



# SIERRA SILENT SOARERS

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

## LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT:

AUGUST 2001

Hello all,

This month's letter is going to be a report on the Float Fly that is held each year on the west side of Lake Almanor located near the town of Chester, California. It is held over a weekend late in July, and is sponsored by the R/C club in Chico. Although the water level was considerably lower than previous years, the float fly was fairly well attended. Out of the approximately 30-40 planes, there were three electric planes in attendance, all owned by two members of S3. I had my Goldberg Mirage with a set of homemade styrofoam floats, and Oli brought two planes, an Eaglet on floats and a Hobby Lobby Albatross with twin sp400 motors.

The Mirage flew quite well and I received several positive comments. The most common comment was "Wow I didn't think an electric plane would fly up here" even though the altitude of Lake Almanor is actually nearly the

same as Reno. Oli tried to explain to one of the gas pilots that electric motors are not affected by higher altitudes as gas engines are, but I'm not sure the guy understood what Oli was trying to say.

Oli's Eaglet was able to take off from the water as well, though shortly into the flight a wire came off of the motor and he landed after only a few minutes. Oli then spent several hours getting the Albatross ready for his maiden flight. By the time he was ready to fly, the wind had kicked up a little and the water was a little rough and there was an undesirable crosswind. After several attempts to take off, I gave the plane a push to get it up on step. It skimmed along the shore and attained flying speed near several people along the shore. Oli banked the plane away from shore and the plane appeared to stall and it made a moderately hard landing, breaking off one of the wingtip floats. It seems that the plane could use a little more power, but it sure is nice looking.

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### S3 OFFICERS FOR 2001:

- President .....Adam Kremers
- Vice President .....Dave Hagander
- Secretary .....Lyn Disbrow
- Treasurer .....Jim Brady
- Safety Officer .....Lyn Disbrow
- Newsletter Editor .....Ron Marston



## LETTER FROM THE PREZ (CONT'D)

ing and quite a few people commented on its good looks. Next year it would be nice to have a whole squadron of electric float planes!

That's it for now, see ya at the field!

Adam Kremers

## MINUTES OF THE JUNE 2001 S3 MEETING

June 6, 2001

The meeting was called to order by President Adam Kremers at 7:44 PM. The minutes of the May meeting were read and approved with no corrections. The treasures report by Jim Brady showed an initial balance of \$1285.01, minus \$558.50 for new batteries and charger, and an income of \$35.00 in dues, for a new balance of \$761.51.

### **Old Business**

Tax exempt status for the club was discussed. A Fed tax id # 501-C7 should give us a free checking account. Adam's wife is looking into this for the club.

Bill Gillis expressed his concern about the pylon races being scheduled at Rancho San Rafael. The people putting on and flying them may not have AMA licenses, and may not be following AMA rules.

Oli had a ham and egg croissant (with cheese) for breakfast this morning.

Gardnerville open house was discussed.

### **New Business**

Trailer registration was discussed. The renewal still comes to Ken Hagander's house. The address on the registration will be changed.

Bill Gillis explained to us what PONTIAC stands for. I can't print it here.

Bill Gillis recommended we post a contest/funfly schedule on the bulletin boards of the local hobby stores. Ron Marston said

## JUNE 2001 MINUTES (CONT'D)

he would try to do this and pointed out that he distributes newsletters to the shops regularly.

Spring Fling t-shirts were discussed. Ron Marston had some preliminary art to show the club. Many helpful suggestions were made. 25 shirts will be produced by Desert Threads. \$15.00 seemed like a good price to charge members for the shirts.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:32 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Ron Marston,

filling in for Lyn D. filling in for Jim N.

## JULY 2001 MINUTES

No minutes were taken for the July meeting, due to lack of attendance of members. I was in Jamaica getting married. What's your excuse?

## JUNE CONTEST REPORT

The June contest started early with the good intention of replacing the winch line. Unfortunately, a few snags were encountered (literally) replacing the line. The valiant efforts of Lee, Jim, and Adam finally got things going, but now the wind was picking up. After one round of flying, the contest was scratched due to high winds. The pilots who showed up used the open winch time to practice flying in the wind in the morning before it really got bad.

