



# SIERRA SILENT SOARERS

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

## LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT:

SEPTEMBER/OCTOBER 2001

Hello all,

This month's letter is going to be a short review of a new plane that I won in the raffle at Spring Fling last June. It is called the Little Luscomb and is sold by Northeast Sailplanes. It is a speed 280 powered park flyer with a wingspan of 38" and wing area of 260 sq in. With a RTF weight of 13.7 oz it has a wing loading of 7.6 oz/ft2.

The fuse is made of light weight fiberglass, with the wing and tail sections being built up balsa with a lightweight transparent covering. An interesting feature of the Luscomb is that the elevator section and landing gear can be easily removed, allowing the plane to be stored in a space saving flat configuration.

The workmanship is quite good, with really nothing to build. An hour or two is all that is needed to install the radio and attach the various pieces. The only problem came when

trying to run the included motor/prop setup. As it comes from the factory, it uses a speed 280 size motor attached to a gearbox with a 3 bladed prop. The gearbox is constructed so that the three blades can be replaced one at a time onto the combination gearbox/hub. When I first tested the gearbox in my hand, it vibrated so badly I could hardly hold it.

The way the prop/gearbox is setup, balancing the prop really isn't possible. Instead of trying to figure something out, I used a Titanic 3:1 gearbox attached to a Speed 280 that I had lying around. This setup is swinging a 9x3.8 APC slow flyer propeller using an 8 cell 550mah Nimh pack. At full throttle the current is around 3 amps producing about 30 watts, giving the plane about 35 watts/lb.

The plane is available in several different color schemes, mine came with yellow wings, blue

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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



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## LETTER FROM THE PREZ (CONT'D)

fuse and a yellow and red tail section. I decided to decorate the plane as a 1930's style US Army trainer since the colors were already there.

### **Flying**

The reason I just now put the plane together is because I wanted a trainer I could set up on a buddy box for people to try out at the Junior Air Races that was held on the 22nd.

Even though it was a little breezy, the plane flew pretty well and looks like it would make a very good trainer. 4 or 5 people tried it out as their first go at R/C . With the Nimh pack, 8-10 minute flights are normal. The plane certainly isn't overpowered and because it is just a rudder/elevator ship, loops are just about all the aerobatics it will do.

Northeast sailplanes advertises the plane for \$99 which includes the motor/gearbox. Although the workmanship is top notch it seems a little pricey for just a basic park type flyer, especially if the problem I had with the included gearbox is commonplace.

That's all for now

Adam Kremers

## MINUTES OF THE SEPTEMBER 2001 MEETING

Sept 04, 2001

President Adam Kremers called the meeting to order just after 7:30.

Treasurer reported just over \$1050 (part time :-)

**Old Business:** New lines for the winch are not necessary as Lee found some in the trailer.

**New Business:** Jr. Air Races CD is Bud Thorenson. The date was moved back from the 8th to the 22nd. 0900 between Stead and Lemon Valley.

## JUNE 2001 MINUTES (CONT'D)

Sacramento Flyers may show up for the contest on the 23rd. Larry is CD.

Sat the 15th Zulu Ridge slope bash in conjunction with Reno Air Races. Site needs clean up, need a couple guys with pick ups Saturday morning.

Trailer needs registration changed to Lee.

Checking account for the club will be established.

Jack Jordan cannot fly model aircraft any more so Chris Adams has all his airplanes for sale. If you want any of them, see Chris. Also Chris has a CD full of pictures (over 150) from Poway HLG contest that he will be selling for \$12.95. These are construction and technique photos (over 500 MB).

Congratulations to our new, yet to be, members: Owen, two weeks old, son of Oliver, mother and boy are just fine, and Spencer, son of Bill Gillis. Dave said, "Bill doesn't deserve anything that nice..." Spencer - Hacker - Aveox - Gillis.

Good Fun Fly last Saturday. Lots of planes, lots of fun. Only a couple of mishaps.

New Guy named Jeff showed up at the meeting. Hasn't been flying for a few years. He got our information from the poster at Reno Hobbies. He has a Legend still in the box to build from years ago and a Spirit ARF.

There is an SVSS contest Saturday for those interested.

Submitted by Lyn Disbrow

## AUGUST 2001 MINUTES

No minutes were submitted to the newsletter editor for the August meeting.



## AUGUST CONTEST REPORT

Lyn Disbrow was the CD for the August contest. Lyn had to leave early, but we had a good contest anyway.

