



SIERRA SILENT SOARERS

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

FEBRUARY 2001

LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT:

Hello Everyone,

Well it's that time of year again for our annual awards banquet and raffle. As in the past, it will be held at the Round Table Pizza Parlor on Mira Loma Blvd. on Tuesday February 6th at 7 p.m. We have some really good raffle prizes this year so please make it a point to attend and invite anyone who might be interested.

Flying season is just around the corner, in fact several S3 members are competing in the SouthWest Classic soaring contest held in Phoenix the first weekend in February. We wish them good luck and no crashes. The First contest of the year for the Sacramento club is going to be held on March 10. Jim Brady, Lee Cox and myself really enjoyed flying in their contests last year, so if you want a jump on flying season, head over to Sacramento in early March. I'm hoping we can get a good turnout from the Sacramento club at some of our contests this year.

My Windfree saw its maiden flight at Laura

Springs a few weeks ago. (A report on the funfly is elsewhere in this bulletin) After some really exciting launches and some radio adjustments, I was able to fly it in a controlled manner, but it just didn't seem quite right. After some discussion with Jim and watching it fly, and a later suggestion from Dave, I added more washout in the wings. On Saturday the 20th we had another funfly at Laura Springs. It really was a Fog Fly, being quite cold and foggy until around 1 p.m. Lee actually launched one of the Hilanders out of site into the fog! Well the Windfree flew MUCH better and launches were un-eventful. I'm really looking forward to learning to fly the Windfree well.

As flying season approaches, we will hopefully be obtaining new batteries and chargers for the winches. It is going to be expensive, so make sure you come to the banquet and support the raffle! See you there!

Adam Kremers

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S3 OFFICERS FOR 2001:

| | |
|---------------------|---------------|
| President | Adam Kremers |
| Vice President | Dave Hagander |
| Secretary/Treasurer | Jim Nelson |
| Newsletter Editor | Ron Marston |
| Safety Officer | Lyn Disbrow |



MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE SIERRA SILENT SOARERS JANUARY 2, 2001

The meeting was called to order by President Adam Kremers at 7:36 PM. January newsletters were offered to the members. The minutes of the December meeting were read and approved with corrections. The minutes stated that the owners of both of the fields that we fly at had received \$60 gift certificates. However, only the owner of the Washoe Lake field received a gift certificate, while both received thank you cards. The treasures report by Jim Nelson showed a cash balance of \$701.31 as of January 1, 2001.

Old Business

Oliver reported that he had sent in the information to the RCHTA but that he did not expect to receive any money for that.

Chris and Ron have not received any donations for the raffle for next months award night.

The club has signed up for the room at Round Table Pizza for 2001. Due to the indifference of the attending personnel it was thought that we should check again to make sure that we were signed up.

Club information and contact persons have been sent to the Soaring & Electric magazine.

Washoe county is beginning the process to build a park between new and old 395 routes in Washoe Valley. Thanks to Adams' insider information the preliminary plans will include a sailplane field.

New Business

A lot of discussion about contests, fun flies, etc, ensued with the following conclusions reached:
A. We will sponsor another slope fun fly during the air races. We had about 10 out-of-town attendees last year with a promise of more for this year.

B. Chris Adams along with his helpers will work for the Jr. Air Races during the air races.
C. Contest dates and the CDs for those contest should be in the newsletter.

D. The following Contest Directors volunteered or were appointed:

March - Dave Hagander
July - Lee Cox
April - Oliver Lieder
August - Chris Adams
May - Jim Brady
September - Larry Green
June - Adam Kremers
October - Dave Hagander

E. The following fun fly chairman volunteered or were coerced:

March - Jim Brady
July - Adam Kremers
April - Adam Kremers
August - Dave Hagander
May - Oliver Lieder
September - Lyn Disbro
June - Ron Marston
October - Ron Marston

Ron Marston requested that members send in any appropriate material that could be used in the newsletter.

A lengthy discussion about the prizes to be raffled at the awards pizza bash in February followed. It was concluded that we should spend a maximum of \$400 and that the prizes should be equally distributed between sailplanes and electrics with gift certificates being a good compromise. It was also decided that we would only give out the pilot of the year award, to be determined from the contest stats, and that the 'Order of the Arrow' trophy would be retrieved from Bill and would be awarded again next year.

Winch and retriever batteries were discussed. It was decided that we might not know enough about the batteries and chargers currently



available so Oliver is going to talk to the Optima battery folks and report back.

No one knew where the trailer registration was being sent or who had paid it. Dave thought that either Ken or Bill had done it last year and will check with them.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:54 PM.
Respectfully submitted

Jim Nelson
Secretary

FIELD REPORT FROM JIM BRADY:

LAURA SPRINGS FUN FLY

Sunday, January 7, 2001

Adam Kremers and myself arrived at the lower pasture below the bridge at 10:00 a.m. There were already 4 vehicles parked there and the winch was set up and ready to go. "Good timing!" said Adam. Tom Stowers, Tom's friend and ex-S3 member Pete Russel, and Lee's neighbor Jim Plake were already flying or ready to fly.

