

The Eagle's Nest



The Official Newsletter of the Sacramento Valley Soaring Society

October 2007

Volume 17, No. 10

President's Message

By Rich Beardsley

Hello all,

The last month has been very interesting and busy for me. It began and ended with preparations—for Reno (air races) early in the month and for the XC/barbecue/meeting the last of the month.

Reno did not go so well, as I had ignition problems throughout the week. And I also did not fair so well at the XC event, coming in 5th out of 8. But, we had a great time in Reno and at the XC, even though the weather on XC Saturday was challenging. A number of teams completed more than 15 miles, on a very windy day. There were 2 teams new to XC, one from San Jose and one from Lodi—Mike Leggett, team captain of “Long Shot” and Bill Chase, captain of “Stuck in Lodi”. Thanks Craig Allen for providing a vehicle and driver for team “Long Shot”.

The overall winners were John Elias (The Ringer team), 1st place overall, with a score of 1983. 2nd place was Jim Rolle's team (Broken Arrow), with a very close score at 1977. And 3rd place overall was Dudley Dufort's (Dust Devils) with a score of 1556.

Thanks to the out-of-towners that came so far to race: John Elias, Dean and Paul Gradwell, Rick Johnston and Roger Hebner. Forgive me if I missed anyone. Thanks so much for traveling such a distance to come race with us.

Saturday night after the race, we again had a tri-tip barbecue and club meeting. Thanks to Ed Granger for providing the tri-tips, and to all the members who brought salads, beans, bread and desert. It seems this is a popular prelude to club meetings. We have decided we will do more of this next year in conjunction with fun fly events, and various contests.

Please e-mail me with any ideas that you may have for fun-fly events or alternate fun contests. There are many weekends when the field is vacant. Let's try to fill those days with some fun flying or group instruction. Please let me know your ideas.

October will be a regular meeting at the SMUD building. Susan (my wife) promises some Halloween tricks, or was it treats?

By popular demand of one and over the objections of many, I will continue my tenure as president, if that is the wish of club members. Susan says this has to be my last year. ☺ Please let me know if anyone would like to participate by being a member of the club board—e-mail me asap so that we can discuss at the October meeting. I presently have a volunteer for treasurer—Stan Scharosch has told me he will continue in this position.

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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 Clarke 916-794-0801
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



The September Man on Man club contest is history. Many commented that they liked the fact that it was different and different, it was. Thanks to everyone who showed up to make it happen. It was gratifying to see how every one pitched in and helped. The set up went well. Many guys stepped up to help with the winches. When someone needed a timer, there were always several guys who would come running. All in all, there was a strong spirit of cooperation and sportsmanship exhibited at the SVSS field that day. It was a good contest. All round were 10 minutes. And the vast majority hit on or close to 10 minutes in all their rounds. Summary; good air today. It looked like everyone enjoyed flying en mass. Those who normally time for each other at contests, found themselves flying against each other today. It was a long day, in that each round took close to an hour to complete. We only flew one class at a time with about five minutes of separation between the last landing of the previous group and the first launch of the next group. That gave everyone an opportunity to "hangar fly" with their fellow members.

Dave London and John Kozusko "did real good" on the barbeque. Without question, everyone really appreciates all their efforts in setting out a great lunch for us. Thank you very much, guys!!

We welcome two more new members to our ranks.

Dean Church is profiled on page 6. In a future edition we'll meet Steve Labo.

There will be a special planning session on October 18th where your club's officers schedule the activities, contests and events for 2008. Everyone is invited to attend and contribute their ideas. The meeting will be at Cassidy's Family Restaurant, 5090 Folsom Bl. At 5 PM. The regular club meeting will follow at SMUD.

October 2007

SVSS Key Dates
10/13 Club Contest
10/18 Meeting

Happy Birthdays
 Marty Falarski - 10/14
 Michael Arbogast - 10/14
 John Kozusko - 10/18
 Scott Woodward - 10/20
 Randy Pfeiffer - 10/30

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13 Club Contest
14	15	16	17	18 Meeting @ SMUD	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

SVSS Preliminary Financial Statement

September, 29 2007

<u>Checking Acc.</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Income</u>	<u>Debits</u>
Starting Balance			\$3,564.30
Income;			
	September Contest	\$124.00	
	Membership fees (1)	\$30.00	
	Total	\$154.00	
			\$3,718.30
Expenditures;			
	Sprinkler system power supply replacement		\$121.74
	PA system repair		\$127.74
	News Letter Mailing		
	Porta-Potty (Monthly Service)		\$127.00
	Total		\$376.48
Ending Balance			\$3,341.82
Increase/decrease in operating funds			(\$222.48)

Nolte's Notes

Minutes of the Meeting, SVSS, SEPTEMBER 29, 2007

Eighteen members and 12 guests enjoyed tri-tip, beans, salads, drinks and dessert prior to Rich beginning the meeting at 6:40 PM at the Davis site. Rich proffered his appreciation to all those who volunteered and brought the foodstuffs which everyone enjoyed.

