



SOAR SPOTS

Newsletter of the Pasadena Soaring Society

Academy of Model Aeronautics

Chartered Club #1138

President	Richard Burns	626-857-0024
1st Vice President	Mike Ratner	818-708-1126
2nd Vice President	Peter Illsley	661-799-8304
Secretary	Gary Winberg	818-247-4106
Treasurer	Al Zimmerman	818-244-5506
Newsletter Editor	Frank Leppla	818-790-1297

May 2001

Quick Monthly PSS Schedule -

May 21st - PSS Monthly Meeting - What's the Program?

No PSS Contests this month

President's Message - by Richard Burns

I have never written a technical article for our esteemed newsletter and believe me I'm not going to start now. I usually preach about the state of the club and how we all need to rally around the latest crisis or pending event. Most people who read my articles probably think of me as the captain of a sinking ship who is constantly encouraging the occupants of the life raft to bail faster before it too sinks! Well, today the life raft isn't half full (of water), it's half-empty! Yes, the USS P.S.S. is afloat for another day and it's all due to the unsung heroes who are always there to bail for us. I'm not talking about those of us who put up with all the headaches and aggravation because we fly and want to keep on flying, I'm talking about those precious members that work their tails off again and again who we never see fly! I'm talking about Gary Winberg, Ed Devlin, Juan Chi, and Tony Brooks. The success of the SC2 contest would have been an altogether different story had these guys decided to stay home that Sunday since they were not going to fly anyway. What can I say about Gary that would do justice to the effort he put out? He was the first one of us at the field and the last one to leave. He arrived about 5:00 AM (I don't know about you, but I was asleep at 5:00 AM) and put up the caution tape around the entire field. He didn't stop until every table was back in my garage and all the tape was down. He did everything else in between. I know he was needed elsewhere and I wouldn't have blamed him a bit if he hadn't shown up. Ed Devlin treats his club like a letter that just has to be delivered! Through snow, sleet, rain, etc., etc., Ed lives the postal motto (just hope he never goes postal!). He is a consummate professional that runs the transmitter impound, again and again, as if his personal reputation were at stake. I think Juan Chi is stalking our club! He keeps showing up! The man never flies! He shows up on Fridays, works a retriever, and doesn't fly. He shows up at monthly contests, works a retriever, and doesn't fly. Juan always shows up for the big events, works all day, and doesn't fly. Let's just hope he never seeks professional help for repetitive compulsive disorder. Tony Brooks didn't want to fly his new sailplane in large contest until he was more use to it. He showed up and worked as hard as anyone. The man recently underwent reconstructive knee surgery and he's walking all over the place doing what ever needs to be done. He never complains. None of these guys ever complains!

On behalf of this motley crew called the Pasadena Soaring Society, Thank you!

1st Vice Presidents Report - by Mike Ratner

As most of you who receive this newsletter know, we hosted the April SC2 event. You must know because you were all there. I want to take this opportunity to single out one of our club members who really went over and above on this contest. Gary Winberg. Gary was at the field at 5:00 AM to string the warning tape around the field. When I got there at 7:00 AM the job was done and Gary was off with Richard picking up the tables and other odds and ends. When I left at the end of the day, Gary was still there helping Richard haul all the stuff back to storage. Thank You Gary.

As for the contest, I think it went well. We again had our share of line problems toward the end of the contest, but with 70 entries I think we did a pretty good job. Our fearless leader again did well with a third place finish. Richard was in place to win but he choked again. Seems I just can't teach him anything. I jest, Richard is doing just fine, and he is remembering everything I taught him. No contest scheduled for May.

Don't forget the club meeting on the 21st.

Some other finishers -

PSS had ten fliers participating in the PSS SCSC contest in April. They and a few others who hold multiple club memberships need to be mentioned for their efforts in helping run the contest and where they finished. Richard Burns in third place, Keith Kindrick in 15th, Toni Stark in 17th, Frank Leppla in 29th, John Rodgers in 33rd, Alex Eremenko, Karlton Spindle, Mike Ratner, David Farless, David Schweningen, Edgar Wiseman, and Joe Nave all helped in various ways. We will need a lot more help to get thru our Two-Day Contest later on.

Some more dates for our contests this year - plan ahead

June 17	September 16	November 25
June 24	October 21	December 16
August 19	November 4	

SC² Contest Schedule for 2001-

May 20 - TPG	September 23 - HSS
June 24 - SWSA	October 28 - ISS
August 26 - TOSS	

**PSS 20th Annual Rosebowl Soaring Festival
July 28th and 29th - coming up soon**

Check one of the Trophies for our Two-Day Contest.

Really nice and much better than those guys up north.

