TOSS-UP



NEWSLETTER

THOUSAND OAKS SOARING SOCIETY A.M.A. CHARTERED CLUB #1493

OCTOBER 1995

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NEXT CONTEST:

DATE: SC2 October 29th.,1995 PLACE: Redwood School TIME: 9:00 a.m. C/D Mike Reagan

NEXT CLUB MEETNG:

DATE: October 25th.,1995 DAY: Wednesday PLACE: Cameron Center TIME: 7:30p.m.

SEPTEMBER MEETING NOTES

OLD BUSINESS:

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General discussion was held concerning our state of preparedness for the October SC2 contest. We need volunteers, tables, and new line on a couple of winches. All volunteers will be appreciated.

NEW BUSINESS:

More discussions on the subject of mandatory formatting of club contests. Suggestions were floored for mandating all monthly club contests will involve testing of skills (not luck). Any contest where luck is involved, should be designated a Fun Fly and be held on a non-monthly contest date. Also suggested was that all monthly contest formats would have club's approval. Some of these suggestions would require changes to club's by-laws.

Chase Keightly aired his concerns about being a contest director stating that he certainly won't make waves. His contest will definitely of a standard format in fear of receiving all the on what format the September contest could have been. Chase stated that he is certainly will to help out in any way that he can in return for all the help that he receives. That's the spirit!

Again, discussions were held on how to increase the club's memberships.

A local legend has recently passed away. Keith Jones, trainer of most of the local glider pilots is now circling among the best of slope lift. We will certainly miss him on the hill.

Bob Swet brought in a large variety of receiver nicad battery packs. They ranged from the tiny 110 mAHr to the large 1200 mAHr. He answered many questions and offered some advice. Bob informed us that nicads typically self-discharged at a rate of less than 2% per day. Most manufacturers of nicads claim that their cells do not develop a "memory". Also, that Nicads worst enemies are heat, over-discharging and over-charging. So it's best not to store them in your car or in direct sunlight or in any location that gets over 100 degrees. Certainly, don't leave your transmitters or receivers on unless they are being used! Don't leave your transmitter or plane on charge all the time. Lastly, be very careful when fast charging.

RAFFLE RESULTS:

The raffle was postponed until next month meeting.

TREASURER'S REPORT

We have \$250.00 in our account and as of 10/15/'95 we have around \$275.00 in unpaid bills.

MORE ON NICADS CHARGING by Bob Swet

All major manufacturers informed us that nicads typically self-discharged at a rate of less than 2% per day and typically less than 1%. This may be interpreted as if you have not charged your battery pack during the past two months, you should (slow) charge them for at least 12 hours. Or, assuming that you are slow charging your batteries, charge them for 1/2 hour per day since last fully charged. Note: Slow charging is usually stated as the charging rate being the capacity divided by 10 and the charge time would be 12 to 15 hours. If you have a 600 mAHr battery pack, slow charging would be at a current of 60 milliAmps.

When using a charger of a different rate than the battery pack it was designed for, charging times must be adjusted. Example: you have a charger that originally came with your 500 mAHr receiver battery pack. But, because you are using a plane with six servos, you installed an 800 mAHr battery pack. How long should you charge the new battery pack with the old charger? Let's see. That would be 800 divided by 50 or 16 hours. That is almost correct for a fully discharged pack. We did not include any time for "cell equalization". This is the property that is simply stated that no two cells are ever alike. What manufacturers recommend to overcome this inherent property is that we should overcharge by 20 to 50 percent. So we multiply 16 hours by 1.2 to get 19.2 hours. If we had used 50%, the answer would be 24 hours. In conclusion, you should charge that 800 mAHr battery pack for 19 to 24 hours if it was fully discharged.

But what if my batteries are not fully discharged. Say you flew for only a half hour. Simple enough. If you know that your transmitter normally will last for two hours and your receiver pack normally lasts one and a half hours, basic math yield our answers. In the

transmitter case, you have used approximately 25 percent (0.5/2) of the battery's capacity. So if you normally charge your transmitter for 12 to 15 hours (if it was fully discharged), you would only need to charge it for a quarter of that time or 3 to 3 1/2 hours.

