

A MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

by WILLIAM S. IVANS

1963 begins with two events of major importance to the Soaring Society, the mid-Winter Directors' meeting and the participation of a United States team in the World Soaring Championships.

The Directors' meeting is to be held on the weekend of January 12th, 13th at the O'Hare Inn, Chicago. This is the annual meeting which determines most of the administrative policy for the forthcoming year. We expect to once again

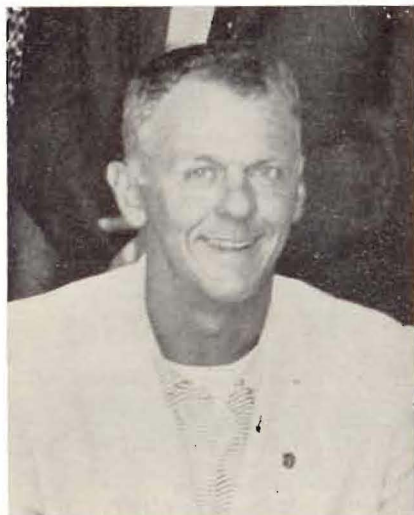


Photo by H. E. Jensen

William S. Ivans, SSA President

review the Society's objectives and to apportion our resources so as to best advance them.

A major problem which will confront Directors is the financial stability of the Society. It is evident that present income cannot pay for present services, despite the most careful husbanding of revenues and the distribution of much of the Society's workload among unpaid and largely unsung volunteers. The gap is not large, but it cannot be tolerated without risk of ultimate insolvency; Directors will be faced with the choice of cutting expense by curtailing specific services, or raising

income by charging more for these services. Happily, our steady growth in membership, nearly one additional member per day, net, offers the hope that the large fixed costs of maintaining a basic staff and publishing a monthly magazine will eventually be spread over a much wider membership base than at present.

In February a team of our top competition pilots will fly in the World Championships at Junin, Argentina. This is the first time that the Championships have been held outside of Europe. We owe a great deal to the National Aeronautic Association and to the individuals and companies who have donated money and services to support our team. This essential support, together with efforts of our team members under the leadership of Team Captain Paul A. Schweizer, assures us a maximum chance of success in a formidable field of 80 declared entries, from 28 countries.

In this, my first message as President of the Society, I must say that I look forward to my term in office with pleasure and confidence. I have had the privilege of serving the Society as a Director under its five most recent past presidents: Jon Carsey, Floyd Sweet, Paul Schweizer, Harner Selvidge, and Paul Bikle. I can only hope to approach the unselfish devotion which all of these men have given to advancing the aims of the Society. I do expect the same membership support which these men have received; having this, I am confident that we cannot fail to continue our progress toward a strong, self-sustaining Society which is fully responsive to the needs of its members.

William S. Ivans

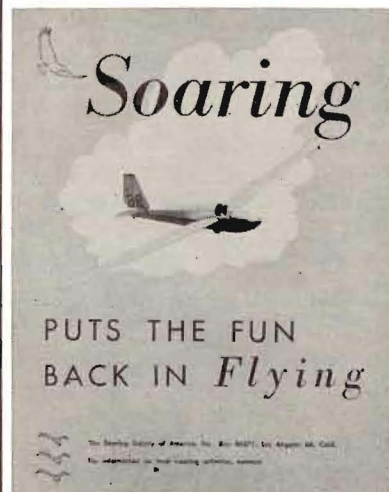
The new President of the SSA is 42, married, and an engineer. He was born in New Rochelle, N.Y., spent his early years in eastern Pennsylvania, and received a BS degree in electrical engineering from Penn State in 1942. World War II service as a Signal Corps and Air Corps officer was followed by a move to San Diego, California, in 1946, to accept a position with Convair. He

left Convair in 1957 to become Vice President/Engineering of Cohu Electronics, the position he now holds.

He has been active in soaring since 1948, following first instruction at San Diego's Torrey Pines gliderport. His total time in gliders is some 700 hours, much of this on cross-country flights. He holds the Diamond Badge, international number 9, and for a number of years held world altitude and altitude gain records, now held by Paul Bikle, the immediate past President of the Society. He has received the F.A.I. Lilienthal Award and SSA Eaton Trophy for soaring achievement. A strong liking for competition soaring has led to his participation in most U.S. Nationals of the past 12 years and to a 5th place in the World Championships at St. Yan, France, in 1956.

Bill has served as an SSA Director for 12 successive years, and has also, until assuming the President's office, served as Chairman of the SSA Contest Board. He has been U.S. delegate to the F.A.I. World Gliding Committee (C.V.S.M.) for the past two years; his report on the November 30-December 1 Committee meeting is to be found elsewhere in this issue.

POSTERS



TO PUBLICIZE SOARING
IN YOUR LOCALE

SIZE: 8½ x 11
Blue background
Price: 10 cents each

SSA Box 66071
Los Angeles 66, California

OXYGEN EQUIPMENT

SALES & SERVICE
REGULATORS—MASKS—VALVES
PORTABLES & CYLINDERS
FIXED INSTALLATIONS

ZEP AERO GOV'T. APPROVED REPAIR STATION
Phone: SP 2-1421
EL SEGUNDO, CALIF.