

Letters

Help Wanted!

Dear Alex:

Some time past it occurred to me that the history of gliding and soaring might best be told in an Anthology of first-person accounts by the people who made that history. It was immediately obvious that no item which would broaden the scope nor amplify the content of such a book, no matter how small, should be overlooked. According I have done a great amount of reading and research. This effort turned up consistently excellent material, but just as consistently it exposed vaster and vaster areas of ignorance. In order to leave as few dark corners as possible unexplored I would now like to ask *Soaring* readers for help.

The stories may concern any aspect of gliding or soaring and may be passengers or retrieving crew members as well as by pilots. They may describe a bit of local muddling or an International's contest flight. The approach can be humorous or matter of fact, the author of either sex. They should include representative nationalities, may deal with gliding in peace or war, and fall anywhere in the period between Sir George Cayley's time and the present. They may be anecdotes of a hundred words or less or lengthy and detailed accounts. They must, however, be representative of soaring and preferably highlight some unique or individual aspect of the sport. And they must be first-person accounts.

To avoid too much lost motion let me say that I am familiar with the material in *Soaring*, *Sailplane* and *Gliding* and the books of Hirth, Kronfeld and Wills. The weakest spots, I would estimate, are in the area of club newsletters and stories by nationalities other than American, English or German. Any recommendation by *Soaring* readers will be appreciated and all correspondence will be gratefully acknowledged.

RICHARD MILLER

c/o Crayne, 331 Marlowe Dr.,
Oakland 5, Calif.

In Defense of the Ka-6

Dear Alex Dawydoff:

May I comment on the interesting story "Comparison Testing the Briegleb BG-12B" in the April issue.

I feel sure any pilot who has flown competitively against the BG-12 recognizes that it is a formidable contest machine. This being so, it is difficult to understand why it was necessary to stretch the performance claims with a remark that might give a false impression of the "comparative performance" of another sailplane, the Ka-6.

I have not had an opportunity to fly with the BG-12B recently, but I remember an evening a few months ago when I was flying my Ka-6 and Gus towed up and released several hundred feet above me. The BG-12B then slowly descended through my altitude and continued on down to what appeared to be, from above, a rather reluctant landing.

GRAHAM THOMSON

11409 Waterford St.,
Los Angeles, Calif. 90040

Glider Training Road to Freedom

Dear Alex Dawydoff:

An example of how little the public knows about soaring, came to light in the newspaper accounts of the two East German youths, who recently stole an airplane and defected to the West. The headlines made much of the fact that neither had ever flown an airplane before the news-making flight was made. But, on digging deeper in to the facts of the case, it came out that they were both members at an East German Glider

Club. Where else could they have received better training?

RAY SCHOR

1569 Helen Dr.,
Los Angeles, Calif. 90063.

Wet Waves

Dear Alex Dawydoff:

Been noticing multiple wet waves at least two days out of every week. Why doesn't someone do something in them?

KEN DANIELSON

United Air Lines Training Center,
Stapleton Airport, Denver, Colorado

Calendar

Items listed in bold-face type are to be sanctioned by SSA.

June 20-21. Holiday 1-26 Regatta, Tehachapi, Calif., Airport.

June 21-27. Alpine Soaring Expedition, Aspen, Colo., Municipal Airport. Contact Dave Johnson, 625 Berglund Rd., Colorado Springs, Colo.

June 21-28. Philadelphia Gilder Council Open House Week, PGC Gilderport, 5 mi. N. of Chalfant, Pa., on Hwy. 152.

June 22-Sept. 4. EASC Summer Soaring Camp, Harris Hill Gliderport, Elmira, N.Y.

June 27-28. Kansas Kowbell Classic, Strother Field, Winfield, Kansas.

June 27 - July 5. Soaring Camp, Fancher Field, Wenatchee, Wash.

Late June. Prescott Soaring Club Meet, Prescott, Arizona, Municipal Airport. (Dates to be announced.)

June 30 - July 9. 31st Annual U. S. National Soaring Championships, McCook State Airport, 8 mi. N. of McCook, Nebraska

July. Soaring Camp, Fancher Field, Wenatchee, Wash. (Dates to be announced.)

July 3-5. Elmira Centennial Soaring Meet, Harris Hill, Elmira, N.Y.

July 4-5. Midwest Soaring Contest, Adrian, Michigan, Airport.

July 8, 8 P.M. SSA Annual Meeting, McCook, Nebraska.

July 10, SSA Directors' Meeting, McCook, Nebraska.

July 13-17. Northwest Regional Soaring Championships, Hailey Airport, Sun Valley, Idaho.

July 14-31. Annual Marfa Soaring Camp, Marfa/Alpine, Texas, Airport.

July 18. 3rd Annual SCSA Hangar Party, 8 P.M., El Mirage Field, Calif.

July 18-19, 25-26. 1964 Southern California Soaring Championships—Part 3, El Mirage Field, Adelanto, Calif. (SCSA/AGCSC).

July 21-30. 16th Canadian National Soaring Championships, Brantford, Ontario, Municipal Airport.

July 29-Aug. 2. Texas State and Southwest Regional Soaring Championships, TSA Gliderport, 7 mi. S. of Grand Prairie, Texas.

Aug. 4-9. Annual EAA Fly-In, including sailplane activities, Rockford, Ill., Airport.

Sept. 5-7. Great Plains Soaring Contest, Liberal, Kansas, Airport.

Sept. 5-7. 1964 Southern California Soaring Championships—Part 4, Inyokern, Calif., Airport. (SCSA/AGCSC).

Sept. 5-7. 10th Annual 1-26 Regatta, Harris Hill, Elmira, N.Y.

Sept. 5-7. 10th Annual 1-26 Regatta, Harris Hill, Elmira, N.Y.

Sept. 5-7. NESAs Labor Day Soaring Meet, Hiller Airport, Barre, Mass.

Sept. 5-7. Chicagoland Glider Council Labor Day Soaring Meet, Joliet, Illinois, Airport.

Sept. 5-7. 7th Annual Rocky Mountain Soaring Contest, Black Forest Gliderport, 13 mi. NE of Colo. Springs, Colo.

Sept. 13-18. Sierra Soaring Contest, Carson City, Nev., Airport. (In conjunction with the National Championship Air Races, Sept. 12-20.)