



SIERRA SILENT SOARERS

NORTHERN NEVADA'S R.C. SAILPLANE & ELECTRIC FLYERS CLUB

LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT:

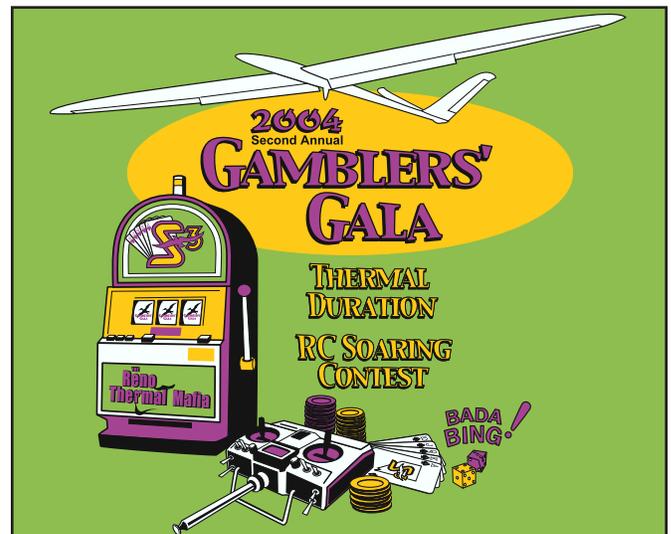
JULY/AUGUST 2004

Hello all,

As this month comes to a close the biggest thing that stands out in my mind is how successful the Gamblers' Gala was! I must extend a big thanks to all those who helped put this contest together and to everyone who attended. Without everyone's help this contest could not have happened or been as fun as it was.

A special thanks goes out to Lee Cox who came up with the whole idea and took the responsibility to be CD. He is one of monumental stature in our midst; who is always willing to help the club in any way he can.

Thank you to every individual that contributed their time and effort. I know many of you were helping with last minute issues and situations as well as preparing weeks in advance for this contest. Your efforts were invaluable and make me proud to be part of such a wonderfully group of people, members and



non members alike. Thank you to everyone that donated something to the effort as well. Computers, Quads, tables and such were much appreciated.

A big hats off to Dan Hickey, the land owner who lets us use his field. Dan puts a lot of time and effort into preparing the whole flying site for us by making sure the area is plane friendly and easy to access. Letting us camp out in the field is very appreciated. We know that this is a working ranch and is part of your bread and butter. Thanks for putting it aside for us with

S3 OFFICERS FOR 2004

President Pete Casti
Vice President . . Ron "Dick Cheney" Madison
Secretary/Newsletter Editor Ron Marston
Treasurer Jim Brady
Safety Officer Lyn Disbrow
Public Relations Officer Adam Kremers

IN THIS ISSUE

Letter from the President	1
Treasurer's Reports	2
Minutes of July meeting	2
June Contest Report	2-3
July Contest Report	3
Alpine Soaring Report	3-4
Spring Fling Report	5-6
Gamblers' Gala Report.	6-9
Contest Schedule 2004	10
Member list/frequency list.	11



CHECK OUT THE S3 WEB SITE AT: www.sierrasilentsoarers.com

no stipulations. Without you we could not even attempt a contest like this. Your modesty and generosity are revered by all.

Finally thanks to everyone who attended. Your entry fees help our little club to expand and advance in new directions. Who knows? Perhaps a couple more contests like this and we will be able to appropriate a flying field of our own, like the SVSS has. (hehehe)

Thanks again every one. May the thermals take your plane, as well as your hat, to the wonders of the sky!

Sincerely,
Pete Casti, President of S3

TREASURER'S REPORT

Period ending July 5, 2004

Opening Balance:	\$727.24
Income	
April Contest fees	\$65.00
Total Income	\$65.00
Expenses:	
None	\$0.00
Total Expenses:	\$0.00
Closing Balance:	\$792.24

NEW MEMBER

S3 Welcomes new member John Sparnicht.
John's email address is sparnichtj@ci.reno.nv.us

JULY 2004 MEETING MINUTES

Meeting called to order by Pete Casti at 7:30 pm. 5 members in attendance.

Minutes approved as written.