The receiver battery pack charging time is calculated the same way. Let's use the 800 mAHr battery from the above example. You used approximately 33 percent (0.5 / 1.5) of the battery's capacity. We need to replace what we used. Therefore we would need to charge it for 33 percent of the normal charging time. Using our mathmagic, that would be 19 hours times 33 percent or approximately 6 1/4 hours. You could certainly charge it for as long as 8 hours with worry of damage.

I hope that this answers some of your questions.....Bob

THE BIG GAMBLE by Bob Swet

It all started last November, when I was deciding to buy a new high performance sailplane. Should I purchase a tried and true one like an open class Mako or Super - V or go for a one smaller, lighter standard class? Do I spend big bucks or go for something more economical. Decision, decisions. Finally, after much thought and evaluation of what I wanted to accomplish with the plane, it was decided that the new (has anybody ever heard of it?) Opus 750 would fit the bill. It was light, less than 50 ounces (meaning easy to launch with a high start), light wing loading (less than 9.5 oz. per square foot), and high tech (new Selig 9037 air foil).

Enter Northeast Sailplane. Placed my order and waited. About three months later, my belated Christmas present arrives. Now where is my workbench? Buried deep with various pieces of six new planes. What should I do? Finish them or put them all aside? It was slope soaring season and I had a new Whirlwind kit. Without much hesitation, the Whirlwind remained on the bench while the others were put aside.

The months flew by. It is June now and should I start the Opus or finish the Astro Blaster and hand launch that are almost completed. There are three months left before Visalia. I need a month to build the Opus and a month to practice with it. Little did I know that was dream #1. So with the thought of plenty time, work was continued on the Astro Blaster. The Fourth of July rolls by and it is now time to start my new Opus. So at a slow pace, the rudder and tail feathers are started.

Now I own a high performance plane, or at least the kit for one, the next thing I will need is high performance radio. Enter, stage right, more decisions. Which one should I buy and on what channel? A Vision SP or a JR 388? Even sooner than which radio, the question as to preferred frequencies must be answered before my application to the Fall Soaring Festival can be sent in. My only semi-high performance radio was on channel where most of the SC2 sand baggers reside. You certainly don't want to spend big bucks only to have to wait for someone else to find good air. Upon evaluating which channels are commonly used among club members and known interference sources, my choices were made. My first two choices were frequencies which I did not own and to cover the absolute worst case, my last choice was that of my Infinite 600. It was a gamble, but I was willing to risk finding a radio on the desired channel just before Visalia.

August comes and goes much quicker than anticipated. The Opus is approximately 50 % completed. Dream #2. Lesson: Part count does not equate to time required. Can't wait much longer to order a new radio. When am I going to hear from CVRC on my group and channel assignments. Finally it arrives. Group 'N' and on channel 58. Great, I can finally go out and purchase a Vision. After many phone calls, it became obvious that Visions were no longer available on any channel let alone on the one I wanted. Airtronics had discontinued manufacturing them a few months back and was just about ready to market the brand new Stylus.

Enter Northeast Sailplane again. Sal convinced me that the Stylus was the radio to purchase and it would be available on 9/15. So with dollar signs fleeing my wallet, an order for a PCM Stylus was placed. The timing would be close, but I still hadn't finished the Opus. The radio

being late should not impact the schedule too much for I had already purchased all the servos needed. I could build but not test. Wrong! The fifteenth comes and goes, but no radio. A call from Sal informs me that Airtronics was not going to ship PCM radios until the 22nd and they will ship it direct to me to save some time. That means it won't be here until less than two weeks before the contest. I guess I won't get much practice. What an understatement!

The radio arrives on que but the plane still is not completed. My plan is now to do only three things, got to work, complete the Opus, and catch some sleep during any remaining time. The midnight oil was burning hot and furious. Still, the schedule was slipping.