Old Business:

None discussed.

New Business:

A motion was passed to hold one or more meetings at the field next year during the fair weather months and having picnic/fun-fly style get-togethers. Dave Finberg thanked Cameron Clarke for his expertise and work repairing both the sprinkler control system and club PA system.

Show & Tell:

I mentioned the spike holder now mounted with the turnarounds on the shed door. Stretch the turn-around cables firmly taut, drive the spike flush so line cannot catch on the it's head, and then use a claw hammer to pull it out at day's end. The cable's purpose is simply to act as a ramp to allow any winch line falling on the wrong side of the post to be pulled back over the post onto the pulley. If the spike isn't driven in flush, a potential line snagging projection is created and that needs to be avoided if possible.

Program:

No program was scheduled this month.
The meeting was adjourned at 6:48 PM.



Master Chef Beardsley presides over the September club meeting. Or is conducting an orchestra?



It looks like someone stole this poor devil's dinner plate.

The group at right enjoys a beautiful Fall evening after a feast of barbecue Tri-tip.



News from Fresno

The Fresno Soaring Society has joined the ranks of clubs in danger of losing its field. We fly in a county park. About 5 years ago an attempt was made to use our field for a 9 hole golf course. The plan was rejected due to our opposition, opposition from the Audubon Society, concern about the availability of water and the lack of funding by the people who wanted to build it.

It's going to be more difficult to stop it this time. The organizations who opposed it before still oppose it, there still is no water. The trouble is that a local Indian casino is now the financial backer. They have more money than they can spend, they have to buy water from the City of Fresno so they can run their casino. They truck the water in.

Any ideas on how we can stop their effort would be appreciated. We have about 15 months before the current plan and study is completed.

George Meyers WD6EQS
President Fresno Soaring Society and CD
Fresno, CA

(via the Radio Control Soaring Exchange
RCSE)

2008 Calendar Meeting

The board will be discussing the dates of the club's events, contests etc. for the coming year. This meeting will precede the general club meeting on October 18. The location of the planning meeting will be Cassidy's Family Restaurant, 5090 Folsom Bl. At 5 PM. All interested members are invited to attend and provide input.

A little Breezy



It's safe to say that everyone enjoyed themselves at the SVSS Cross Country contest on September 29th & 30th.

Yeah, it was kinda breezy on Saturday. OK, it howled. But we had a great time in spite of the wind. We had seven teams compete in our two-day contest. Surprisingly, the thermals were better on Saturday than they were on Sunday but you had to chase them downwind and they moved fast. On Saturday the task was distance, to fly as far as you can. Most of the teams didn't get on course until noon, which is pretty typical for Cross Country. Our pilot, Mr. Kipp Geisler logged 17.1 miles to earn a 25 kilometer Cross Country pin and a second place win for the day. He was only three tenths of a mile behind first place, John Ellias, a.k.a "The Ringer". There is a reason we call John "The Ringer". He's a tough guy to beat. Well done, Kipp. Congratulations on your soaring accomplishment.

Marty Falarski was the driver on Saturday. Jeff Yee rode along for his initiation into cross country. I rode in the back of the truck with Kipp acting as spotter. Way down on the course the truck rolls to an unexpected stop. Kipp hollers "Keep going. The plane's way out in front." Marty turns his head toward us in the back of the truck. "Dudley, this doesn't look right." I stand up to view the road ahead. There is no road! We made a wrong turn. We gotta double back. As a result, Kipp actually flew more miles than he got credit for but, unfortunately, you can only count miles traveled ON the course. Detours don't count. (cont'd on page 6)



PROFILES IN SOARING

Introducing **Dean Church** of Rio Vista California. Dean was born near the little town of Shedd, Oregon in March of 1936. Shedd is between Albany and Eugene. Dean was raised in Salem and Tillamook except for (using his words) "4 years learning to drink and chase women in Corvallis". He sounds like an OSU alumni. Apparently that training paid off. Dean's wife is Frances. They have two children and one grandchild. Dean is a retired computer programmer A.K.A. Software Engineer. Hmm, seems to me that we already have a few of those types in our club. Mostly "ne'er do wells". Oh well, I guess another can't hurt. Dean's other hobbies include reading, travel, wine and cars. He started flying just recently, May to be exact, at our field with an Easy Star electric. Dean's interests in our sport include Electrics, Slop Flying, Building, Fun Flying as well as the social and technical aspects of our hobby. Dean expressed appreciation to all those who helped him get started, especially Dave Finberg.

WELCOME DEAN TO SVSS!!

