

BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

L. LICHER

The Directors of the Soaring Society of America held one of their semiannual meetings on July 8th in Reno, Nevada, at the close of the National Soaring Championships. Twenty-two of the 26 Directors were present, including Gen. Brooke Allen, representing NAA. Minutes of the meeting will be published, copies of which will be available to any SSA member upon request. Actions taken at the meeting which might be of general interest are summarized below.

There were two letters of intent to bid for the 1967 Nationals, from Marfa, Texas, and McCook, Nebraska. On the basis of these letters it was decided to accept Marfa's offer to sponsor the contest. Exact dates will be announced later but are likely to be July 4-14.

The priority list for pilot admission to the 1967 Nationals was modified by moving "2. Those who have the Diamond distance or Diamond goal leg" down to just before "6. All other entrants (with the Gold distance leg) in order of postmark date of their applications," and altering the second item to read "those who placed in the top three (of those who do not qualify to enter the Nationals in any other way) of an SSA-sanctioned Regional Soaring Championships held within the previous 28 months." Priorities 1, 4 (now 3) and 5 (now 4) remain the same, essentially those who placed in the top 10 of the 10 previous Nationals; in the top one-half of the three previous Nationals; and in the top fraction of a recent Regionals (exact wording as in the March issue).

Because of increasing desires to hold the World Soaring Championships in the U.S., it was voted to solicit CVSM to see if they are interested in having the Championships here in 1968 or 1969.

Consideration was given to permitting student pilots to fly in Regionals and the 1-26 Nationals, if SSA sanctioned, but this move was not approved and a private glider rating will continue to be a requirement of entry.

The fee for SSA sanction of future Regionals and 1-26 Nationals was increased to \$50 (\$35 if the sponsor is an SSA CHAPTER) in view of the more elaborate sanction kit now provided by SSA.

Considerable discussion took place concerning the SSA membership situation. The net growth curve has remained at a low slope for the past year in spite of a steady and unchanged influx of new members. The difference is attributed to a lower renewal rate, so action will be taken to investigate the reasons why ex-members did not renew. Also, more emphasis will be placed on apprising existing members of the value of their affiliation with SSA.

Special SSA awards were voted as follows: SSA Exceptional Service Awards to Paul Schweizer, for his work on the behalf of U.S. soaring teams for the past eight years, and to Charles Abel, for his lasting contribution in helping to establish the soaring plaques in the Smithsonian Air Museum; an SSA Exceptional Achievement Award to George Moffat, Jr., for establishing three world soaring speed records; and SSA Certificates of Appreciation to Maj. Edward Butts, for serving as chairman of the Contest Board for the last four years, to Marshall Claybourn, for serving as Nationals Competition Director for the last three years, to Miles Coverdale, for service as chairman of

the Safety Subcommittee for the past two years, to Harold Drew, for his help to the 1965 U.S. team, to John Williams, for founding the Southern Calif. Competition Club which has innovated new devices and techniques for conducting contests, and to Harold Klieforth, for his contributions and service in the field of soaring meteorology.

As per a recommendation of the Election and Allocation Committee, the allocation of Regional Directors was altered to give Region Seven (Ill., Wis., Minn., N.D., S.D., Iowa and E. Mo.) another Director, to be taken from the allotment for Region Two (So. N.Y., E. Pa. and N.J.). Thus both regions will have two Regional Directors. This will be accomplished in this fall's election when one of the Region Two Directors' term expires (that of Otto Zauner).

The SSA officers for the calendar year 1967 were elected, as follows (*indicates re-elected):

President—Sterling V. Starr
V-P (East)—Miles Coverdale
V-P (West)—J. C. "Red" Wright
Secretary—Tom Page*
Treasurer—Ted Sharp*

The six Directors-at-Large elected for 1967 were Sterling Starr, Tom Page, Ted Sharp, Gen. Brooke Allen, Harner Selvidge and Marshall Claybourn. Floyd Sweet and Gunter Voltz were elected as stand-by Directors-at-Large, to take office if Starr, Page or Sharp are elected as Regional Directors.

The Directors designated as Executive Committee to serve until the next Board meeting, composed of the President, John Ryan, Bill Ivans, and Vice-President/President-elect Sterling Starr.

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