Treasurers report was read in absence of treasurer and was accepted. (I think Pete has the treasurers report)

Correspondence:

Leonard sent an email from England saying he and Scotty were having a great time. Pete received an email from a new hobby dealership regarding giving out brochures on its products.

Old Business:

Confirmed 48 pilots for the Gala, raffle at \$240 at this point. Edge RC donated an airplane kit that we will give to the first pilot chosen to fly on the first day. Dan Hickey's daughter will provide the food for the Gala. It will be rolls, donuts, coffee for breakfast and hot dogs and burgers for lunch along with sodas and chips.

Will need volunteers for field setup on Friday the 16th at 9am.

New Business:

The monthly club contest will be held on Sunday the 11th at Laura Springs. It will be the same format as the Gala.

Visalia entries will be accepted starting on July 28th if you use paypal and on the 30th if you mail it in. This year the entry fee has gone up to \$50.

Meeting adjourned at 8:15 pm

JUNE 2004 CONTEST REPORT

Adam was the CD for the June contest. Five rounds were planned, with a provision to fly only four rounds if the wind picked up in the afternoon. We flew four rounds.

Rounds one and two were a 10 minute add-em-up, scoring 1.5 points per second with a 3 point per second penalty for going over 10 minutes. Rounds three and four were a 15 minute add-em-up with 1 point per second and 3 points per second penalty for going over 15 minutes.

Landings were scored by the tape, with 100-68 worth 75 points, 66-36 worth 50 points, and 34-1 worth 25 points. RES landings were similar with the tape split into two zones instead of three.

12 pilots flew the contest, including former member Bill Gillis, and a guest from out of town, Robert Whip. Ron Brown flew a great contest and took first place. Ron Marston took second place, and Oliver Lieder took third.

Thanks to Adam for a great contest!



JUNE CONTEST SCORES

Place	Pilot	Score
1.	Ron Brown	1000
2.	Ron Marston	990
3.	Oliver Lieder	956
4.	Pete Casti	917
5.	Jim Brady	884
6.	Dave Hagander	774
7.	Adam Kremers	716
8.	Lee Cox	643
9.	Ron Madison	586
10.	Bill Gillis	226
11.	Charlie Maschal	DNF
12.	Robert Whip (guest)	983

Submitted by Ron Marston

JULY 2004 CONTEST REPORT

Lee was the CD for the July contest, a dry run for the Gamblers' Gala contest which was held a week later. 8 pilots flew at Laura Springs Ranch in nice conditions (very warm, and windy in the afternoon).

Four rounds were flown: a 4 minute, 6 minute, 8 minute, and 10 minute, with the 10 minute scored as a triathlon. Landings were scored to the tape, with 1-30 worth 30 points, 32-74 worth 15 points, and 76-100 worth 50 points.

We tested the winches, the scoring program, and the thermal activity, which was not working too well at last year's Gala contest. Fortunately, everything was working this day, including the thermals. For me, finding the lift was hit and miss. I flew a 14 minute flight right after the contest, and was so high I could barely see the plane. Of course I couldn't find the thermal on my last round in the contest. I flew a 2:44 on the 10 minute round.

Mr. Lee Cox flew a 9:57 on his 10 minute round, and quite well on the other rounds also, and he walked away with first place for the day.

Thanks to Lee for a good contest, and of course for putting together the Gala contest.

JULY CONTEST SCORES

Place	Pilot	Score
1.	Lee Cox	1924
2.	Pete Casti	1760
3.	Ron Brown	1627
4.	Jim Brady	1534
5.	Ron Marston	1103
6.	Arthur Marston	1081
7.	Adam Kremers	970
8.	Dan Hickey	596

Submitted by Ron Marston

ALPINE SOARING EVENT REPORT

For the past several years Wil Byers, the editor of Quiet Flyer magazine, has sponsored the Alpine Soaring Event held at Joseph, Oregon. Joseph is located in the Northeast corner of Oregon near the Idaho border. It is one of the prettiest places on earth, looking much like the Swiss Alps.



Coming in for a landing.

This event is for electrics and gliders and is held at several different venues in and around Joseph. This year it was held over the 4th of July weekend. Registration was free and each pre-registered participant received a nice T-shirt, as well as being entered into a really nice raffle.

