

The Eagle's Nest



The Official Newsletter of the Sacramento Valley Soaring Society

February 2007

Volume 17, No. 2

President's Message

By Rich Beardsley

First off—thanks for the great turn out—the January meeting was an unqualified success. Thank you all for making my first meeting as president an easy one. You all did most of the work.

A number of items were discussed, and a lot was accomplished. The details will be posted in the newsletter. Some of the highlights include a meeting at the flying field in June. This will be a “bring the family” fun fly, starting at 5:30 p.m. We will have open flying until 7 p.m. The meeting will be conducted over a Santa Maria style BBQ. I will spend most of the day cooking tri-tips and flying. Maybe some of you retired types will come join me for some fun flying. We will go over the details later.

If we were to give out an award for the member who gives the most of his time and resources, it would go to ED GRANGER. He generously gave \$200 cash to each of 6 members (drawn at random). Ed gave points to any member who in 2006 helped at a contest, work party, or who served as a club officer. Each point gave those members a chance to win the cash if they were present at the January meeting. Fortunately, no one had their name drawn who was not in attendance. The winners are published elsewhere in the newsletter.

THANKS A MILLION (\$1200) TO ED!!!!

P.S. I thought I heard Ed say something about next year. Was that true, Ed?

Another item accomplished included updating the contest classes, adding “Novice” to the current “Sportsman”, “Expert” and “Master” classes. The breakdown is included in this newsletter. Pilots’ positions were determined by averaging the last 3 or 4 years of scoring. The Novice class will be first year pilots. We are also trying to get a one design or EZ Glider class going. There has been quite a bit of talk about adding this class.

If any member has an idea to help grow the club, or additional activities, please feel free to call or e-mail me.

Well, 2007 is off and rolling. I look forward to a very good year and lots of great flying.

Have Fun!!!

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Published monthly by the Sacramento Valley Soaring Society.

Purpose

SVSS is a social organization whose purpose is to promote the safe and skillful operation of radio controlled model sailplanes. SVSS is an AMA chartered club, number 2752. Membership is open to the general public.

SVSS Officers - 2007

President	Rich Beardsley 707-455-8279
Secretary	Neil Nolte 916-966-0857
Treasurer	Stan Scharosch 919-987-1173
V.P. Contests	Kipp Geisler 707-693-1771
V.P. Field	Bob Mosher 916-487-7139
V.P. Equipment	Dave Finberg 919-525-1316
New Member Mentor	Dave London 916-944-3948
Instructor	Dave London 916-944-3948
Instructor	Cameron Clark 916-296-8771
Web Master & Newsletter Editor	Dudley Dufort 916-991-1266

Monthly Meetings

SVSS general membership meetings are held on the 3rd Thursday of the month, at 7 PM in the meeting room at SMUD, 6201 S Street, Sacramento, California. Our meetings are open to the public and visitors are always welcome and encouraged to attend.

Contests

Monthly contests are held on the second Saturday of the month at 10:00 AM. Beginners and spectators are always welcome.

AMA

Membership in the Academy of Model Aeronautics is required prior to flying in any SVSS organized event or using and SVSS equipment.

Club Rules

1. Have fun
2. See rule #1

Editor's Corner



By Dudley Dufort

Kipp Geisler has put the finishing touches on the "proposed" pilots classification for 2007. If you don't like the class in which you've been placed, tough! Kidding, contact Kipp for reconsideration.

Our contest rules have been tweaked over the years. Kipp recently sent an e-mail ballot to make official, some of those changes. Contact Kipp if you missed his e-mail opportunity to express your opinion. Vote early! Vote often!

Dues are due. Club membership runs from January 1st through December 31st. If you haven't renewed, you are in a grace period. "Gitter done".

There have been some discussions about providing an "internet based" notification, in the event that it becomes necessary to postpone a contest due to inclement weather. We recognize the hardship endured by those who travel several hours to attend our contests only to learn that it's been cancelled. It's a four hour round trip for some. We'd like to find a way to avoid that loooong drive for nothing. More on that later.

Did I mention that dues are due?

The Allen brothers both have special events planned in February. Scott's Aero Tow in on the 18th and Craig's F3J is on the 25th. Should be a hoot!

Dave Finberg has suggested that we hold a Spring Cleaning Event. Our two containers are stuffed with stuff that needs to be tossed. Spring Fling Spring Cleaning!