It is the week before Visalia and the Opus still isn't completed. I'll take Monday off and complete the plane. Wrong! Tuesday and Wednesday yield even more problems with the radio installation. Only two days left. Should I try a quickly install the new radio into the Genesis or continue putting all the eggs into the Opus. What if it doesn't perform as expected? More Decisions. Go for the gusto! Finally, it is 2:30 AM Thursday morning, the plane is ready for its maiden test flight.

Thursday night ... picture session first. Need that proof. Then it will be a range check. That's O.K. Next, hand toss to check for major trim problems. Radio is on, surfaces move. Run.. run .. its starting to lift out of my hand. No weird tendencies and with a gentle push it's up, up and away. Only to bank hard right and stall. I bury the stick in the bottom left corner, but with only ten feet of altitude I could only hope that my backup Genesis would not take to long to retrofit. The sickening sight of watching my brand new sailplane go straight in made me wonder was it worth it all. Walking slowly over to the impact crater, the only obvious problem was that the canopy had popped off. Could I really be that lucky? Could the plane really be strong enough to suffer no real damage. Yep!

With some more down trimmed in, it was time to pray again. Much better. Not good but controllable. More down trim. Again try a hand toss. Better but not quite there yet. More down trim. Another toss. It flies level now. What about flaps? Just a small amount of ballooning. Definitely livable. Now lets try the high start. Up she goes. Tracks straight. No tendency to

stall. Things are going good. Turns are a little touchy, but the hang time is much better than the Genesis. Landing is a little rough. Make a few more adjustments. Now it is past 6:30 PM and getting dark. Launch again. Flying better. Hang time is impressive. Land and make a few more adjustments. Can hardly see the plane anymore. Just one more flight. Launch again. Ah, the pleasures of flying a silhouette. Is it rolling to left or to right? It is certainly time to land. I'll take it to Visalia.

It's Friday, October 6th. After sleeping quite late that morning, its 5:30 PM when I arrive at the CVRC field. Just enough time for some quick flights and receive comments questioning my sanity for bringing a brand new plane. Thanks to Edgar Weisman and his nickel on my vertical stab. The plane is flying even better than the night before. After dinner with the Super-V clan, it was back to hotel room and make some adjustments.

Saturday morning starts with meeting Edgar and Art at Denny's. Six waitresses and almost an hour later we leave and head for the field. The next job is assemble the plane, turn in the transmitter and attend the pilots meeting. After carefully listening on how to earn points, they explain the long list of ways to loose points. A strategy develops. With only six flights and two semi-serious landing attempts under my belt, my target time will be ten seconds under the designated flight time and pray the landing gods bless my plane. Good decision! It is soon announced that group 'O' will lead off today. Great, that means I will be in the last group. That increases the odds of having a thermal when it is needed. I could certainly use all the help that I can get.

Finally it is my time to launch. Wind is blowing approximate 5 mph. Launching and landing will be downwind and slightly crossed. Step up to line. Stand on the pedal and bingo, a pop off. More decisions. I am allowed one during the whole contest. Should I fly it out? Need only three minutes. Plane has good hang time. Fly it out. My only problem was that after a few stall / recovery cycles, I am down to about 100 feet at time of launch. Time to head toward the landing zone. Do I feel lucky? Circle the area just outside the landing zone and pray for a thermal. One minute goes by. Still haven't lost much altitude but my turns are looking pretty bad. My timer makes a few non-complimentary remarks.

At two minutes the plane starts to climb. Looks like I'll make the three minutes. The landing left a little (more like allot) to be desired. The plane is too high and not slowing down, making Mike Reagan (my timer) leap back. The plane stops at less than a foot from the penalty zone. Phew. Maybe for the next flight I should think about turning on the rudder coupling.

The next flight is better and I score 10% on the landing. Things are looking up. Time to check standings. Fifth page, fourth page, third page, second page, first page. Holy mackerel. I'm in 28th. The wind must be really making havoc with the other pilots. Larry Jimenez arrives to take in the sights and buy raffle tickets. Third flight, time is good and the landing is scoreless. Forth flight is more of the same. Check the standings. Still on the first page but much lower. Somebody must be watching over me.

