

CLUB NEWS

Edited by NIKKI DELP

Contributions to "Club News" should be sent to Nikki Delp, 4531 36th St., San Diego 16, Calif., by 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.

China Lake Soaring Club China Lake, Calif. A Chapter of SSA

The China Lake Soaring Club held their yearly business meeting on January 11th, at the residence of Mr. Gordon Heeke. These once yearly meetings are for the election of new officers and allow the members to determine the goals of the club for the coming year.

Officers of the club are: Charles Drew, president; Gorkon Heeke, treasurer; John Rambo, secretary; and Jimmie Craig, maintenance coordinator. All but Rambo held the same office in 1961.

The China Lake Soaring Club, Inc., has shown a slow but consistent increase in membership each year, and it is indeed encouraging to see new club members attending these yearly business meetings. This meeting marked the conclusion of our eighth successful year.

Since the club initiated flight instruction with the new 2-22C, the following persons have soloed: Irwin Koff, Roland Von Huen (private rating), Hon Rambo (private rating), Mike Fullerton, Ted Le Grand, Joe Kilgore (commercial rating), David Anderson and Floyd Kinder. AND—a Silver C accomplished by one of our oldest members, Al Sievert, Jr.

One of the most important decisions, in the opinion of the writer, was to initiate the complete repair and alteration of the club's very tired TG-2. The members feel that with our increased membership, it is now most important to increase the inventory of usable 2-place ships.

All members anxiously await the maiden flights of Charlie Drew's beautiful BG-12A,

and perhaps in another month John Rambo's Cherokee II (Crazy Horse) will sprout wings. Jimmie Craig's Cherokee II will soon follow. A TG-2 repaired, a BG-12A newly flying and a Cherokee II 90% completed will certainly show that our club has followed our present plans for another active and happy new year. First thing on the '62 agenda? Our yearly trek to Les Arnold's and some 5-hour sits accomplished, we hope. Can we see some fellow members up there over Easter week?

JOHN RAMBO

Cumberland Soaring Group Cumberland, Maryland A Chapter of SSA

Soaring began in this area in the fall of 1958 when William C. Holbrook and Dr. Robert K. Poling purchased L-K N2040 in Akron, Ohio. Bill and Bob had received their commercial glider ratings at the Schweizer Soaring School the previous summer. Early in the spring of 1959, Bill received his Silver C with several outstanding distance flights including Maryland and West Virginia distance records.

Dr. Ed F. Byars, Morgantown, W. Va., heard of the activities in Cumberland and based his EPB 1-A Plank there, flying over from the University on weekends in his stagger-wing Beech.

The Mid-Atlantic Soaring Association early in 1960 wrote to the Cumberland group asking if they would be interested in hosting their Third Annual M-ASA meet at the Cumberland airport, as facilities at their base, Westminster, Maryland, were not adequate for a large meet. The Cumberland group accepted, and August, 1960, found the meet quite a success with Bob Poling receiving the Kelly Springfield Trophy, Del Miller of Millersburg, Pa., second, flying his Schweizer 1-23 and A. E. "Jack" Curtis of Fredericksburg, Va., third, in a Schweizer 1-26.

The Fall of 1960 found the interest in soaring building as ten fellows pooled their money and purchased a Schweizer 2-22, trailering it to Cumberland from Bridgeport, Connecticut. Bill Holbrook sold his Piper Cub tow plane and purchased a Super Cub which he re-covered. The Cub has been doing an extensive job of towing.

George S. Nash, Jr., bought a share of the L-K after completing the Schweizer course for a commercial glider rating.

During Memorial Day week end 1961, the Fourth Annual M-ASA Meet was held at Cumberland with the Cumberland Soaring Group as host again. Sailplanes from seven states participated and Bill Holbrook won the Kelly Springfield Trophy flying the L-K. Boh Poling was second in his 1-23, Mario Piccagli of Washington, D.C., soared his L-K to third place achieving his duration and distance legs to complete his Silver C. Team trophy for the meet went to Don Brockhurst and Duane Sprague of Columbus, Ohio, competing in their Schweizer 1-26.

In the time between meets and gatherings, George Nash and Bob Poling earned their Silver C's. Ed Byars earned his earlier. Earl R. Wilson, Franklin H. Young and Marion H. Poling (Mrs. Robert K. Poling) met the requirements for their C badges and private glider ratings with John F. Wagner getting his commercial glider rating. The owners of the 2-22 were getting their basic instruction and some of them are planning to attend the Schweizer school in the near future.

During Labor Day week end 1961, an informal gathering was held at which time some soaring enthusiasts from the Pittsburgh, Pa., area came to Cumberland to sample the excellent soaring conditions they had heard so much about. A week later two more sailplanes were based in Cumberland: a K-8 owned by Helmut Kanter, Deiter Ennulat and Buckey Rupperto, and a 1-26 with its crew consisting of Dick Huppertz, Paul Gibson and Jack MacGonigle. Added to that group was a new 1-23H-15 purchased by Bob Poling, and Ed Byars acquired a 1-23 Standard. Earl Wilson, local A&E and AI, trailed from Elmira, New York, a Schweizer 1-26 kit that he is putting together this winter.

At present, the sailplanes at the Cumberland field include a Laiser-Kauffmann, Schweizer 2-22, 1-26, 1-23 Standard, 1-23H-15, K-8 and the 1-26, partially built.

The Cumberland Soaring Group is eagerly looking forward to an enjoyable year! Soaring at Cumberland ceases only when there is too much plowed snow for safety. Knobley Mountain, just off the airport's 28 approach, affords excellent ridge soaring. The range has been appropriately dubbed "Duration Ridge" as the five-hour Silver C leg has been attained over it numerous times. More than five hours has been easily accomplished, darkness only bringing the birds in. Distance requirements have been met over surrounding territory. Altitude gains have been made with hundreds of feet to spare; and the waves that occur over this area have yet to be fully explored!

Officers for the Cumberland Soaring Group are: William C. Holbrook, Pres.; Ed F. Byars, Vice-Pres.; Marion H. Poling, Sec.; and Eloise H. Nash, Treas.

Cumberland's new SSA Chapter, the outstanding flight conditions here, and the numerous activities will attract more enthusiasts to this area. Soaring is still young in Cumberland!

MARION K. POLING, Secretary

Douglas Soaring Club, Inc. Santa Monica, California A Chapter of SSA

Things in general have been going along very well. Back in November we decided



Mark Savage, right, presents A. J. Smith with the first-place trophy in the task event of the Columbus Soaring Association's 1961 Fall Soaring Round-Up.

Photo by
Richard C. Arnold