Spring Fling and DLG??? Spring Fling 2007 will be held on the Memorial Day weekend. Bob McGowan has suggested that a DLG (discus launch glider) contest be held on Monday after Spring Fling. Sounds good to me! Gotta go.

February 2007

SVSS Key Dates

14th Valentine's Day
 15th Club Meeting
 18th Aero Tow
 16th Crab Feed
 25 F3J

Happy Birthdays

Peter Dannenfelser 2/1
 Hal Brunette 2/5
 Bruce Reed 2/10
 Lee Cox 2/12
 Lee Cooper 2/13
 Dennis Scharosch 2/14
 Dean Aldinger 2/18
 Craig Allen 2/19
 Bob Huff 2/20
 Ron McElliott 2/27

Sun Mon Tue Wed Thu Fri Sat

				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28			

SVSS Preliminary Financial Statement

January 31, 2007

<u>Checking Acc.</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Income</u>	<u>Debits</u>
Starting Balance			\$2,511.57
Income;			
	Membership renewals fees (45)	\$ 2,595.00	
	Total	\$2,595.00	
			\$5,106.57
Expenditures;			
	Equipment Maintenance		\$73.36
	Member Ship renewal mailing		\$67.06
	News Letter for December		\$113.70
	News Letter for January		\$113.63
	Porta Potty (Monthly Service)		\$121.86
	Total		\$489.61
Ending Balance			\$4,616.96
Increase/decrease in operating funds			\$2,105.39

December Work Party

Bob Mosher, V.P. Field



On December 23rd, I organized a work party for the field, to reset the retriever ring blocks back in the ground. We had eight or so people show up which was more than enough as we only had four block to plant in the ground. The field looks great with out those yellow blocks there.



After the job was finished. We pulled out some new planes for the maiden flights. I started with a Super AVA-E. E is for electric. The Super Ava is a RES with a 148 inch wingspan. This is 21 inches longer that the regular AVA. It has 1,346sq in. wing area with a loading of 6.6 (oz/sq. ft.) at 62 oz. Mine came out to a total weight of 60 oz. I used the Aveox 2726/1.5 with Promaxx 4.3-1 Planetary gear drive that I had out of a two meter that is no longer with us. A 13/7 folding prop and a 4000 3s1p lipo batterie. On the bench I have 37 amp draw and 380 watts. Kipp Geisler give it a toss and it needed some down trim but not much. I decided to go ahead and launch under power. The climb was nice and steady about 60 degrees and up to about 1200' in about 12 to 15 sec I should have timed it. For my sport flying it was great. I did over 12 climbs on the single charge and could have done more. Every one at the field was watching so the pressure was on. I floated around in the no lift air for about 8 to 10 min. I tried the spoiler and had to add some up elevator. I pulled on the gas and took her back up. I passed the transmitter off to some of the guys, who were impressed at how it flew. I think some of them want one now. All in all I am vary pleased with how it turned out.



Kipp Geisler then did a maiden a Manta E it has a wingspan of 78.75 inches and the length is 28.75 inches. The online specs say the Airfoil is a S reflex. I am not sure what S reflex is The wing area is 650 sq.in. The wing loading 9-10 oz/sq.ft., empty weight is 23.5 oz. Kipp told me he used a Jeti 30/3 for the motor. The plane looked to perform great. Kipp seemed happy with it. To me it looked like a bird soaring and I though that was neat. You can watch a video at on line at http://file.espritmodel.com/video/manta_e.wmv. Scott Meader did the first flight after redoing his program on a Alpha models P-51B Shangra La. I did not get to ask Scott how it flew but it looked like it did great to me. It has a 33-1/2" wingspan, 29" long, 192 sq. in. wing area, 16 oz. flying weight. Scott said he was running the MP Jet AC 28/7-30D Mk2 Out-runner Brushless Motor. Ron Kucera did a maiden a Habu full house ship. Ron and weeds tuned it in and it flew great from what I saw. In closing come on out and put a plane in the air. There is fun to be had by anyone who joins us at the filed.



I fired up the BBQ and cook up some hot dogs for everyone to end the morning. Lift was not great but the day turned out good for all.

The Allen Brothers kick off the 2007 flying season in a grand style.

