

Thousand Oaks

Jan/Feb



Soaring Society

2012

TOSS is a District X Member of the Academy of Model Aeronautics, CharterClub # 1493

<http://www.tosoaring.com/>

Minutes of the TOSS Meeting Held 1/25/2012

Attendees: Craig Borstelmann, Art Chmielewski, John Elias, Gary Filice, Jay Harland, Steve Miele, Don Northern, Richard Mason, Lex Mierop, Jim Pendergrass, Carrie, Mark, Harry, Ben Sandstrom, Mike Stern, Bob Swet, Martin Usher, Bob VanLandingham, John Stephenson

TOSS Business:

-Membership forms, please get them into the club ASAP so that we can get our membership for the year up to date. Form is available on the website.

-Treasury report \$1,245.49 balance; plus \$720 from current dues = \$1,965.49

-AMA registration and field permit will be processed by Terry Koplan and Martin Usher.

Safety:

-We just had a situation where a plane went out of control on launch and into the street. If you even think that you need assistance, please ask when launching to provide a maximum safety factor.

When the line goes into the street, stop traffic immediately. Also, cut the line and pull it back through the trees and fence and

then re-tie it on the field. Speed is a critical factor in getting the line out of traffic.

-We discussed having an age limit on winch operation and although we didn't find a consensus we all agree that training and observing safety is critical.

Club Contests;

-Report on the status of the club contests by Bill Bertram is on hold as he is absent.

SC2 Report:

-Lex Mierop attended the SC2 meeting. Chico Romero is the new SC2 president. The first contest is in February at fish canyon. The contest at TOSS is on October 21st. Lex will be the CD for the TOSS contest this year. There was some talk of modifying the contest formats with more man-on-man formats. There was some disagreement on times for the contests. Four rounds with less time may be better than three 10 minute rounds, especially for the sportsman flyers. A new perpetual award for the overall winner will be awarded which passes on from year to year. This may also be done for the other classes. If you get your name on

the trophy, you will be moved up in class. SC2 will provide the trophies this year as last year. Each club can pick their own design.

A novice class was added this year to encourage new flyers to come into the SC2 contest community. No entry fee for novice, and ribbons are given for prizes in novice. Lex is the main TOSS representative to SC2 and Gary Filice will be the second SC2 representative for the TOSS.

Hand Launch:

-The third annual John Ericson hand launch contest was just held at the El Dorado field on January 14-15. The contest drew the biggest group of fliers yet, coming from all over the country; it was a grand success. Lex placed 15th out of 60 contestants.

-Upcoming hand launch activities are posted on RC Groups in the "Aircraft-Sailplanes > Hand Launch" section under Southern California goings-on.

Flying site Acquisition:

-Don Northern has again contacted Scott Tignac (site manager) from Waste Management Company at the Simi Valley land fill about flying on the dump sight. He also contacted Lawrence Tougas our AMA District X representative and Tony Stillman AMA Flying Site Assistance Coordinator about this as well. They phoned Scott and are waiting for a reply to their phone calls.

-Happy Camp flying site is on going through negotiations involving Supervisor

Foy and Parks. We are hoping that the county modifies their need for a special use permit involving some \$8 to \$10,000 in fees!

Cross Country activity:

-For those who want to finish up another LSF cross country level, we are trying to coordinate a cross-country day with John Elias to get the tasks done. Please contact John or Gary Filice if you are interested. The date has not been set yet, but the April/May time period looks to be when it will happen.

Community interest:

-The Thousand Oaks Teen Center has contacted TOSS about possibly putting on a glider clinic; Steve will follow up on their inquiry.

Errata:

-To all TOSS winch owners, please check the condition of your lines for both winch and retriever. Contact Don Northern with your needs, or bring your outfit to the field so that we can inspect the condition of the lines. Don Northern needs to order lines for the club.

Attention!!-A few weeks ago Art McNamee gave the club a winch and a retriever. Steve has the winch but we don't know who took the retriever. We'd like to put them together and have them available in case they're needed. Does anybody know who has the retriever?

-Meeting adjourned at 8:15 PM.

An open letter to all TOSS members:

January 10, 2012

Dear Steve and all members of TOSS:

This letter is long overdue. Our family would like to thank TOSS for all of the help you have given and generosity you have shown toward Harry Sandstrom during the past 16 or so months (he visited your booth at the Conejo Parks & Rec Tropical Daze event in 2010 and has been an enthusiastic member of TOSS ever since). As some of you know, Harry has a very strong interest in aviation, and with your help has been able to pursue his desire to fly remote control gliders, which has deepened his interest in aviation and desire to pursue an aviation-related career (his stated goal is to design aircraft). Yes, he's only 10, but this is how a lifelong avocation begins! He, and we, his parents, truly appreciate your overwhelming generosity with glider and equipment loans and gifts, and, most importantly, your time. We need to especially thank Gary and Bill for all of the effort and interest they have put into helping Harry - without your personal involvement he would not have been able to progress like he has. Thank you all for welcoming Harry so warmly into your community - you guys are great!

Mark and Carrie Sandstrom

To All,

As many of you know the Lang Ranch Community Park will not be developed per the previous plan due to the discovery of an unstable, ancient landslide within the park and the cost to mitigate it for development. Their loss may be our gain as our club has an opportunity to be among the first in the community to propose who will use this property under the new design of minimally invasive use. So far there was one community meeting held (which we missed), and a park tour (which Bill Bertram attended).