I flew my scratch built 120" RES ship for the first time. Chris Adams helped me trim it out, and its first trip up the winch line was a success. Unfortunately, its second trip up the winch was with an accidentally reversed rudder servo. The pilot's brain locked up as he watched in horror the ship rolling more and more to the left, unable to shift his focus from the hard hard ground that rapidly approached. 80+ hours of shaping, gluing, and covering balsa and ply, nosed into the ground at a very



## JUNE CONTEST REPORT (CONT'D)

high velocity, not more than a few yards from where Chris was standing.



Ron Marston with his freshly rebuilt 120" RES ship. 75 oz. and about 1200 sq. in.

The fuse was in four pieces, and the leading edge of all 120" of wing was crumpled. Every rib of the left panel has sheared from the trailing edge. Despite the heavy damage, I was determined to rebuild it. I couldn't let all that work be for nothing. It took about 40 hours, but I had it ready to fly for Spring Fling the following weekend. I flew it in all seven rounds in the RES category.

Ron Marston

## JULY CONTEST REPORT BY LEE COX

A total of nine pilots showed up for the July S3 monthly contest. As CD for the day, I chose to fly four rounds. The first round was a 3 minute blind. Second, third, and fourth rounds were 5 / 9 / 12 minute duration and could be flown in any order, scoring one point per second up to target time and deducting 5 points per second for overtime. As normal for the Washoe site, we did get some wind in the later rounds but were able to find some wave lift on the west side. Oli managed to hit his 12 minute flight right on 12 minutes with a landing. I was not as fortunate as I tried to get my 12 minute flight in

the second round and only got a 10:15.

We had a new pilot from the old days with the arrival of Dave Shadell. Dave is getting back into sailplanes after a long time away. For those who don't know Dave, he has won the US and the world pylon racing championship quit a few times. He flew for Futaba and has now retired and has come back to the slower sailplanes which he flew many years ago.

Anyway, the contest was won by Oli with a 1479, second place was ME with a 1444, third was Jim Kirstine with a 1428, fourth was Dave Shadell with a 1365. I was a little disappointed that only nine pilots showed up for the contest and two of them were new to our contest. Ron Madison, a new member and new pilot, came out and flew his first contest. He had some radio problems but I'm sure he will be back next month to try again.

Lee Cox/CD

## CONTEST SCORES FOR JULY 15, 2001

Pilot	Score	Place
Oliver Lieder	1479	1
Lee Cox	1444	2
Jim Kirstine	1428	3
Dave Shadell	1365	4
Jim Brady	1162	5
Chris Adams	996	6
Adam Kremers	DNF	
Howard McCluskey	DNF	
Ron Madison	DNF	



## SPRING FLING REPORT BY RON MARSTON

The Sacramento club (SVSS) had its Spring Fling soaring contest June 23-24. The event was well attended by the S3 Reno Thermal Mafia, with over a dozen members registered, including Chris Adams, Bill Avery, Jim Brady, Ron Brown, Lee Cox, Lyn Disbrow, Bill Gillis, Dave Hagander, Adam Kremers, Oliver Lieder, Ron Marston, Howard McCluskey, Pete Russel, and Tom Stowers.



Chris Adams readies his Cirrus for flight at Spring Fling, while Oliver Lieder catches some rays and checks out the action.

Adam and I arrived Friday afternoon, and it was windy! Really windy. We were told it had been calm all week, so we were hopeful it would die down Saturday and Sunday for the contest.

Well, it didn't. The whole contest could be described with one word: WINDY. Many pilots had had enough by the end of Saturday, and didn't fly Sunday, including about half of the RTM.

I threw caution to the wind (get it?) and flew open class and RES class on both days. The wind made the launches exciting, and there were many pop-offs. I could barely hold on to my new 120" RES ship as I was preparing to launch. It seemed like the wind was going to fold the built up wing before it got on the winch. It didn't, and I was happy for all the carbon and sheer webs I put in it. The plane survived all its launches and landings ( I crash proofed it the weekend before at our contest).



Ron Marston relinquishing his plane to the wind at Spring Fling.

If only I could have made it stay up in the air a little longer.

Jim Brady was one of only two S3 pilots in open class to fly both days (I was the other one), he flew well, but didn't make it through the last two rounds.

In Two-Meter, Oliver was the only S3 pilot to fly both days. He finished 8th in the category, despite two or three pop-offs.

In Grey Cup, Ron Brown and Lee Cox flew, and finished 3rd and 8th respectively. This makes Ron Brown the highest placing S3 pilot at the contest. Congrats, Ron!