Scott Allen is hosting an SVSS Aero Tow event on the last Sunday of every month beginning on February 18th and running through June 24th. The only exception is May, when the event will be held on the 3rd Sunday. Refer to the newsletter or web site for date confirmation. The pilot's meeting is at 9 AM and there is no entry fee. Holy Guacamole! Now, there's some good news. An event with no entry fee. You can't beat that with a stick! Scott and company will tow any sailplane that has a releasable (nose) tow hook. You bring it and he'll tow it. Electric sailplanes and electric airplanes are welcome at this event as well. Electrics and aero tow are a good mix. Last year, we saw lots of guys show up for Scott's single event. That's why it's being extended this year. Once the word gets out, we anticipate that these events will well attended, as the interest in electrics and aero tow represents the fastest growing segment of our hobby. If you have any questions, Scott can be reached at (916) 989-3706 or by e mail at; scottdivot6@yahoo.com.

On the following Sunday, February 25th, Scott's brother, Craig Allen is hosting a F3J Fun Fly. This will be a F3J Man on Man practice day at the SVSS field. This is truly intended to be a fun, practice day, where anyone can come on out and enjoy themselves. What? You've never flown F3J or Man on Man? No problem, the whole idea is to expose all of us to a new soaring experience. The pilot's meeting is at 10 AM and the entry fee is. . . WHAT? Another free event? Two in the same month? That's unprecedented!

Craig provides us with some basics about F3J...

We will be using 3 to 5 winches. All pilots in a flight group (3 to 5) launch together when the buzzer sounds. You have a 10-min working window to complete your flight. That window starts with the buzzer. However, your actual flight time begins when you come off the line. Just like in our regular contests. So the less time you spend on tow, the more flight time points you can get. In other words your time "on hook" counts against your 10 minutes. You must land before the end of the 10-min working window. If you fly beyond the 10 minute window, you get no landing points. Landings will be scored on a 60 point landing tape. We will be using winches with Mono filament line. Mono stretches a lot more than the braided nylon line that we typically use. There'll be some incredible zooms on launch. Retrievers aren't used in F3J so if you fly, you're expected to hand retrieve a line. To make manual retrieving fun, we're making it profitable. Each time that you shag a line, you get a raffle ticket. At the end of the day, we will draw tickets for three lucky cash prizes. Up for grabs are one Andrew Jackson and two Alexander Hamiltons. If you have any questions or want more information please contact Craig Allen at (916) 519-7368 or e mail at; craigdallen@sbcglobal.net

Proposed Class Changes (Part Deux)

By Kipp Geisler

2007 SVSS Pilot Flying Classes

Dear club members,

As promised we have spent some time looking at past contest scores, going back as far as three years in some instances, to get the data needed to classify pilots by their prior contest results. From there we chose cutoff points to get the right number of pilots in each class. We considered that some of the pilots will likely be at every contest, while others may only make it to 2 or 3.

These are the proposed classes for 2007. If anyone has questions about their class, feel free to email Kipp at crkipp@sbcglobal.net. We want everyone to be comfortable competing with the other members of their class. Keep in mind that since we all compete under the same scoring, we are all really competing against the whole group. The classes are how we hand out the monthly rewards and year end trophies.

<p><u>MASTERS</u></p> <p>Mehrdad Amir Bob Brown Marty Falarski Bob Huff Bob McGowan Scott Meader Jim Thomas Scott Woodward</p>	<p><u>EXPERT</u></p> <p>Craig Allen Rich Beardsley Peter Dannenfelser, Jr. Kipp Geisler Bruce Moore Jim Rolle Frank Schlosser Charlie Tasto Kaz Yang</p>
<p><u>GRAY CUP</u></p> <p>Mike Clancy Bill Curry Don Doe Dudley Dufort Joan Nolte Neil Nolte Stan Scharosh</p>	<p><u>SPORTSMAN</u></p> <p>Howard Belich Tom Carmody Dave Finnberg John French Ron Kucera Ed Granger Dave London Jim Marmberger Ron McElliot Bob Mosher Andrew Ouellet Bill Rinkleib Troy San Jose Bob Schleimer Bob Umberger</p>

