



SOAR SPOTS

Newsletter of the Pasadena Soaring Society

Academy of Model Aeronautics

Chartered Club #1138

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Treasurer	Al Zimmerman	818-244-5506
Newsletter Editor	Frank Leppla	818-790-1297

December 2001

Quick Monthly PSS Schedule -

December 16th - PSS Monthly Contest

December 17th - PSS Monthly Meeting

President's Message - by Richard Burns

Thanks to all of you who attended the pizza party at Shakey's. Your efforts have led to another year of having to read my articles. The theme of this year's election was, "Those who can – get out of the way. Those who can't get out of the way – get re-elected!" Joining me in this endeavor to bring you another year of high quality Club leadership and exciting competition will be; John Rodgers – 1st Vice President, David Farless – 2nd Vice President, Mike Ratner – Secretary, Frank Leppla – Newsletter Editor, and (as always) Al Zimmerman – Treasurer. It's amazing what you can get people to agree to do with a little pizza and beer (or diet coke)!

I would like to thank the members of last year's board for their efforts in keeping the Edmund Fitzgerald afloat. A heartfelt thanks to Mike Ratner for all his efforts, including the scoring of all the contests. Between scoring and flying he had little time to just sit back and enjoy the day. To the new board, I have only this to say. Bail Faster!

There are going to be some changes made this year in how the club is run. We are going to have six club meetings (instead of twelve). They will be every other month starting with the February meeting. We are going to have six board meetings, one every other month, starting in January. All are welcome to attend the board meetings. The time and place of the board meetings is yet to be determined. The club meetings will continue to be held at the usual place and time.

In an endeavor to lift the mysterious veil of fog that surrounds my efforts to keep the club running and remove the best excuse I've heard yet for lack of membership participation in the behind the scenes operations of the Pasadena Soaring Society, I will write a (bi) monthly, "How To", article designed to enlighten all. This series of articles will explain step by step how to handle everything from being the Contest Director of a monthly contest to negotiating a contract with the City of Pasadena. I even hope to have a few guest writers explain their areas of expertise in club matters. In other words, if you know anything at all, I'll be calling you. The idea is simple. If you see exactly what is involved in handling a task, you may be more apt to volunteer to participate in it. At least you won't have a descent excuse!

The last contest of the year is quickly approaching. Be there on December 16th before 10:00 AM and have some fun. There will be a club meeting on December 17th at Kaiser at 7:30 PM. We have to decide on whether or not to have a Club Banquet this year and/or hand out annual trophies.

Attend and get your opinions in on what the menu should be, how much each should be charged, and most important – where we should have it. Should it be dress or casual? We have had some really nice shindigs in recent years but a change in venue is probably in order.

Let us know what you think!

Please pay your club dues for 2002. Send your twenty dollars ASAP to Al Zimmerman to avoid any interruption in the benefits of being a member. If you have e-mail, please include your address with your payment. I usually send out an e-mail on Thursday to notify everyone on my list regarding Friday fun flying. And we may start sending the newsletter via email in the future. It seems to be the way to go these days, although we will continue to use the US mail when appropriate or if the club member does not have email capability.

PSS December Contest -

Well this one will be a surprise for one and all. We will be flying an interesting contest on December 16th starting at 10:00AM sharp. Special prizes for the holiday season will be given out. So make sure you all show up for fun and games.

PSS Meetings -

Our regular monthly meetings are held on the third Monday of the month in the Kaiser Permanente Offices at 393 East Walnut, Pasadena, CA. Starting time is 7:30PM. These meetings are held in Conference Room 7L which is on the seventh floor at the east end of the building. The parking lot is entered off of Los Robles Avenue just north of Walnut Avenue. Push the button and tell the guard where you are going and he will let you in. You will then have to park and find your way to the front door and sign in. Ride the elevator to the seventh floor and go east. Each meeting is new and unique and an entertaining experience. Participate....

Renew your dues -

Just another reminder. It is that time of the year when you gotta come up with some more money to support the Pasadena Soaring Society. Twenty dollars will keep you in good standing. Send a check to Al Zimmerman (818-244-5506) or bring one to a club function. Don't miss out. By the way, Al's address is noted below and also on the PSS website under Membership Form:

Al Zimmerman
Pasadena Soaring Society
1328 Branta Drive
Glendale, CA 91208

Happy Holidays to all