This was my first time at the event, however, Jim Brady and his wife have attended each of the last five years. I must say it wasn't as organized as it could have been, but it was free so there isn't much room for complaining.



ALPINE SOARING EVENT (CONT'D)

One of the main events was the electric fly and aero-tow held at the Joseph municipal airport. A large gas powered Wilga aircraft was on hand to tow up the large scale gliders, several high starts were also setup for the smaller sailplanes. There was some grass near the runway for the electrics without landing gear to use as a landing area. The weather was nice but unknown to anyone, a large club (about 35) of full scale Bellanca owners had scheduled a get together in Joseph so much of the day was spent just getting out of the way of the taxiing aircraft. I heard talk of finding another area next year.



Getting ready for tow.

The premiere venue for the event is at Hells Canyon, a little more than an hours drive east of Joseph. Hells Canyon was formed by the Snake River and is actually deeper than the Grand Canyon, it is quite an impressive sight. At the edge of the canyon huge thermals that formed down deep in the canyon come rising up making it one of the most amazing flying spots I have ever seen. The problem is that if you toss your plane over the edge and aren't lucky enough to find a thermal, your plane could easily be lost forever. The only glider I brought was the Falcon 880, and I never had the nerve to throw it into the canyon. Usually there is someone there with a winch or high start that will at least give you some altitude before you go out over the edge. This allows you to "bail out" if you start to sink out.

The day Jim and I were there, Jim let me fly



Large Aerotow glider, I think it is a Gruno Baby.

his handlaunch which I let get below the rim. Lower and lower it got until I caught a thermal and within 30 seconds the plane was several hundred feet above the canyon's rim. I know that the next day after I had left for home, Jim tossed his Compulsion into the abyss and easily caught many thermals. Catching a thermal is almost a sure thing...almost.

The last venue for flying is located atop Mount Howard just a few miles from Joseph. To get there, you must ride a gondola which costs just under \$20. Jim and I didn't go to that event which as it turns out was ok since the weather was drizzly.



Jim Brady sloping his hand launch at Hell's Canyon.

Next year Pete and Ron's big glider and tow plane should be done, so I'm sure they will be going. ;-) All in all it is a fun time, but at around a 10 hour drive, it is a long way to travel for a 3-4 day event. It's best to make it a vacation, as there is much to see and do in and around Joseph.

Submitted by Adam Kremers



SPRING FLING 2004 REPORT

The Sacramento SVSS club had their Spring Fling contest this year on June 26-27. Nine pilots from the Reno area made the drive to participate, including Adam, Oliver, Pete, Ron Madison, Ron and Arthur Marston, Lee, Jim Brady, and Jim Kirstine. S3 was well represented.



Pilots meeting at the 2004 Spring Fling in Sacramento.

The contest was the same as in years past, with attendance a little lower than it used to be. I think there were about 60 pilots signed up. The weather was pretty good: not quite as windy as past Spring Flings I've been to, and of course, hot, especially in the afternoons. Good thing the Motel 6 has a pool!



Oliver and Adam prepare for another launch.

Oliver was on track for a top 3 finish in unlimited, but one bad flight cost him. He still managed a 9th place finish in unlimited, the best placing of the Reno group. Adam finished 6th in RES, and everyone else ended



Oliver launching the Aquila.

up further down the list. I had the honor of finishing dead last in unlimited. I blame it all on my plane.

Despite the less than stellar scores in the contest, everyone seemed to have a good time. I don't think anyone destroyed their plane, or injured a spectator, or their mom. The pool at the motel offered some sweet relief from the heat and the frustration of walking through the sticker bushes to retrieve a plane that didn't quite make it to the landing zone.



Arthur flying the Super V with Jim Kirstine timing for him. Oliver and Adam in the background.

We also experienced some mighty fine cuisine. Sudwerks offered great beer and food on the patio Friday night. Jim Brady discovered some tasty Pluots at the market across the



SPRING FLING 2004 REPORT (CONT'D)



The infamous pool picture. Ron Madison, Pete, Ron Marston, Oliver, Arthur getting a little gay at the Motel 6.

street from the motel. (Pluots are a hybrid of plumbs and apricots. Perhaps they should be called apriplumbs?) Ron Madison discovered that the largest burrito on the planet exists in Northern California at the Mace Blvd. Mexican restaurant.