The format was a 3, 5, 7, and 9 minute flight flown in the order of the pilot's choice. It was a pretty typical contest: beautiful weather in the morning, getting hot and windy in the afternoon. 11 pilots flew, and there were no major accidents. Contest results are below.

### CONTEST SCORES FOR AUGUST 19, 2001

Pilot	Score	Place
Oliver Lieder	4607	1
Lee Cox	4414	2
Dave Hagander	4114	3
Ron Brown	3869	4
Jim K.	3633	5
Jim Brady	3039	6
Ron Marston	2226	7
Ron Madison	1894	8
Pete Casti	DNF	
Lyn Disbrow	DNF	
Adam Kremers	DNF	

### SEPTEMBER CONTEST REPORT

The September Contest enjoyed great weather even though it wasn't expected. Perhaps this was global warming smiling upon us. The 9:30 am start date was a worthy forethought as I was traveling with Dave, who had to go back for his wallet.

We flew four rounds of precision-duration with an interlude midway for a speed round. Oli ran out of luck on his last leg trying to skim at high speed, obliterating a cow pie. DNF for

the round, but he did set the unofficial record on a re-fly. Newcomers Ron and Pete did great, with Ron at one point casting his round to the wind by staying up over 17 minutes. Harold, you had us all whipped until the last round. It was good to see you, Tom.

The CD was slightly unprepared as he had to change the rules six times, and he couldn't figure out how to score the speed round. I unknowingly, I swear, gave bent wings a big boost by allowing them to count 50% of their actual times during the speed run. In the future, we will likely use a less severe multiplier.

After the contest we were entertained by Jim Brady and his wife at his house for a barbeque. Several slope flying attempts landed in shade trees, so we moved on to Geiger Grade. Do grown men really throw rocks at slopers?

Thanks Jim, for the barbeque.

I had fun guys.

Larry Green, C/D

### CONTEST SCORES FOR SEPTEMBER 23, 2001

Pilot	Score	Place
Dave Hagander	4151	1
Larry Green	3946	2
Jim Brady	3909	3
Harold Siegfried	3838	4
Lee Cox	3587	5
Adam Kremers	3565	6
Tom Stowers	3527	7
Bill Gillis	3431	8
Pete Casti	3403	9
Oliver Lieder	2888	10
Ron Madison	2505	11



## AIR RACES SLOPE BASH REPORT

The Reno Air Races were cancelled this year, due to tragic events involving the airlines, but the S3 Slope Bash went ahead as scheduled.



On the slope, from L to R: Pete Casti, Adam Kremers, Chris Adams, Bill Gillis, and Ron Madison.

I didn't show up until about 4:30, and I was surprised to see so many people at Zulu ridge flying. Chris Adams did a good job promoting the event.

The wind was descent in direction and force, and I had a great time flying until it was too dark to see airplanes in the sky.

I saw a lot of S3 members: Chris, Adam, Tom Black with his father (good to see you, Tom), Dave, Bill, Ron Madison, Pete Casti, and others I'm forgetting right now. Oliver's car lost its water pump on the way in from Carson City, and got out of Pep-Boys just as it got dark and everyone was going home.

Lots of combat took place, with as many as 8 or 9 planes in the sky at once. After awhile several pilots moved south down the ridge to a spot purported to be good for dynamic soaring. Dave and Chris made some valiant efforts, and scared the hell out of a few of us with some close flybys, but I don't think they had the right airframes for the conditions.

A fun time for all who attended.



Adam Kremers' BEEDEE-5 above the Zulu Ridge.

## JUNIOR AIR RACES REPORT

On Saturday, September 22, the fourth annual Junior Air Races were held at the park in Stead. It was another beautiful warm sunny day with mild winds, and it turned out to be a pretty good day of flying.

The event isn't really a race at all, just a bunch of guys flying RC planes. The Reno RC club was there flying IC planes, and there were some control line pilots flying at the end of the grass field we were at.



Some of the planes and participants of the Jr. Air Races.

I brought eight planes with me, and ended up flying five of them throughout the day. One of the planes was a foam Cessna given to me by Chris Adams. I spent a few days fixing it up, adding ailerons, and repairing the nose gear that broke at this event last year. I set it up with a trainer cord for kids to fly. Unfortunately, on its third flight of the day, the speed 500 race motor gave up trying to handle the 40





amps it was getting from a 10 cell pack (that I thought was an 8 cell pack), an crashed dead stick into some gravel. It will fly again some-day (probably at next year's Jr. Air Races).

