

Harbor Soaring Society
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FIRST CLASS MAIL

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PLANE RAP
The Newsletter of the Harbor Soaring Society

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

AUGUST 1997

Wed. August 6th

HSS General Meeting at HobbyShack FV
7:30 PM

Larry Jolly - Guest speaker. Hear about his
movie escapades.

Sun. August 10th

HSS Monthly Contest - Be a participant
& improve your flying skills.

“Inside read about a Contest Winning Foamie TG-3”

General Directions



By Lars Tuohino



HSS Sailboating Is This Month!

HSS sets sail on Sunday Aug 10th for Gilligan's Island immediately after (call it 2pm) the HSS Thermal Duration Contest. Roger MacGregor has space for about 15 people, so get on the "reserved" boatlist at the next HSS General Meeting or it's "as space is available" for that day. Parking is tight so we will carpool to the Lido docks. This is going to be the one to remember! BYOB and thank-you Roger!

Hot Masters News Flash

HSS takes 2 out of the top 5 positions at the recent elite Masters of Soaring! Ben Clerx (7 perfect rounds out of 16!) took 3rd and "Raja" Lackey placed 5th after 16 rounds after two days at this prestigious invitational meet. Way to go!

Top Speeds Measured (or pull over Jerry...)

Steve Wilkins has been showing off a new toy at the field recently-a very high quality radar gun like used by the police to catch speeders. The accuracy and range is astounding. It's able to clock from seagulls at 8 mph to Bridgeman's buzzbomb at 160mph. *Yipes!* Now we know...let's build a slope contest around this one!

Scale Contest Update

Rick Briggs tells us that the info on our Sept 20th Scale date is out to the magazines and soon after will hit the Internet. With HSS's SC2 the following weekend, Sept is going to be a *big* month for HSS. Volunteers will be needed for both events.

OCSA Changes Meeting Location

Our brethren full-size glider club, Orange County Soaring Association, has changed meeting locations to a place which is perhaps more convenient, Sergeant Pepperoni's Pizza at Bristol/Campus by the John Wayne Airport. Meeting date remains unchanged, the third Monday of the month. Tug on my transmitter strap if you need further details.

New Members

July is HSS new member month (with the goal to "hit 100") and *the* month HSS membership fees drop for the rest of the year. *And do we have new members!* Please welcome Dennis Anderson, Ty Husak, John Roe, Steve Livingston, Ali Khani, Richard Ishikawa, Chuck Craig, and Erick Hicks with a warm HSS welcome. Rumors are some of the "new guys in town" are already making their mark in the hobby/HSS. I recognize only a few of these names so guess who's got to get out and shake some hands...you and me!

"HSS Is Orange County R/C Soaring"

HSS PLANERAP SPOTLIGHT ON...

ROSS THOMAS

Ross started life in Southern Calif. Where he attended North High School in Torrance. He attended El Camino Junior College and worked in an auto parts store. He spent eight years at north American Aviation and a short time with Nutrilite and Douglas Aircraft. Since 1981 he has been a car and truck mechanic for IBC. He met his lovely wife, Maxine in 1970 and they were married in 1976.

Ross was involved in drag racing at Lion's in Los Angeles (1957-64) and again at Orange County Drag Strip. (1969-82) Ross has been a HSS member since 1982. He began flying in 1955, flying control line models, competing in combat, stunt, rat race as a member of the L.A. Skywolves. In his early days he earned money for his hobbies by selling newspaper starts. At one time he had a route of 500 plus- all through high school, work and study.

In 1956 he met Bob

Sliff at a local field, (Gardena). This was the beginning of a life long friendship. In 1974, Bob introduced Ross to R/C flying. Weekly trips to Lake Elsinore to fly gliders and power were a weekly event over the next four years. Ross and Bob have flown S.A.M. OldTimer models all over the west coast, going to Nevada, Colorado, Arizona and central California. Ross and Bob joined HSS in 1982 flying gliders and electrics. Ross has held a club office almost every year since. His never ending enthusiasm for contest flying has taken him to AMA Nationals at Lake Charles, LA, to Richland, Wa, and to Visalia every year since 1991. He rarely misses a club or SC2 contest. His recent light stroke slowed participation but not his enthusiasm for soaring. He is doing much better now with the great support of his wife Maxine. Thanks Ross for all you have contributed to the sport of "Model Sailplane Flying"!

by Maxine Thomas and "The Old One" (editor)

July HSS TD Contest

Ever been to a three ring circus where the sideshows gained more interest than the main event? Such was the July 97 HSS TD monthly. The sky started out overcast, but around 10:30 the sun broke through and within 10 minutes we were in bright daylight. Yes, another typical Fairview day. With the exception of a flight group or two, most flyers max'd their times throughout the day. Note, we are now more than half way to deciding the *HSS Top 10* who will compete in December for the rumored 1/4 Scale Twin Acro Kit...don't be position 11!