That night was pretty much a repeat of Friday's. Dinner, back to the room, make more adjustments. Sunday morning all the attending TOSS members gather for breakfast (at a different restaurant). Soon, it's pilot meeting time Group 'B' will lead today. Lucky again. Wind is not favorable, landings will still be downwind. Round 5 goes well but still no landing. Round 6 has allot of planes falling short on time. I manage to land one second over to earn my only penalty points. The last round, target time is eight minutes. Prior pilots are still having problems with the sink. Me, I squeak by but miss the landing (only by that much). I have done my best. The plane has made me look better than I really am.

It's raffle time. Do I get skunked again like last year? Names, letters, and numbers are spewing over the loud speakers. By the way, who is this kid named "I Won" that keeps getting called? Beyond belief, my name is announced. Soon, I am now a proud owner of a Feather-Cut foam cutter. Could I be lucky enough to win that Super-V, Vision radio or one of the other fantastic prizes?

Eventually, there is a interruption for a fly off for first place. Roger Lackey and Joe Wurts had tied. The assignment is a three minutes and a precision tape landing. Joe wins by a second. Raffle continues. Trophies are handed out. The fun is over and it its time to head for home. My gamble had paid off, finishing 66th of 252 fliers. I had finished 34 positions higher than I had

targeted for. Maybe this is my lucky year. Can't wait to see what next year brings.

Thanks Bob, I hope Bob's story will inspire more TOSS members to attent next year's contest. The Visalia contest is more than a contest it is truly an experience that you will never forget.

COMING SOON PARAGON ONLY CONTEST!

This is the contest you've been waiting for dust off your old Paragon or just build a new one. No firm date has been set. We are shooting for sometime in December.

Call Don Northern or Larry Jimenez for more info or to make any suggestions. Call.....