Nolte's Notes

Neil Nolte, Secretary

Minutes of the Meeting, SVSS, January 18, 2007

President Rich Beardsley called the meeting to order at 7:10. 17 members were present and no guests were in attendance. The November 2006 meeting minutes were approved as published and the Treasurer reported an account balance of \$4616. Old Business Items: none were discussed. New Business Items: 1. Dave Finberg researched and proposed some modifications for our battery charging system: - add a second controller (about \$50); - make a set of jumper cables to connect to the winch carts & eliminate having to move batteries between the carts and charging stand; - convert the retriever motors to 12 volts by changing the field coils (\$25) & solenoid, and then run them off the winch battery(s). It was suggested that only one motor be converted as a test unit. 2. Dave Finberg suggested we convert the 6 volt winch back to 12 volts since no one seemed to ever be using it (including Spring Fling entrants). A general discussion occurred concerning the 6V winch, the number of retrievers and winches. Dave & Neil Nolte volunteered to look for any past info which might clarify exact numbers. 3. Dave Finberg indicated Frank Schlosser was giving the club the first shot at buying his Rahm winch, but it was decided that the club would not purchase another winch at this time. 4. Kip Geisler was contacted by Bob McGowan about the possibility of holding a Discus Launched Glider (DLG) contest on Monday, May 28 (Memorial Day observed) as part of this year's Spring Fling. Bob will run it but would like help with an AMA CD & sanction, PA system, field, advertising, etc. Prez Beardsley has volunteered to be the CD for Spring Fling and the DLG contest. There will be an additional entry fee and trophies for the DLG. Kip will communicate with Bob regarding details. 5. Kip Geisler proposed that we continue our monthly contest classes as they are now, but his committee has worked on balancing the class participants using historical contest performance data. 6. Various schemes for encouraging new fliers to enter contest were discussed. Bill Curry related his experience in full size aerobatic competition where a "Basic" category was created for new competitors which allowed an easing into competition through use of a simpler set of maneuvers and the help from an assigned, higher skilled pilot. Bill suggested we add a "Basic" contest for novices as a separate contest within each monthly contest, but with easier tasks, e.g., halve the time targets required for the experienced competitors & only use an in/out measure for landing bonus. Ron Kucera made a motion to add a "Basic" category for new competition fliers which allows the pilot to compete in the Basic class for one flying season and each monthly contest for the class will consist of four rounds of 4 minutes each, with a 25' radius in/out landing. The motion was approved and it was also agreed that a Master, or Expert class pilot would be assigned to help the new pilot at each monthly contest. 7. Dave Finberg suggested we try a one-design, "EZ Glider" contest. Details are to be worked out and publicized in the future. 8. Prez Beardsley indicated that letters have been sent out to vendors asking for raffle donations for this year's Spring Fling. He also is asking club members to make raffle prize donations to him any time you can manage to catch him. 9. Scott Allen will honcho an Electric Aero Tow event the last Sunday of the month for each of the next 3 months (Jan.-Mar). 10. Pres Beardsley plans to have several family evenings this year. The June & July club meetings will be held at the Davis site on the regular meeting night. Bring the family, eat and fly 5:30-7:00 PM and then participate in the club meeting 7:00-8:00 PM. Joan Nolte will contact SMUD and cancel the meeting room reservations. Program: Following the mid-meeting break, Ed Granger held the electronic drawing for his 2006 Participation Challenge. Ed tracked club member participation through last year and awarded a certain # of "chances" to each club member who participated in a club activity such as attending a club meeting, entering a club contest, presenting a meeting program, etc. He ended up with a total of 851 entries loaded in his computer to which he applied a random numbers generator to spit out the winning names. The following winners won \$200 each: Bill Rinkleib, Bill Curry, Ron Kucera, Stan Scharosch, Dave London, Dudley Dufort. Show & Tell: Ron Kucera told us an EZ Glider treeing tale (be kind to your local firemen!). Bill Rinkleib showed some of his foam profile scale P-61 parts & cutting templates (contact him if interested in obtaining some cores/parts for a similar project). Rich Beardsley passed around his latest acquisition, a spanking new 2.4 GHz Spektrum radio. Dave Finberg circulated a variety of electronic gizmos (ESC, connectors, servos, etc.) he obtained from United Hobbies. Before the meeting was adjourned, Kip Geisler was given the 4th Place-Expert end-of-year contest plaque.



Winners of the Ed Granger \$1200 drawing. Bill Curry, Dave London, Dudley Dufort, Bill “Weeds” Rinkleib, Ron Kucers and Stan Scharosch are all smiles holding \$200 each, courtesy of Ed Granger (far left) Throughout 2006, Ed compiled “service points” for all club members based upon their participation in club activities such as meetings, contests, work parties etc. At the January meeting, Ed drew names at random from his list of participants. Now there’s a happy bunch of guys. Thank you Mr. Granger!!

SVSS Newsletter Editor
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