First real action came when Jim Parsons and Ross Thomas warmed up seeing who could get the most popoffs in a row (Ross won with 7). Then Karl Hawley went over the school buildings a bridge too far/low floundering into and then falling out of a soccerball sized thermal, limbo'd under the telephone wires, then proceeded sneaking-Sally-through-the-parking-alley, missed Larry Jolly's nose by a sheer web, and with just 20 feet to touchdown, veered left and modified the rear driver side quarter panel aerodynamics of Ben Clerx's Mazda getting a \$438 safety lesson.

Chris Kenyon, who had early on worked hard to earn the *John Muir Landout* award, only was to be shown up later by yet another patented Ross Thomas long distance Mako death dive...Then 30 minutes later (?)

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vocabulary. These are the words I use:

Thumb right - this points the nose right

Thumb left

Thumb pull - this makes the nose go up

Thumb push - this makes the nose go down

Thumb off - let the plane fly itself

Then they move the stick and repeat the words.

The other key conversation is about what we are going to do.

"I launch and land the glider".

After I launch I will hand them the transmitter. If they get nervous they are to say "You take it". If I get nervous I say "Let me take it".

I turn on the transmitter and plane. We repeat the 'Thumb drill' while looking at the movement of the tail surfaces.

We have a short chat about how much to move the control lever.

Step 3: First flight. Before the launch we have a chat about safety...frequency pins, avoiding people and planes, AMA insurance, and the club activities.

The first flight will be flying a square or box pattern by making 4 right turns.

Other turns are made to get to the landing area, as much 'thumb off' as possible.

My conversation while they fly are mostly phrases from the 'thumb drill'.

Other useful phrases include "good turn", "nice control", "that's good".

I position them on my left. This permits me quicker access to the transmitter.

I have found that 2 flights and a break works well. If there

are several new guys, this rotation is ideal.

After two flights, most novices have adapted to the 'thumb drill commands' and will respond properly. There is a spectrum of abilities in new flyers from 14 year old computer and R/C car experience to total novices. I get a feeling from their responses what to do next. If they are doing well, I go to step 5.

Step 4: Next flights on the winch. Square figure 8. This includes turns right and left, and coming and going. For variation, I shorten or lengthen the legs to get the glider to a desirable place for landing and to get them to adjust to letting the plane fly itself. I think this may be one of the most important steps.

Step 5: High start. First I demonstrate the launch after talking them through what is to happen. I position them behind my right shoulder and hold the transmitter above my head, hopefully close to their visual path to see both the plane and the control. Next, I have them toss the glider (a hand launch) to get the feeling for weight and balance. Then they do the high start toss, I operate the transmitter. Next I launch and they operate the transmitter. Several rotations are usually enough, depending on weather conditions and their ability. Then they do a solo launch.

The flights may be squares or square figure 8's. This sequence is primarily for rudder control.

In most cases, it seems to work better to tell the new guys

exactly what to do, using the thumb drill phrases. If mistakes are made, I want to be the cause to be me, not them. I always take the heat for what ever goes wrong as my fault ... and apologize to them for not being more clear. I feel it is important that they have fun, no guilt, and especially no repairs.

...End of part I ... more to come.

FOR SALE

- GRAND ESPRIT - New in Box - A 134" Span Classic \$150. Firm
- DG100 by GRAUPNER - imported from Austria - partially built and close to ready to fly \$40
- SHADOW - partially built, includes 6 servos, wings sheeted but needs finishing \$350
- TRANSPORT BOX for Glider up to 114" span. High quality protection for your contest shipping. \$50
- BUZZARD BOMBSHELL KIT 78" Span. Excellent Old Timer for Electric or Gas \$40
- BANSHEE 2METER - Right wing panel broken. Excellent Radio installation with full harness plug in operation. Includes 6 S133 servos and battery \$100
- RCD 7channel dual conversion "bullet proof" receiver \$40
- ORCA - Foam wing panels and plans for a slope rocket \$40
- GNOME 60" Hand Launch - Partially built \$10

