

Letters

Correction, Please!

Dear Sir:

Regarding the photo of CAP Cadet Christine Whitcomb on page 19 of the June, 1963, *Soaring*, Chris was the 30th, not the 13th Cadet to be soloed in the preceding twelve months - or, more correctly, since 1 Jan. 1962, the preceding ten months.

Cdr. R. K. Awtrey, USN
CINCPACFLT (63), NAVSTA Pearl
Harbor, Hawaii

Exciting Meeting

Dear Lloyd:

On August 11th I made a 393-mile flight in an attempt to break the world goal and return record. I landed 33 miles short on a 426-mile flight. The course was from Rabbit Dry Lake (east of Carson City, Nev., on highway 50) to Keeler, California, and return. This was my first all-out attempt and with more experience and weather cooperating it looks feasible. I'm keeping my ship at the Carson City Airport until the end of September and will keep trying it until time runs out but I am very encouraged.

An interesting side to this flight was my meeting Sterling Starr over White Mountain Peak going in the opposite direction trying to do the same thing from Inyokern to Grants Peak and back. He landed at Bishop on the way back. Also about 15 minutes behind him was Evan Stover in another I-23. It was very exciting to meet with other sailplanes on the flight.

Bruce Beebe
244 Connecticut St., San Francisco 7, Cal.

NW Regionals

SSA:

Attached please find application for completion of Gold badge plus Diamond goal leg, Hailey, Idaho, to Butte, Montana, 7-24-63, supervised by Major Ed Butts.

May I compliment everyone having anything to do with making the Northwest Regional Soaring Championships a complete success and urge a similar meeting to be held next year.

Wm. Frank Kelsey
1502 Edison St., Salt Lake City 15, Utah

Tom Swift on Soaring

Dear Sir:

Although "Tom Swifties" are fast becoming passé, thought I would pass the following along and invite further invention:

"I like to crew in the desert," said Shirley Emons, hotly.

"High aspect ratio is the secret to performance," said Dick Schreder, infinitely.

"Ink trace barographs are no damn good," said Bruce Beebe, icily.

"Slope soaring is for sissies," said Paul Bikle, loftily.

"My bird stalls at 120," said George Moffat, speedily.

"All-metal sailplanes are in," said Irv Prue, strongly. More corn, anyone?

LCDR KENT HUGUS, USN
FTG Box 55, Navy 115, c/o FPO,
N.Y. N.Y. (Guantanamo Bay, Cuba)

The Kleenex Caper

Dear Lloyd:

I found Mr. Lobmaster's article on "Thermal Marking" most rewarding.

From where I sat on a Friday evening, reading the June *Soaring*, I spotted an even cheaper source of tissues, 1680 single sheets for just \$0.37, and coloured too! A quick check on my final glide calculator told me that the savings from one season's use of this type, at one-eighth the cost of facial tissues, would be equivalent to 0.92 of one launch.

This idea, I must admit, is not new. An English soaring friend told of toilet paper being used for thermal marking during a contest weekend at Camphill. Soon they had used all supplies at the local facilities and dispatched one crew-member to buy more rolls. The boys still chuckle over how their young friend asked the amazed storekeeper for "12 rolls of toilet paper, please" adding, as an explanation, "the boys on the hill are having a competition."

However, after reading Lobmaster I set out for Pendleton Airfield in an experimental frame of mind. I got launched in my shared Ka-6 with full cross-country kit, including *Soaring* of course, for reading matter whilst waiting for my ever-willing crew. Once airborne, I saw the Mg-23 circling nearby; little puffs of red Kleenex appeared occasionally from its window. I went over to investigate. Must have been the wrong colour—the Kleenex went down. I released some "White Swan" tissues—same result. I threw out *Soaring*—it went up!

Which must prove *Soaring* is quite light reading.

JOHN W. CHESBROUGH
47 Sussex Dr., Ottawa, Ontario

Record or Picket?

Editor:

Re: Bikle flight of 557 mi.

As a dues paying member—I demand!!!: Subject flight be recognized and published as a U.S. National Record.

Subject flight was accomplished during a recognized tournament, under SSA Official Observers who are fully competent to attest to the authenticity of this record claim.

A barogram in connection with such a flight attests to nothing and certainly is not so persuasive as "eye-ball" witnesses.

The August issue of *Sailplane and Gliding*, the official journal of BGA, gives an account of a record flight in that country which was made under identical circumstances and which was recognized as a National Record.

This flight by Mr. Bikle is an outstanding accomplishment by a foremost American soaring man—just the greatest such accomplishment in the world. For SSA to stand by and let this go as a so-called "outstanding flight" is nothing short of a tragedy.

I want and demand my rights—this is a record flight and must be recognized as such. Failing the attainment to that which is justly due me, I will organize a march and picket the offices of the SSA Records Committee.

Member E.J.
E. J. Reeves, 3330 Bryn Mawr,
Dallas 25, Texas

Materials Available

The SSA has a variety of items available on a free distribution basis, unless otherwise specified. Request by item number or name from SSA, Box 66071, Los Angeles 66, California.

Item 3. FAI soaring awards application forms.

Item 4. SSA membership application forms (postage paid business reply envelopes).

Item 6. "SOARING . . . The S.S.A. . . . and YOU" pamphlets, telling about the sport of soaring, glider pilot certificates, how soaring is organized, what the SSA is and what it does, and how to get started in soaring. Ideal for answering the questions of prospective soaring enthusiasts.

Item 7. List of Soaring Clubs. Gives club addresses, meeting times and places, flying sites and contact persons. Specify states desired.

Item 8. List of Manufacturers and Suppliers of Plans, Kits, Partially completed and Ready-to-fly Gliders and Sailplanes—U.S. Manufacture. Includes brief description, price, manufacturer's name and address. New equipment only.

Item 9. List of Soaring Schools and Commercial Glider Operators in the U.S., giving location, equipment and prices, where known.

Item 10. List of Books on Soaring, where they may be obtained, prices and brief description of each.

Item 24. Incorporation Procedures — California. Intended to show non-profit soaring clubs the way to incorporate, with specific details for the state of California.

Item 25. Suggested Bylaws for Soaring Clubs. For those seriously attempting to form new clubs.

Item 28. Used Sailplanes For Sale List. All known used sailplanes for sale for which the owner has given permission to add to this list. Latest revision date is Aug. 1, 1963.

Item 30. Film Library List, with rules governing use of the films. Request from Walter B. Hausler, 67 Fisher Rd., Rochester 11, N.Y.

Item 38. How to Start a Soaring Club. Six pages of suggestions.

Item 39. State Soaring Records Rules and Application Form. Available from State Governors or SSA.

Item 42. List of Foreign Aero Clubs and Soaring Centers. Addresses to use when writing for information about soaring abroad.