TABLE OF SCORES

	May 26	May 30	Total
Dr. Ed Byars (1-23)	450	800	1250
Dr. Mario Piccagli (L-K)	724	310	1035
Otto Zauner (Ka-6)	1000	—	1000
Bill Holbrook (1-23H-15)	—	1000	1000
Dr. Robt. Poling (1-23H-15)	725	—	725
George Nash (L-K F.T.)	750	17	767
Burt Elliott (1-26)	500	—	500
George Arents (1-23H-15)	250	—	250
Dick Huppertz (1-26)	225	—	225
Gordon Bogora (1-26)	175	—	175
Jack McGonigle (1-26)	—	60	60

The winners with their hardware, from L to R: Bill Holbrook, Marion Poling (representing her husband Robert), Mario Piccagli, Dr. Ed Byars, Harrison Baird and John McGonigle.



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