



SOAR SPOTS

Newsletter of the Pasadena Soaring Society

Academy of Model Aeronautics

Chartered Club #1138

(Acting Officers for 2003 - see information below)

President	David Farless	818-249-9642
1st Vice President	John Rodgers	818-249-3371
2nd Vice President	Richard Burns	626-857-0024
Treasurer	Al Zimmerman	818-244-5506
Newsletter Editor	Frank Leppla	818-790-1297

January 2003

PSS "State of the Club" Message

At the December PSS Club meeting there were only 6 members present. This was a meeting where major decisions had to be made and yet a quorum was not present. With the lack of interest evident, it was decided to put the club on "hold" for the next 6 months to see what can be developed. We have a few dates at the Rose Bowl for which we expect to get permits (see table of dates below), and we will try to have club activities on those dates. Club launch equipment will be at the field on these dates for fun-flying, and perhaps a "pick-up" contest if those present can agree to put one together.

PSS will not hold a Rose Bowl Soaring Festival this spring, and we will probably not try to host an SC2 contest. (If anyone wants to lead and effort to hold an SC2 contest, we can talk about it. No one present at this meeting was willing to do this!)

There were not enough members present at the December meeting to hold a legal election of a Board for the next year. So... volunteers were solicited to serve as an "acting" Board. The Acting Board has no official standing and can be replaced at any time by a formal vote of a quorum of club members. The Acting Board's charge is to attempt to find ways to revive the Club or to preside over its dissolution.

The most important requirement for survival of the Club is a reliably available flying field with easy access to all members and friends. The Rose Bowl site we have used for almost 30 years (Area H) can no longer support the needs of our Club. This became apparent as we recently worked with the City of Pasadena to schedule Area H for 2003. As you will see in the table of dates below, we were able to schedule 6 dates in the first 6 months of 2003. However, it was made clear to the Club by City officials, that the only reason we got those dates was because other organizations were asked to step aside from a few dates to allow us in. It is clear that the City focus in scheduling fields like Area H is on Youth, and Family. Our little club of mostly "not-so-young" men falls very low in their priority basket. I think that City officials forced some few dates for us just because of our long-standing historical use of Area H. This is not a basis on which we can build an active Club flying program!

The volunteer "Acting Board" is made up of Dave Farless (Acting President), John Rodgers (Acting 1st VP), Richard Burns (Acting 2nd VP), and Al Zimmerman (Acting Secretary/Treasurer). Frank Lepla has volunteered to continued as Newsletter Editor during this "holding" period. Toni Stark has volunteered to lead an effort to look into the use of Corps of Engineers land at the base of the mountains east of Pasadena.

Please contact any of these people with ideas for ways to revive the Club. And, please talk to any and all other Club members to establish your own initiatives. Ideas for new flying sites are especially needed.

PSS 2003 Schedule of Dates for Area H

The schedule of dates and times for which we expect to get permits for the first half of 2003 is listed below. Activities on those dates have not been set. If you would like to direct an event on any of these dates, contact Dave Farless or to discuss the possibilities.

Date	Day	Time
February 16, 2003	Sunday	8:00 AM - 1:30 PM
March 16, 2003	Sunday	8:00 AM - 1:30 PM
April 19, 2003	Sunday	6:00 AM - 5:30 PM
April 20, 2003	Saturday	6:00 AM - 5:30 PM
May 18, 2003	Sunday	8:00 AM - 1:30 PM
June 22, 2003	Sunday	7:00 AM - 5:00 PM

Hope to see you all in 2003 at an upcoming meeting or at one of our permitted flying days.