Larry Jimenez-652-1937 Don Northern-523-1018

Support your local hobby stores

MARTY'S HOBBIES 1728N. MOORPARK RD. THOUSAND OAKS

> THE RED BARON 77 DAILY DRIVE CAMARILLO

FALL SOARING FESTIVAL

VISALIA, CA. OCT 7-8, 1995

Plc	Contestant		Club	Pnts	Plc	Contestant		Club	Pnts	Plc	Contestant		Club	Pnts
1 2	WURTS LACKEY	, JOE ROGER	PSS FUNK	2511	72	SCHORZ OLSEN JR.	,HANK ,PETER	SCSA SWSA	2198 2195	143	SLOBOD GREEN	, ED , LARRY	SFVSF S3	1950 1944
3	VEISMAN JOHNS	.B.J.	FUNK	2511 2497 2486	74	HAGANDER BUSH	, KEN , RANDY	S3 SVSS	2195 2191	145	BOWMAN CLASEN	, PAT , BRAD	MRSS	1944
}	TRIBBES AGUIRRE	, GREG , MARK , MIKE	SBSS FUNK	2485 2455	76	BARTER STROBEL	ERNIE, RICHARD	SBSS TPG	2188 2185	147	NIKOLA ROBERTS	, GREG , GARY	SCSA	1930
1 7	JENNINGS	, GORDON	CVRC	2453	78	SCHAT	. DAVID	SULA	2184	149	ANDERSEN	.KEVIN	PSS SULA	1930 1924
1 8	KINDRICK CLERX	, KEITH , BEN	PSS FUNK	2448	79 80	BURVELL SADORF	,DAVE ,STAN	SBSS	2179 2179	150 151	LEPPLA CLIFTON	, FRANK , GLENN	PSS SVSA	1917 1914
10	MEADER MEADER	, MARK , SCOTT	PSS SBSS	2436 2415	81	HOOPES ASNAULT	,TOM ,LEO	IMSF SVSS	2168 2167	152 153	WILSON HAGANDER	,DAN ,DAVID	FUNK S3	1910
12	WIDEL SCHWEMMER	,RON KEITH	SBSS CVRC	2411 2407	83	HUNTER Kornberg	,CLIFF .DAVE	NCC CVRC	2166	154 155	McCLOGAN Bajorek	,DONALD .CHRIS	SVSA SVSS	1898 1894
14	JOLLY George	, LARRY . JASON	SULA	2391 2389	85 86	ADDIS SELIG	,STEPHEN ,MICHAEL	SULA	2164 2162	156 157	SELGRATH SKJERSETH	, JOE , DOUG	SSJSS NBSS	1892 1891
16	VALDES PERKINS	.AARON	TPG PSS	2387	87	NAVE VINCENT	, JOE , TOM , ED	SFVSF FUNK	2159 2156	158	HENRY	, DELL , JOHN	CVRC SWSA	1890
18	CONDON GEORGE	DARYL STEVE CHRIS	TPG CVRC	2378	-90 -90	WEISMAN	ÉDGAR	CVRC TOSS	2154 2149	160	YEE WHYTE RICHARDS	,ED ,SCOTT	NCC	1878
20	SKINNER	, JIV	EDSF	2374	91	OLDERSHAW	, VERN W.	SSJSS	2148	162	TAYLOR	.LARRY	CYRC	1875
21 22	BILLMAN THOMAS	,JIY ,TODD	ISS	2362 2358	92	TAYLOR THOMAS	, MARK , ROSS	SLO HSS	2145 2145	163 164	WEBSTER OTTO	, MARC , CARL	SCSA SVSS	1870 1869
23	BURNS BRADY	, RICHARD , MERRILL	PSS S¥SA	2355 2350	94	BRANDT	,VINCE ,DENNIS	ISS EDSF	2142 2140	165 166	SNIDER KELLER	, JOHN , SHAVN	SCSA SSJSS	1867 1857
25 26	SAGE BOSTICK	, FRED HPYRY	TPG Slnt	2339	96	LANGER KEENAN	, CLAUS .JERRY	SCSA	2139 2137	1167 1168	SMITH RAYMOND	, STEVÊN , KEN	LVSC TPG	1853 1841
27 28	TRIST JOY	,PAUL Jr. ,GEORGE	PSS TPG	2318 2317	98	SAFFORD GERVAIS	,DUWAYNE .MIKE	CVRC SBSS	2136	- 169 - 170	GEVAIN MCNAMEE	ART	SSJSS	1841
29 30	COPF BOSS	, TOM . GRORGE	HDDD SULA	2310 2307	100	SNEED Sleger	,JIM ,ED	CVRC	2134	171 172	ORTIZ THACKER	, GIL , COL. ROBI	TOSS	1834 1830
31	STRICKLETT McCARTHLY	, STEVEN	TPG	2307	102	ORTIZ FINKENBINER	, GILBERT	SSJSS CVRC	2130 2127	173	CRON LENCI	,AL ,RONALD	HSS MRSS	1826
33	BEARDSLEY RODGERS	,DAVID		2302 2299	104	HALLFORD	PHILIP	PSS	2125	175	MATSUMOTO	, BEN	PSS	1823 1822
35	RENAUD	DAVID JOHN	PSS CVRC	22961	105	CLASEN FRY	,STEVE , JERRY	MRSS TPG	2113 2107	176	HAMBELTON STRAUSS	,MARK ,BILL		1814