The temperature was already warming and the air was dead calm. The sky was spotted with clouds overhead and to the East. The advancing clouds from the West were getting more numerous. As the day went on it was pretty much solid overcast. The temperature reached 50°. The air remained dead calm; absolutely for trimming out our planes and making those initial test flights that some of us were doing.

Lee had reprogrammed his Scar and he was flying it very smoothly and with great confidence. It launches high, has a rock solid

REMINDERS:

The Mid-Winter Electric Festival is in San Diego February 16-19. Should be some very cool stuff to see there.

The club award ceremony/pizza party/raffle is the next meeting! (February 6, 2001) Plan on being there, and bring your family.

Meeting place is the Round Table Pizza at Mira Loma and McCarran in Reno.

Please help with donations for the raffle if you can. You know that plane that's been sitting in the box, untouched for the last year; well... donate it!

Don't forget the newsletter editor is still asking for pictures or anything you feel like sharing with the other S3 members.

cruise with great hang time and comes down in launch mode extremely slowly. Lee said he felt better flying it than ever.

It was really good to see Tom Stowers. He was flying his Spectrum open class ship. I think that is designed as an F3B plane. All composite, formidable sleek lines and flies fast. I really hope that Tom flies more often. My flying would surely improve if some of his flying technique could rub off on me. Old Ron (Iron Pants) Brown would have been impressed with the smooth, totally in-control landings that Tom was making.

Pete Russel, ex-S3 member and full scale sailplane pilot joined us. It was obvious that Pete is an accomplished RC sailplane pilot as well. Pete was flying a Falcon 880 that looks like a new plane. With Pete at the controls it would surely compete with the newest planes available.

Lee's neighbor Jim Plake was there from about 9 to 2. He has been trying to teach himself to fly with an electric Skimmer. He's a real



diehard. He has rebuilt the Skimmer numerous times. "No problem flying at all: unless it happens to be while flying toward myself". Gee, where have we heard that before? Jim was coached by Pete Russel for a couple of hours. Pete is a real cool, calm instructor. Jim said that he learned more and got more stick time on Sunday than he has gotten in a couple of months. Jim was flying much better at the end of the day. I'm sure Jim will be joining us more often.

Adam made the maiden flights with his recently completed Windfree. It is a built up 100" or more RES sailplane. It has a single dihedral high aspect ratio wing with a fairly high wing loading. Adam reports that you gotta keep it moving. It ain't no Genteel Lady. Adam thinks it will range well and still hang in light lift. Adam also spent some time flying his homebrew micro handlaunch based on Chris Adams' "Itch" fuselage.

I nervously made the 1st test flights with my new (used) Sapphire w/composite 122" wings. My apprehensions were misguided. It flew like most Sapphires. Launches steep with good stability. It doesn't zoom as well as my 2 meter Spectrum. It flies honestly with little or no input and really hangs well. It never showed any propensity to tip stall even with my sloppy attempts to make thermal turns right at or close to stall speeds while pulling up elevator. Full Crow approaches can be extremely slow and stable. I'm gonna like it. I also flew a few battery packs through the Zagi and the Skimmer. I almost took out Lee's Scar, but I'm not admitting it.

Rich Castillon attended. Rich flew his Gentle Lady and also shared it with a few of his friends. One friend of Rich's, Tom Walters who is also a slimer pilot and a hang glider pilot joined us and flew both Rich's G.L. and Lee's Scar. I don't know who was flying Rich's G.L.

when the "incident" happened, but shortly after coming off the hook after an extremely soft and gentle launch the wing peeled off of the G.L. The wing fluttered down unbroken, but the fuselage became the proverbial lawn dart. Someone is certainly flirting with the "Order of the Arrow" award.

Lee called Charlie Maschal, a new neighbor of his who was referred to him by Rich, and invited him to attend. Rich recently moved from the South bay area. He was a member of the SBSS. Charlie didn't bring a plane but did some good flying with Rich's G.L.

Gerald Roberts from So. Shore and his two daughters attended. Gerald brought and flew a beautiful 6 channel Alpha Club ARF from multiplex, a super clean aileron equipped Highlander, a Great Planes ARF 2 meter, and a neat little wingeron sloper. Gerald is a good pilot and really digs sloping. Joining Gerald from Tahoe was his friend Jason? He flies slope with Gerald and also flies a Great Planes ARF 2 meter.

Finally, just before 3:00 p.m. as Adam and I were Bee Essing near my truck, we realized Lee had already broken down and put nearly everything in the trailer. We drove out and got the turnaround, joined him in a toddy and a 10 minute chat and then headed for home.

It was a great day. Thanks Lee,

Jim



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





SIERRA SILENT SOARERS

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ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

NEXT CLUB MEETING:

Awards Ceremony! • End of Year Pizza Party! • Raffle!

Tuesday, February 6, 7:00pm • Round Table Pizza at Mira Loma and McCarran in Reno

BRING A FRIEND TO THE PIZZA PARTY!



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



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