All in all a good time eating and flying.

Submitted by Ron Marston



Ron Madison with the burrito that even he couldn't finish.



This furry pilot may have beat my score at Spring Fling.

GAMBLERS' GALA 2004 REPORT

By Lee Cox



Pilot's meeting Saturday morning.

As the contest director for the Second Annual Gamblers' Gala Contest, I would like to extend a very special THANK YOU to everyone who came out and worked this event:

The setup crew who came out on Friday to put up all the tents, winches, chargers, generators and all the things needed to run this contest.

Adam Kremers who managed to use parts from a really old starter to rebuild the winch that broke down on Friday afternoon... unbelievable!!



Pete Casti, Adam Kremers and Jim Brady test a winch a week before the Gala contest.

Oliver Lieder who brought out a real BIG sound system.

Pete Casti for storing and bringing out our radio impound shelf before the start of the contest.



GAMBLERS' GALA 2004 REPORT (CONT'D)



Oliver, Pete, Jack, and Ron Brown work on a very nasty retriever line. They actually got the whole thing untangled.

Tom Walters and Dan Hickey for standing out there in the hot sun and watching over the landing area.

Rich Castillion and Charlie Maschal for handling the radio impound with Arley Simpson assisting.



Rich Castillion and Charlie Maschal man the radio impound.



Oliver set up and manned the PA system.

Jim Brady, Adam Kremers, Pete Casti and their backups Lyn Disbrow, Ron Madison, and Dave Hagander for taking control of the winches and retrievers.



Lyn Disbrow came out to help run the winches.

Jack Cooper for spending his time keeping the turn-arounds untangled.

Ron Brown for loaning the club a laptop and printer for scoring the contest and for bringing his PA and being winch master.



Winch master Ron Brown and Arthur Marston.

A huge THANKS goes out to Jeannie Brady for keeping the frequency pins, score cards and pilots moving along in order as well as selling and distributing the T shirts.

A huge THANKS to Ron Marston for designing this year's shirt logo and handling the ordering of the t-shirts as well as putting all the contest information on our web site.

THANKS to my wife, Jeane, for designing and making the name tags, score cards and



GAMBLERS' GALA 2004 REPORT (CONT'D)



Jeannie Brady working hard at the registration desk.

transmitter stickers and then sitting in the tent for two days entering all the scores into the computer for this event.



Arthur in his favorite place - on a quad.

Unfortunately, the wind came up early on Saturday and made for some difficult flying in the 10 min Triathlon. However, Bob McGowan managed to get 9:57 which put him up about 300 points above the rest of the field.

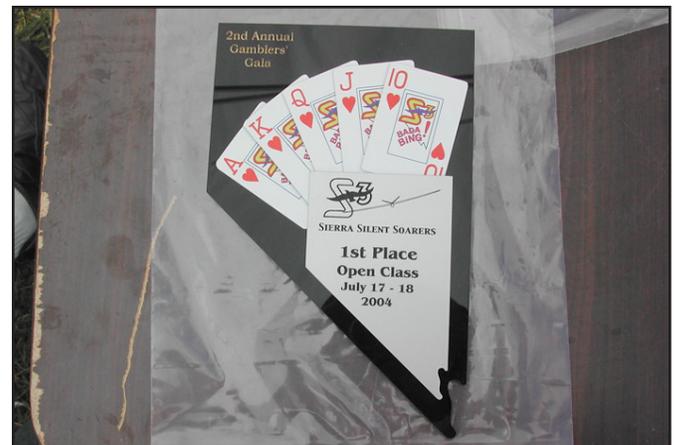


Jim Brady launching his Compulsion Sunday morning before the wind.



Tasty burgers and dogs cooked up by Dan's daughter and friend.

Sunday we started early in an attempt to finish before the wind started. The conditions on Sunday were good and competition was a lot closer with a number of the pilots getting close in the 10 min Triathlon. In the end Bob McGowan still won the open by 447 points. The second highest score of the contest also went to Bob McGowan in 2 meter scoring 3128.



The 2004 Gala awards were made by Adam with some help from Tom Black and Ron Marston.



Bob McGowan accepts one of his two awards from Lee and Adam.