Adam was much more successful with his Luscomb, which he set up with a trainer cord. From what I saw it was flying nicely. He helped lots of kids fly.



Aspiring 12 year old RC pilot Arthur Marston (my son) waits for a battery to charge for the foam Cessna in the foreground. The Cessna had a hard day.

I flew the big Blue Max three times, which seemed to be a crowd pleaser. It was the only plane there with big enough wheels to ROG from the grass field, and it's bright orange covering looks good in the sky. I also flew the twister (another crowd pleaser), the Snitch, and the Wedgie.

The winch was set up and Oli flew some gliders. He even got his picture in the paper (with Jim Brady at the retriever) launching a plane.

Also in attendance were Ron Madison, Pete Casti, Bill Avery, Phil Kalenowsky (of Kites Plus/Zagis at Rancho fame), Arlee (who had a



A very nice looking IC powered Heli, that was flown very nicely at the Jr. Air Races. I didn't get the pilot's name.

cool looking bungee launcher) and others I'm forgetting.

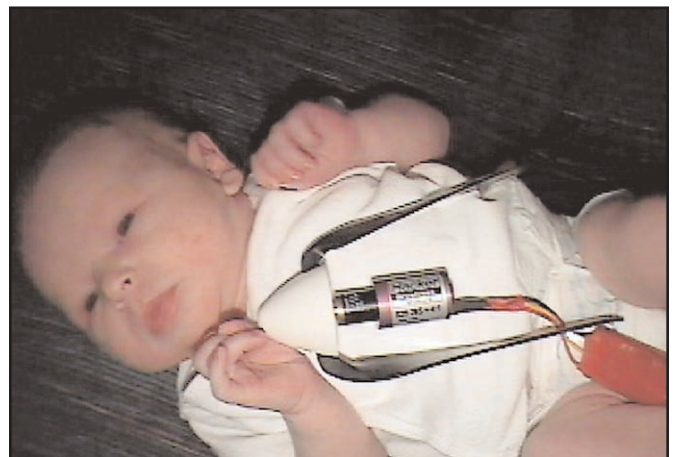
All in all, I think the event was deemed a success. The park's big grass area makes it an ideal place to fly small electric planes.

## MISCELLANEOUS PICTURES

Two potential new member have arrived this summer.



Owen Oliver Lieder, at three weeks old, already playing with airplane stuff. Congratulations to Janet and Oliver!



Spencer (Hacker) Gillis, shares his father's appreciation of fine brushless motors. Congratulations to Melissa and Bill!



## 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	0	0		2449.80
B. Avery	682.02	0	0	0	0	0	0		682.02
J. Brady	922.47	856.37	839.83	0	785.67	659.65	941.70		5004.69
R. Brown	969.99	0	539.00	0	0	839.37	0		2348.03
P. Casti	0	0	0	0	0	DNF	820.04		820.04
L. Cox	893.82	521.84	1000.00	0	976.34	958.10	864.13		5214.23
L. Disbrow	DNF	0	0	0	0	DNF	0		0
B. Gillis	984.27	700.18	0	0	0	0	826.54		2510.99
L. Green	0	0	0	0	0	0	950.61		950.61
D. Hagander	1000.00	1000.00	960.99	0	0	892.99	1000.00		4853.98
A. Kremers	DNF	379.41	0	0	DNF	DNF	858.83		1238.24
O. Lieder	913.48	982.35	882.39	0	1000.00	1000.00	695.74		5473.96
R. Madison	0	0	0	0	DNF	411.11	602.75		1013.86
R. Marston	802.25	537.40	815.01	0	0	483.13	0		2637.79
H. McCluskey	DNF	373.42	601.65	0	DNF	0	0		975.07
P. Russell	986.52	0	0	0	0	0	0		986.52
H. Siegfried	0	658.29	0	0	0	0	924.60		1586.12
T. Stowers	908.43	0	0	0	0	0	849.67		1758.10





## SIERRA SILENT SOARERS

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### **NEXT CLUB MEETING:**

Tuesday, October 2nd, 7:00pm • Round Table Pizza at Mira Loma and McCarran in Reno

**THE LAST S3 CONTEST OF THE YEAR  
IS OCTOBER 21ST  
VISALIA IS OCTOBER 5-7**



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