

Harbor Soaring Society
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PLANE RAP

The Newsletter of the Harbor Soaring Society

“The Oldest Chartered Soaring Club In the AMA”
Charter # 128

June 1997

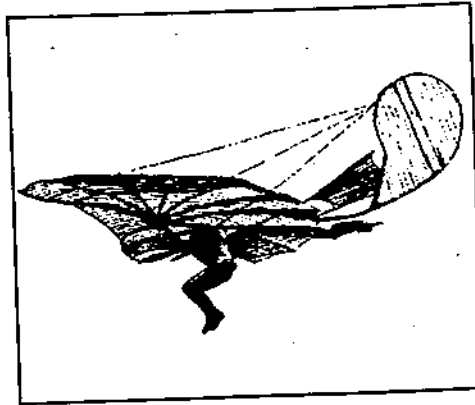
- Mon, June 2nd** Fairview Park Vote at Costa Mesa City Council
Wed, June 4th HSS General Meeting at Hobby Shack, FV. A Popcorn machine and movie night!
Sunday, June 8th HSS Club Thermal Duration Contest
Sunday, June 15th HSS Club Thermal Duration Contest (yes two in one month!)

IMPORTANT

If possible, please attend the Costa Mesa City Council Meeting - Monday, June 2nd at 7:00 P.M. at the Costa Mesa City Hall. The Mayor has proposed expanding the golf course into the model train area and to the West, across Placentia into H.S.S. area. Be there to show our opposition to the proposal.

General Directions

By Lars Tuohino



Fairview Alert !!! Action Requested !!!

Fairview Park is again being eyed by others for "development". This time the new Mayor of Costa Mesa, Peter Buffa, at a recent City Council Meeting shocked most in attendance with a plan to develop the train area into an extension of the adjacent golf course sweetening the offer with a deal to get \$400,000 a year out of it for the City coffers. He even had a artistic rendering of how it would be laid out! Mr. Buffa was responsible for getting an outside private company in to manager the same golf course a number of years ago so I guess we know where he stands...but together we stand, divided we fall is our situation. Write a letter or go to the Council Meeting June 2th.

It is very important that as many members as possible write the "swing votes" on the City Council (Heather Summers and Gary Monihan) a pleasant letter informing them of your opposition to the concept of a golf course. To help yourself, see my own letter elsewhere in Plane Rap as a suggested format.

**DO IT TODAY AS THE VOTE WILL BE MONDAY JUNE 2th.
TWO DAYS BEFORE OUR HSS GENERAL MEETING.**

Where to Find it?

Last month I asked for some help and Jim Parsons step up with the following lead on JR repairs and equipment. Who next has another "secret source" for next month's column?

Jim sez the place to go for the best **JR deals** is "Mike Byrd of Radio Control Service, 4310 E Tropicana #3, Las Vegas, NV 89121, phone 702 547-1748". Apparently Mike was a JR service tech for many a year and has the best deals on those great JR servos. Jim Parson's speaks very highly of the prices and service received. So, how many knew that?

HSS Auction

The HSS Annual Auction started soon after the May Thermal Duration Contest with the two Dons, Ramsey and Edberg, clearing out their garages with many enthusiasts going back home on Mother's Day with treasures to be shared (?). Larry Tuohino babbled blue into the bullhorn braying basically anything that came into his work-addled head while assisted by Lynn Johansen who (actually) kept the action going. The prices appeared to be good for both buyers and sellers alike with many "side deals" being cut by both groups.

HSS Sailboating Opportunity

I didn't get too much of a chance to follow-up further on this due to a heavy work schedule but perhaps more will be announced at the next General Meeting. Enough HSS members expressed an interest in Roger MacGregor's offer of an HSS Sailing Day. Let's set a date *and make it happen!*

"HSS Is Orange County R/C Soaring"

HSS 1997 Calendar- June 97 Update

HSS Plane Rap has it all!!! Events of interest to the OC R/C Soaring Community. HSS sponsored or affiliated events in **bold**. Note this month HSS has two thermal duration contests! Note Sept 20th now shows a HSS Scale Glider Festival. As usual, everything is subject to change.

June

6/4 HSS Club Meeting
 6/7-8 TPG International HLG
 → 6/8 HSS Monthly TD
 6/13-15 Elmira NY Aerotow "97"
 6/14 CSR Unlimited, Yorba Linda
 6/14 TPG Slope Race
 → 6/15 HSS TD Makeup
 6/14-22 Southwest Antique
 Classic (fullsize),
 Moriarty, NM
 6/21-22 OCSA Fullsize Contest Hemet
 6/21 ISR Slope Combat
 6/21-22 Rose Bowl Soaring Festival
 6/29 SC2 TPG

July

7/2 HSS Club Meeting
 7/4-6 OCSA fullsize Jacumba
 Campout
 7/5 LNSSG Slope Combat
 7/6 HSS Monthly
 7/12 HSS Handlaunch
 7/12-13 CSR Races, Laguna Niguel
 7/15-24 SSA (fullsize) Open
 Nationals, Minden, NV
 7/26 ISR Slope Combat
 7/26-1 AMA/LSF Soar Nats,
 Muncie, IN
 7/27 SC2 ISS

August

8/2-5 AMA-Electric Nats,
 Muncie, IN
 8/2-3 OCSA Contest Hemet
 8/2 TPG Poway Slope Combat
 8/6 HSS Club Meeting
 8/9 HSS LSF Picnic
 8/10 HSS Monthly TD
 8/30-2 VSA/Homebuilders
 Meet, Tehachapi
 8/31 SC2 SWSA
 8/30-9/1 OCSA Tehachapi Campout
 8/30-9/1 F3J Team Trials Lansing,
 Michigan