(XC cont'd)

The speed course for Sunday was only 12 ½ miles long. A distance that's no big deal for most cross country flyers. The wind was only 5 MPH out of the south. That was a welcome relief from the gale that greeted us just a day earlier. We all figured that that we would have a boomer day with more air than we could handle. However, Sunday presented its own special challenge. It was weird. The thermals just weren't there. Only two teams actually completed the course. Everyone else landed short. It was Marty's turn in the pilot's seat. Jeff Yee was our "wheel man". I'm the spotter again. The objective was speed, to fly a designated course in the shortest time. We hit a huge thermal on our second launch that gave us the altitude we needed to get on course. After that we got one or two giant thermals that gave us huge altitude and a long glide. Marty was having fun. For awhile I was afraid we were going to have resort to surgery to remove the smile from his face.

In cross country speed changes are given to the driver in a special language. Like in water skiing, "hit it" means let's go. Flying cross country, "Up 5" means to increase speed by five MPH and "down 5" means. . . Well you get the picture. So, here's Jeff Yee, his first time at the wheel, Marty's crusin' down the road and hollers "up 3". I respond "Three? Marty we don't do three. We only do increments of 5." Marty responds, "OK. Up 5 and down 2." What are ya gunna do? Our last thermal gave us a five mile glide but that was it. We ever hit another thermal on that long glide and were forced to land about three miles short of our goal.

Following the awards on Sunday we said our good-byes sad that it was over but committed to do it again soon and more often.

I want to thank Jeff Yee for crewing on both days. Driving a chase vehicle is not as simple as it sounds. Jeff did a fine job and enjoyed himself in the process. Jeff was also responsible for that great potatoe (Dan Quayle spell checker) salad we enjoyed at the barbecue.

Cross Country & Cold Cash



New member, Rick Johnston drove up from Los Osos to show off his new cross country chase vehicle. He says the visibility is terrific but ya gotta duck your head for bridges and low power lines.

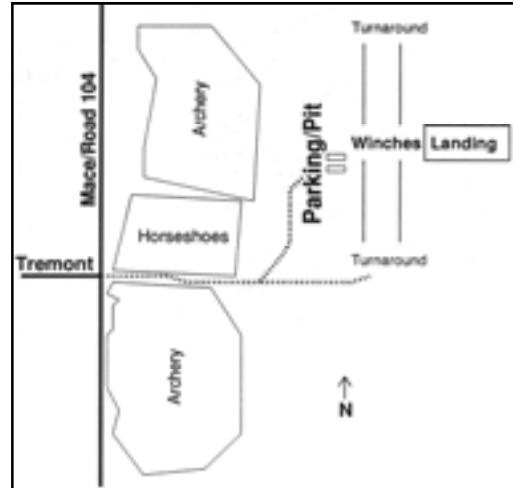
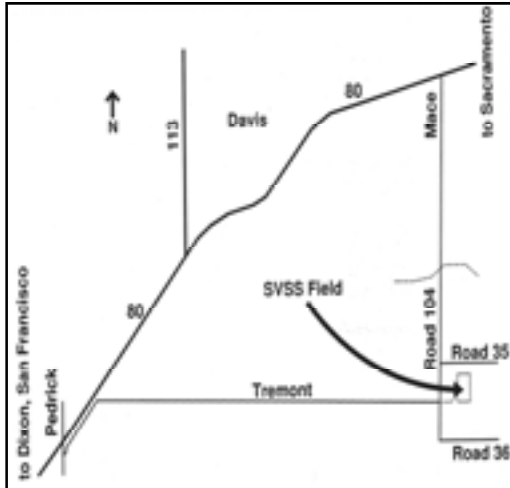
The Ringer takes top honors. Paul Gradwell, James Ellias and John Ellias (the teams name-sake) accept the top prize money \$25,000 for their first place finish over the two days of arduous cross country flying. The Ringer hails from Camarillo, CA. No, not the hospital, the City A long haul none the less.



Broken Aero - Bob Huff, Scott Meader and Jim Rolle grab the second place cash from Pres. Beardsley. Bruce Moore teamed with Jim and Bob on Saturday. The team was 1st on Saturday. Scott Meader took Bruce's place on Sunday. They got 2nd on Sunday

Show me the money!! Dudley's Dust Devils took third overall with Marty Falarski on the sticks Sunday and Jeff Yee at the wheel. Kipp Geisler flew to a second place finish on Saturday garnering a 25 kilometer Cross Country pin.





The SVSS Flying Site is located at Yolo County Grasslands Regional Park, south of Davis, CA.

Lat: 38° 29' 49" N, Long: 121° 41' 28" W

Directions: From I-80, take the Mace Blvd. exit. Go south on Mace Blvd. 3.8 miles to the intersection of Tremont Rd. Turn left (east) on the gravel driveway and drive past the horseshoe and archery areas road to the field.

Shortcut from eastbound I-80: From I-80 take the Pedrick Road exit. Follow the frontage road eastbound on the south side of I-80 for 0.8 miles. Turn right on Tremont Rd. Follow Tremont for 5.4 miles. Cross Mace Blvd and enter Grasslands Regional Park.

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