

CLUB NEWS

The Signal Mountain Soaring Society received its charter from the State of Texas on July 7, 1966. We took delivery on a Schweizer 2-22 on a lease-purchase agreement from William Cleary of Sailplanes, Inc. on August 12th. Since that time we have made 167 training flights and have checked out six of our present 11 members to solo.

Our club is deeply indebted to the Permian Soaring Association of Odessa, and other Odessa pilots, for their help and patience during our organization and early months of operation. Odessa certainly has an abundance of excellent pilots and wonderful fellows, such as Al Parker, Wally Scott and "Red" Wright. We are especially indebted to Roy Schlemeyer, Curtis Erwin and Bill Eaves for their help in giving us many hours of flight instructions.

Now, however, we are being kicked out of the nest, but we have every intention of producing sailplane pilots of such proficiency as to give all these fine fellows, our mentors, the type of competition they deserve. We are presently in the process of building the most beautiful gliderport in Texas. It is located about eight miles east of Big Spring. The runways are now being cleared on a plateau adjacent to Moss Creek Lake and just four miles north of our namesake—Signal Mountain.

The City of Big Spring has generously entered into an agreement with SMSS in order that this city-owned land might be developed as a gliderport. Here at Moss Creek Gliderport you may swim, fish, boat, camp and (soon) share the thermals with our native eagles high above the mountain. By spring we should be in a position to welcome and accommodate sailplane enthusiasts at this attractive new soaring site. O. C. SHAPLAND

ERRATUM

Due to some mysterious transpositions in recent badge listings an anonymous character named Rudolph Schnette got credit (in October NEWS NOTES) for a C badge flight to 30,450 ft. This flight, we are now informed, was made by a very real Mr. Rudolph Wacker to whom we offer our apologies and congratulations.

Looking for an address, a current record or location of a club? Try your 1966 Soaring Directory.

Comfort

(very important)



Pilot's comfort is very important when you buy a new glider. Make sure there is lots of shoulder width and space for tall pilots (think of the resale value). Buy yourself a DIAMANT and feel at ease in the semi-reclined position. You have an adjustable neck-and-head support (very important), adjustable pedals, adjustable ventilation, space for more instruments than usual and an excellent view. **New** for 1967: even more elbow room — more comfort.

15 meter

L/D 39, min.sink
2.0 ft/sec.,
delivery spring 1967

New: 16.5 meter

L/D 42, min.sink
1.8 ft/sec.,
delivery middle 1967

New: 18 meter

L/D 45, min.sink
1.7 ft/sec.,
delivery end of 1967

DIAMANT

Flug- und Fahrzeugwerke AG
9422 Altenrhein Switzerland

The manufacturers will be glad to send you a detailed description and a new list of North American dealers.

SIERRA WAVE CAMP

Vic Swierkowski announces that the Second Annual wave camp will take place at the Truckee-Tahoe Airport between Christmas and New Year's Day of 1966. The facilities at Sierra Soaring have been improved since last year and now include a hangar and office. Individuals contemplating a visit to this superb soaring site are reminded that skiing is also possible in nearby areas and are invited to query Vic if they have any questions regarding services or accommodations. The address of Sierra Soaring, Inc. is 213 26th Street, Sacramento, Calif. 95816.

CHAPTER NEWS

Since the report in the November *Soaring*, the number of SSA Chapters has risen from 68 to 71, and this, despite the loss of one, Cedar Rapids Soaring Association. Our first Chapter from Hawaii, two more from Texas, and our first in Alabama are as follows: Mokuleia Glider Club, Honolulu, Hawaii; Arthur Gray, Jr., President. Laredo Soaring Association, Inc., Laredo, Tex.; James Cox, President. Signal Mountain Soaring Society, Big Spring, Tex.; Dr. F. W. Lurting, President. The Soaring Club, Fort Rucker, Ala.; H. Ernest Rowlette, President.