In RES, Chris Adams flew his Cirrus both days for a 4th place finish. I finished 8th with my scratch built plane.

Points totals for the contest can be found on the SVSS website ([www.svss.org](http://www.svss.org)) for those



Jim Brady launches with timer Lee Cox behind him.



## SPRING FLING REPORT (CONT'D)

interested in more details.

The highlight of the raffle on Sunday was the generator they were using to keep the winch batteries fresh spectacularly burst into flames and black smoke. Jim Brady was there to help put the fire out. Apparently, a plywood wall built as a sound barrier provided the fuel.

Despite the wind, the fire, getting jipped in the raffle, and getting my Super V snagged in a retriever line that pulled it down by its tail, I enjoyed the 2001 Spring Fling. On the positive side, there were lots of nice planes to see, a nice pool to swim in at the motel, good food and beer, and good company. I also got to see people wearing t-shirts with my artwork on them, complete with silhouetted naked chick on the front.

I think there's a saying that goes something like: The worst day of flying a RC soaring contest is better than your best day at work.

## MISCELLANEOUS PICTURES

Working on something new? Why not submit a picture of your new plane to share with other S3 members?



Adam Kremers' newest plane, a Lanier Shrike. It flies better with a direct drive sp400 than with a ducted fan. 16 oz. rtf on 8 cells.



Ron's new Wedgie. Thinner and lighter (15.5 oz.) than a Zagi or Razor.



The Hornet, a 9 oz. electric helicopter that was flying at the Gardnerville funfly. Very cool.



Oliver flying at the Gardnerville funfly. Ron Brown, Jim Brady, and Lee Cox in the background.



## S3 FLYING EVENTS FOR 2001

MONTH	S3 CONTEST DATE/CD	FUNFLY DATE/FFD	SVSS CONTESTS (SAC.)
March	3/18 Dave H.	3/3 Jim B.	3/10
April	4/22 Oliver L.	4/7 Adam K.	4/7
May	5/20 Jim B.	5/5 Oliver L.	5/5
June	6/17 Adam K.	6/2 Ron M.	6/9
July	7/15 Lee Cox	7/7 Adam K.	7/7
August	8/19 Lyn D.	8/4 Dave H.	8/4
September	9/23 Larry G.	9/1 Lyn D.	9/8
October	10/21 Dave H.	10/6 Ron M.	10/6

### OTHER FLYING EVENTS

**SPRING FLING (SACRAMENTO)**

**WALLOWA ALPINE SOARING IN OREGON**

**S3 SEPT AIR RACE SLOPE BASH**

**VISALIA FALL SOARING FESTIVAL**

June 23-24

July 20-22

Sept. 15-16

Oct. 5-7

## S3 CONTEST SCORES FOR 2001 (SCORES NORMALIZED)

Pilot	March	April	May	June	July	August	September	October	Total
C. Adams	951.12	825.25	0	0	673.43				2449.80
B. Avery	682.02	0	0	0	0				682.02
J. Brady	922.47	856.37	839.83	0	785.67				3403.34
R. Brown	969.99	0	539.00	0	0				1508.66
L. Cox	893.82	521.84	1000.00	0	976.34				3392.00
L. Disbrow	DNF	0	0	0	0				0
B. Gillis	984.27	700.18	0	0	0				1684.45
D. Hagander	1000.00	1000.00	960.99	0	0				2960.99
A. Kremers	DNF	379.41	0	0	DNF				379.41
O. Lieder	913.48	982.35	882.39	0	1000.00				3778.22
R. Madison	0	0	0	0	DNF				0
R. Marston	802.25	537.40	815.01	0	0				2154.66
H. McCluskey	DNF	373.42	601.65	0	DNF				975.07
P. Russell	986.52	0	0	0	0				986.52
H. Siegfried	0	658.29	0	0	0				658.29
T. Stowers	908.43	0	0	0	0				908.43





## SIERRA SILENT SOARERS

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ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

### **NEXT CLUB MEETING:**

Tuesday, August 7th, 7:00pm • Round Table Pizza at Mira Loma and McCarran in Reno

**NEXT S3 CONTEST IS AUGUST 19TH**



CHECK OUT THE S3 WEB SITE AT: [www.scrollsander.com](http://www.scrollsander.com)



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