36	SHELBY FORGUER	,RICK ,MATT	TPG	2295 2290	107 108	McGOVAN SMILEY	, RAY , EVERETT	SSISS	2105 2104	178 179	THOMPSON VEGA	, D'ANNE , CARL	CASL SVSS	1786 1784
38 39	MARKIEVICZ KALLEVANG	, ARTHUR , TOM	TPG CVRC	2289 2286	1109	DEFRANSISCO CLARK	, SAL , DEAN , TERRY	FUNK SCSA	2102 2099	180 181	ANGELO VILSON	,AJ ,RANDAL V	SBSS	1781 1769
40	NEHRING Rodriguez	,CURT ,JOE	SVSA Funk	2286 2276	1111	THROOP GILLBURG	, TERRY , GEORGE	SSJSS	2096 2 08 8	182 183	PETERSON ARZU	,SCOTT ,FRANKIE	SBSS	1768
42	KHANI McGOVAN	,AL! .BCB	SULA DVSS	2276	1113	FINK SMITH	,DANIEL ,RALPH	SULA CVRC	2084 2080	184	BUZOLICH Nolte	, NICK , JOAN	FUNK Syss	1762 1762
44	LUGO NEWLAND	, BREN , JOE	SBSS	2272	115	GLITHERO ROHLFING	, IAIN , RICK	CASL SBSS	2079	186	TIMBS HILL	, NORM , RODNEY	SLO	1748
46	VANN PUCHALSKI	, RON , MARK	SULA	2268	117	BUCK ATKINS	, JIM , KIM	SFVSF SBSS	2073	188	RUSSELL Taylor	, RON =	5.44'0 & K.8	1747
48	CONDON BERON-RAVDO	,SCCTT	TPG SHLA	2264	1119	RICHMOND	,DON	TPG	2069	190	COLTON	,DALE ,JON	IMSF NCC	1746 1746
50	REAGAN	MICHAEL	TOSS	2260	120 121	CLANCY DOLAN	, MIKE , TIM	SVSS	2067 2064	191 192	MERTINS, Jr VETZLER	.CLIFF	CVRC	1744
51	STRAEM SCHOON	,AL ,JIM	CYRC PPSS	2255	122	KUTCH MALLETT	, NORMAN , FRED	HSS I MSF	2059 2053	193 194	SMITH IKONA	, JAMES , PAUL	SWSA	1736 1735
53	KNIGHT HILL	SHERMAN, PHIL	FUNK CVRC	2252 2251	124	BIKLE ROBERTSON	, JOHN , JERRY	EDSF CASL	2051 2035	195 196	TAU SPENCER	, MANNY . RANDY	TPG SULA	1734 1727
55 56	HODGDON ZIASKAS	, LEIGH , MIKE	CVRC TPG	2247	126 127	ROHLFING FAULTENHAM	, RICKY	SBSS	2034 2025	197 198	ADAMS VICKERS	RON	SVSA FUNK	1709
57	MILLER GEORGE	,SKIP ,STEVE	RMSA CVRC	2239 2239	128 129	SUTER RATNER	CURTIS MICHAEL ERIK CHRIS	SSJSS PSS	2024	199	SPINDLE JOHNSON	,DON ,KARLTON ,MIKE	PSS HDDD	1685
59	LUDWIGSON SCHARCK	,JIM ,RON	SVSS TPG	2234 2232	130 131	MARCUSSEN Brose	ERIK	HSS IMSF	20061	1201	PARSONS FLAHERTY	,JIM ,MIKE	HSS CVRC	1676
61	HOLLIDGE LACY	, GEORGE , RICK	SVSS	2228	1132	BARRIE	,DARVIN		2005 1998	203	PETERSON	. AT AN	SBSS	1675 1612
62 63 64	NOLTE	.NEIL	SVSA	22171	133	STOVERS DOE	, DON , TY	S3 SVSS SVSS	1985 1981	202 203 204 205	LANE SPOER	DWAYNE JONATHAN	TOSS	1601 1601
65	TOSCHI MEIENBERG	,STEVE .KENNETH	CVRC SULA	2217 2211	135 136	HOBLITT WILSON	, TY , JOHN , MAX	SVSS CVRC SSJSS	1971 1964	206	DVORAK ARANA	.JOHN	SBSS SBSS	1585 1584
66	SVET HENDRY	ROBERT	TOSS ESE	2208 2207	137	ariggs	RICK	HSS	1960 1958	208	BLANKE FRY	, JERRY , ERIC , RYAN	TPG	1572 1562
68	NORENBERG LENCI	,LOVELL ,SHAVN	SFVSF MRSS	2203	139	BOYD WEBB	,STAN .KEVIN	CVRC	1954 1954	210	NENECEK HANSON	,DAVID ,ERIC	HSS	1556 1532
70	MCNAMEE MARKLE	,DON ,JIM	TOSS	2200 2198	141	MERTINS, Sr. TONNELLI	ENRIQUE	SSJSS	1952 1952	212	ANDERSON GOODWIN	, CHUCK , BROWNE	CAF	1523 1507
L		,			1		, , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , ,	30000	1732	413	COUNTY	, DEUTE		1307