GAMBLERS' GALA 2004 REPORT (CONT'D)



Bob Brown accepting his award for RES.

RES class and the Grey cup award went to Bob Brown scoring 2587. The junior award went to Robin McGowan in the RES class with a score of 1877.



Robin McGowan gets first place in the Junior category.

The dash for cash on Sunday was quite a show. Dave Hagander flew an old Legend of mine to a time of 9 seconds and totaled



The 2004 Gala award winners, L to R: Dave Kornberg, Justin Ammon, Robert Film, Max Whitson, Ron Marston, Gene Dias, Bob McGowan, Robin McGowan, Bob Brown.

the plane, winning \$70. To the surprise of all, Justin Ammon flew his nice competition plane to an 11 second time. Only two seconds more and he still has a plane in good condition. It was so amazing that Dave gave him half the money.

I would also like to thank the pilot who donated the mangled aluminum tent frame. After about 20 minutes of struggling, three members managed to get it bent enough to tie on my trailer. I took it in and sold the aluminum for 87 cents. Thanks, Craig!

Overall the entire contest went well with a lot of compliments from the pilots and plans to return next year.

Thanks again to all who participated in our **SECOND ANNUAL GAMBLERS' GALA CONTEST!** Your help was very much appreciated!!!

Lee Cox



Dave Kornberg tries (several times) unsuccessfully to winch launch a small slope foamy in the dash for cash.



Dave Hagander pulls the fuse out of the ground and gathers the remains of Lee's purpose built dash for cash winning plane.



2004 S3 CONTEST SCORES (NORMALIZED TO 1000 POINTS)

Pilot	March	April	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Total
Chris Adams	597	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	597
Jim Brady	0	836	0	884	797	0	0	0	1720
Ron Brown	725	851	DNF	1000	846	0	0	0	3422
Pete Casti	701	957	0	917	915	0	0	0	3490
Lee Cox	683	850	0	643	1000	0	0	0	3176
Lyn Disbrow	0	850	DNF	0	0	0	0	0	850
Scott Hall	DNF	DNF	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Dave Hagander	938	1000	0	774	0	0	0	0	2712
Dan Hickey	0	0	0	0	310	0	0	0	310
Mike Karpchuk	510	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	510
Adam Kremers	714	905	741	716	504	0	0	0	3580
Oliver Lieder	1000	962	856	956	0	0	0	0	3771
Leonard MacKey	DNF	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Ron Madison	DNF	843	343	586	0	0	0	0	1772
Arthur Marston	522	919	1000	0	562	0	0	0	3003
Ron Marston	701	989	693	990	573	0	0	0	3946
Charlie Maschal	0	0	DNF	0	0	0	0	0	0
Howard McCluskey	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Arley Simpson	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

S3 CONTEST SCHEDULE FOR 2004

S3 contests are usually held the third Sunday of the Month from March to October, at the Washoe Valley flying site (2.2 miles South of Bower's Mansion on the West side of old 395).

Month	S3 Contest Date	Contest Director	SVSS Contests (Sac)
March	3/21	Oliver	3/13
April	4/18 (rescheduled to 4/24)	Pete/Leonard	4/10
May	5/16	Arley	5/08
June	6/20	Adam	6/19
July	7/11	Lee	7/10
Gambler's Gala	7/17 - 7/18	Lee	
August	8/15	Arthur/Ron Marston	8/14
September	9/19	Lyn Disbrow	9/11
October	10/17	Oliver	10/9

Other Flying Events

Spring Fling (Sacramento) June 26, 27, 2004

Visalia Fall Soaring Festival October 2-3, 2004





SIERRA SILENT SOARERS

Newsletter Editor
1653 Westfield Ave.
Reno, NV 89509

NEXT CLUB MEETING:

Tuesday, August 3, 7:30 pm • Round Table Pizza • McCarran and Mira Loma

**NEXT CONTEST IS SUNDAY, AUGUST 15. WHY NOT SHOW UP AND FLY?
WHAT DO YOU HAVE TO LOOSE? WHAT'S THE POINT OF HAVING A
SAILPLANE IF YOU AREN'T GOING TO FLY IT? LIFE IS SHORT!**



CHECK OUT THE S3 WEB SITE AT: www.sierrasilentsoarers.com



PAGE 12