September

9/3 HSS Club Meeting
 9/6 ISR Slope Combat
 9/7 HSS Monthly TD
 9/13 TPG Slope Race
 9/14 LNSSG Slope Combat
 9/20 HSS Scale Glider Festival
 9/20-21 KCR Electric, Penn.
 9/20-21 SEFSD F5B Champs
 9/28 SC2/Scale HSS

October

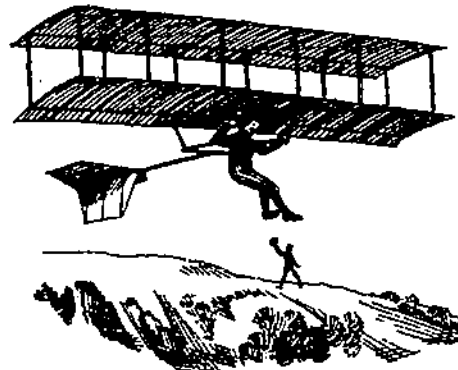
10/1 HSS Club Meeting
 10/4-5 CVRC Visalia
 10/4-5 SEFSD Fall Fun Fest
 10/8 HSS Monthly TD
 10/11 TPG Slope Race
 10/18 LNSSG Slope Combat
 10/18-19 SEFSD F5D Champs
 10/18-19 OCSA Coyote Lake Campout
 10/26 SC2 PSS

November

11/1 TPG Poway Slope Combat
 11/5 HSS Club Meeting
 11/8 TPG Slope Race
 11/9 HSS Monthly TD
 11/30 (SC2 Raindate)

December

12/6 HSS Monthly TD
 12/6 TPG- Slope D-Day
 12/7 HSS "Top 10"
 12/10 HSS Holiday Party
 12/13 OCSA Awards Party
 12/13 TPG Slope Race



GAGGLE FLYING

by Mike Deckman

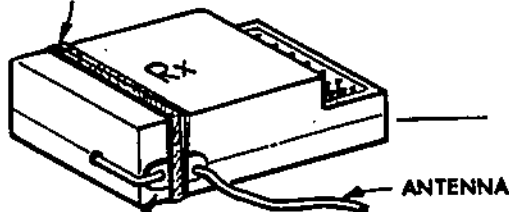
A gaggle, as defined by the soaring community, is more than one sailplane flying in the same thermal. Flying in a gaggle can be nerve racking at times! How many midair collisions have you witnessed or bin part of? I certainly have seen plenty during my soaring career and I have been involved in two midair collisions. In both cases, I was thermaling by myself. Each time, a plane entered the thermal and immediately flew into my plane, not realizing I was already in the thermal at their altitude. The following are some simple rules which can aid in the prevention of near misses and collisions:

- The first sailplane to circle in a thermal determines the direction of turn for all who follow. This is a full-size sailplane rule which I believe should be followed by the RC soaring community!
- A pilot joining a gaggle should do so in such a manner so as not to obstruct the sailplanes already in the thermal. **Work your way in slowly.**
- Changing position within a thermal should be done so not to obstruct other planes in their original turning pattern.
- A sailplane which is climbing faster than other planes should not interfere with those that are being out climbed.

ANTENNA STRAIN RELIEF

It is important to have a good strain relief on our receiver antenna. Some of us tend to stretch the antenna wire too tight, thus overstressing the solder joint on the printed circuit board. The end result? A totalled airplane. A strain relief in the antenna wire is nothing new, however, and David Abbe, San Diego, California, tells us of his suggestion. It will ensure a strain relief no matter how far your receiver is located from the antenna exit hole. See sketch.

RUBBER BAND OR
NYLON TIE



GOLDBERG NYLON LANDING
GEAR STRAP, SERVO ARM, ETC.

- Keep a watchful eye out for new planes entering the gaggle. They may not be as aware of their position or altitude as you are.
- Always try to keep your plane visible to others.
- Never fly close under another sailplane. This takes away one means of taking evasive action should it be required by the other plane.
- When more than one plane is circling at the same altitude, the planes should be flown using the same bank angle and speed.
- During a contest, use your timer. An extra brain and pair of eyes can be very beneficial.
- Always remember that the size of the plane only indicates its altitude if you know the size (wing span) of the plane who's altitude you are judging. At your home field, this may be easy, but it's usually impossible to know who you are in a gaggle with in contests like SC² or Visalia! **At best, your ability to judge altitude differences between your plane and others is not very good!**

In conclusion: Beginners should always keep a safe distance from other sailplanes in a gaggle. Gaggle flying requires mastery of one's sailplane and the ability to perceive where other sailplane's movement in space will intersect. Proper gaggle flying requires practice!

DENTAL FLOSS SERVO PLUG REMOVER

In the old days, with servo leads out of the receiver, it was easy to disconnect a servo when you needed to. Now, with most of the radio manufacturers going to servo connector blocks on the receiver, you have to bring the missus along because she's got the only fingernails that can get those little devils out. Here is a solution. Tie a small piece of waxed dental floss around the servo lead connector below the fingernail tab and pull the connector out with the floss (see sketch). Do not pull the wires, or before long you'll be yelling, "I ain't got it." Thanks to Lyall Wasser of Cowpens, South Carolina.