*** Our next GOLDEN opportunity will be on February 29, 2012 from 7 to 9 PM at the Hillcrest Center Community room (at the old City Hall, aka the Eyebrown building).

*** Since this meeting conflicts with our monthly business meeting, and is far more urgent, it was discussed and decided that the TOSS monthly business meeting will be held on February 28th, Tuesday, at 7PM in the Moorpark clubhouse. Should the clubhouse be occupied that night, Gary offered his abode for the meeting.

The Ventura County Star ran an article about the Park Tour, here is the link <http://www.vcstar.com/news/2012/feb/12/visitors-offer-ideas-for-lang-ranch-community/>

There are also pictures of Bill trudging through the brush with the group. Ed Jones is quoted in the article as recommending a possible use of the land "a place to fly gliders". Thanks Ed!

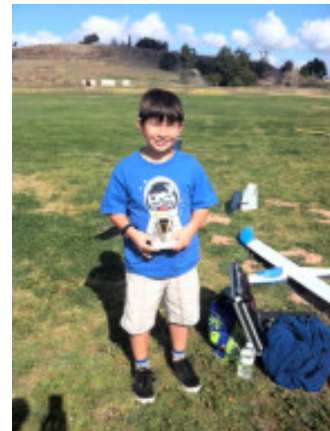
What follows is a letter from Bill Bertram, please read it.

Thanks,

Steve

p.s. A hearty thanks to Bill for holding a great contest this past Sunday for the regular club members and our juniors. Photos of the happy juniors should be on the website soon.

(I've put smaller versions below — the real pix should be on the random picture rotation — Ed)



Letter to all Thousand Oaks Soaring Society members:

02-11-2012

Conejo Recreation and Parks District (CRPD), conducted a walk and open meeting to get input on how to use the Lang Ranch property that was to be a community Park and now is owned by CRPD, and will be used as a non-invasive park land with no major development such as roads, buildings, fields of any kind; such as tennis, football, baseball or football. Also there are no plans for any kind of lighting.

Park and Rec Officers Jim Freidel and Tom Hare hosted the walk and talk, also there were other staff members there to answer questions. Also Ed Jones was there. The walk went from 7:30 AM until 9:00 AM and was a little over a 2.5 miles long.

There were approximately 35 to 40 people that showed up, and ranged from walkers, off road bicycle riders, bird watchers, Frisbee golf and a few people that wanted the land to be gated and left as is with no use at all. Also there were people that lived in homes next to the park and just wanted to know what was going to happen since the original park plans had been abandon. Because the park is so big the general consensus of the group was that there was enough room for many activities, each, not bothering or getting in the way of the other, depending on the activity.

The interesting thing is that the park is now open and has been for a long time, with the walkers and the bicyclists using it the most. While the walk was being held many bicyclist came through the group with no warning. The trail we were on was only 2 feet wide in many places, which tells me the bikers, have a large foothold on what is going on at the park right now. Ed Jones did not know that the park was open for use.

The next meeting is Wednesday, February 29, 2012 from 7:00 PM to 9:00 PM, at the Hillcrest Center Community room (The old City Hall). Seeing that we (TOSS) did not attend the first meeting, held on Feb. 8th. The club should and must have at least 5 or 6 members there on the 29th. The reason for this is the way the meeting is held. It's held with 8 or 9 tables with 8 to 10 people at each table. A brainstorming session takes place at each table with CRPD staff monitoring each table. At the end of the night each table hands in a synopsis of their discussion, and then CRPD staff read all the input to the group as a whole. More discussion takes place and then CRPD uses all the inputs to make recommendation to the Parks Commission, a group of 5 directors who make the final decisions on how the park land will be used. There will be a final public meeting at the same place on March 21, 2012.

There was a lot of concern about parking at the Westlake Blvd. entrance to the park, with most people not wanting any kind of cement or asphalt parking lots to be built on that side of the park. My input was why not use the paved road that is used once or twice a year by the county water reclamation district engineers as a paved parking lot. The Staff said that no one had thought of that, and was a good idea and would be considered in the planning decision.

Bill Bertram

RESULTS OF THE 02/12/2012 T.O.S.S. CLUB CONTEST

1 ST	PLACE	EXPERT OPEN	MIKE REAGAN	1953 POINTS
2 ND	PLACE	EXPERT OPEN	GARY FILICE	1950 POINTS
3 RD	PLACE	EXPERT OPEN	ART C.....	1929 POINTS

1 ST	PLACE	EXPERT RES	MIKE REAGAN	1945 POINTS
2 ND	PLACE	EXPERT RES	DON NORTHERN	1912 POINTS
3 rd	PLACE	EXPERT RES	ART C.....	1670 POINTS

1 ST	PLACE	SPORTSMAN RES	BOB V.	1591 POINTS
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1 ST	PLACE JUNIOR	HARRY SANDSTROM	47 POINTS
2 ND	PLACE JUNIOR	HENRY PICK	17 POINTS
3 RD	PLACE JUNIOR	BEN BORSTELMANN	8 POINTS

The juniors are doing very well. It was Ben Borstelmann's first day out on the field and in a contest. Way to go Ben

THANKS TO ALL CONTESTANTS FOR ENTERING THE CONTEST.