PLEASE CALL STEVE FINK
(714) 645-0459 (800) 300-5983
EXT 3210

Contestants	FREQ	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	TOTALS
JP TEN BEST 9 OF 12 "OPEN CLASS"									
Steve Hendry	49	3000	2276	3000	0	2419	2657	2815	16187
Rick Briggs	60	0	2922	2448	2458	2664	2952	2266	15710
Bill Duncan	57	2749	0	2393	1948	2835	2394	2225	14544
Karl Hawley	58	2386	1593	2424	2495	2685	1859	774	14216
Larry Jolly	40	0	2978	2223	3000	2991	0	3000	14192
Dannis Brandt	25	0	2253	1869	2697	2667	2247	1980	13713
Tom Vincent	8	0	2489	2720	0	2089	2964	1620	11882
Jim Parsons	29	0	2276	0	2476	1744	2933	2281	11710
Al Cron	48	2058	2741	0	0	2978	1411	2301	11489
Ross Thomas	43	2416	0	1597	2992	0	2996	725	10726
Larry Tachiro	51	0	2561	0	2946	2930	0	2285	10722
Nick Buzolich	47	2281	1516	1810	2004	0	1863	0	9474
Roger Saville	17	2340	0	2114	0	0	2218	1974	8646
Dan Fink	14	1849	2543	2217	1535	0	0	0	8144
Chris Kenyon	29	2288	993	0	0	0	2269	1631	7181
Joe Rodriguez	36	0	2565	2475	2056	0	0	0	7096
Steve Schupak	24	416	1404	2114	1000	0	0	1861	6795
Ben Clerx	3	0	0	0	0	2990	0	2989	5979
Norman Kutch	53	0	2874	0	0	0	2475	0	5349
Mike Aguirre	15	0	3000	2298	0	0	0	0	5286
Roger Lacky	52	0	2997	2000	0	0	0	0	4997
Mat Forquer	55	0	2958	1983	0	0	0	0	4941
Ali Khan	13	0	0	0	0	0	0	2982	2982
Tom Cupp	26	0	2952	0	0	0	0	0	2952
Tom Hoopes	41	0	2876	0	0	0	0	0	2876
Eric Marcussen	25	0	2847	0	0	0	0	0	2847
Bob Sliff	5	0	2523	0	0	0	0	0	2523
John Brown	40	0	0	0	0	2486	0	0	2486
John Roe	33	0	0	0	0	0	0	2396	2396
Mike Johnson	25	0	2367	0	0	0	0	0	2367
LASIC BEST 9 OF 12									
Dick Pantzar	50	1466	2963	1831	2534	1765	2646	2005	15210
Ross Thomas	24	1726	0	2764	1000	0	2494	2859	10843
Bob Sliff	5	2938	0	2341	0	2979	0	0	8258
Larry Enger	35	2490	0	2388	0	2320	0	0	7198
Will Conrad	46	0	2413	410	2457	0	1790	0	7070
Steve Schupak	18	0	0	0	0	1883	0	0	1883
Gordon Ritschke	30	0	0	0	0	0	1808	0	1808
Mark Puchalsk	12	0	0	1471	0	0	0	0	1471
George Clarke	36	0	0	0	0	1263	0	0	1263
LARRY JOLLY								2005	
2 METER Best 9 of 12									
Larry Jolly	40	0	2653	2349	2992	3000	0	0	10994
Joe Rodriguez	36	0	2339	1435	2920	0	0	0	6694
Ross Thomas	28	0	0	1986	0	0	0	0	1986
George Clarke	36	0	0	0	0	1743	0	0	1743

Southern California Soaring Clubs
RESULTS OF TPG (SC)2 CONTEST OF 06/25/97
TEAM SCORES

TPG	24	HSS	6	HSS	4	EDGE	3	HSS	3	SULLA	2	HSS	1	APTS	1	1	SWEA	0	3	3
1000.0	995.0	965.0	963.0	977.0	972.4	961.0	924.5													
999.0	974.2	945.1	939.3	961.0	957.4	936.5														
996.4	962.5	936.3	937.9	0.1																
991.2	943.0	943.0																		
1536.2	1075.7	3390.6	2041.4	1939.0	1935.6	1899.9	924.5	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0									

SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA SOARING CLUBS
RESULTS OF TPG (SC)2 CONTEST OF 06/29/97
CONTEST DIRECTOR - KEITH FINKENBINER

PLACE	NAME	CLUB	CLASS	SCORE	NORMAL	TROPHY
1	SMITH, MIKE	TPG	MASTER	1948.0	1000.0	M - 1
2	JOY, GEORGE	TPG	MASTER	1946.0	999.0	M - 2
3	SAGE, FRED	TPG	MASTER	1941.0	996.4	M - 3
4	CLERX, BEN	HSS	MASTER	1940.0	995.9	
5	HENDRY, STEVE	HSS	MASTER	1898.0	974.3	
21	RODRIGUEZ, JOE	HSS	MASTER	1875.0	962.5	
31	EDBERG, DON	HSS	EXPERT	1837.0	943.0	
43	BUZOLICH, NICK	HSS	SPORTSMAN	1720.0	883.0	

FREE STUFF JUST FOR THE ASKING

1. LEISURE DC 6-7 cell charger
 2. ASTRO electronic on/off switch
 3. old 7 cell packs
(Items are all 1987 vintage with Tamiya connectors)
 4. ACE HIGH foam wing kit with balsa spars, 69" span
- Call Larry Enger (909) 245-2521