

# Caesar Creek Soaring Club NEWS YOU NEED TO KNOW

November 10, 2015

• Volunteers needed for firewood cutting event on Saturday, Nov. 14 - Bob Miller

### **CALENDAR OF UPCOMING EVENTS**

Nov 14 Firewood cutting & pine tree removal - Bob Miller

### WEDNESDAYS ARE MORE FUN



A high overcast blocked the sun until just about time to put the toys away, but that did not slow the Wednesday crew. The pleasant temperatures and glass smooth air were just perfect for training flights and student solo flights. Two Introductory Flights were also enjoyed by guests. Bob Root reported 11 flights in all. New member Chris (C.R.) Gillespie completed his check out as a tow pilot and was quickly put to work towing 7 flights.

Lesa Stewart was all smiles at the completion of her Introductory Flight on Wednesday. The sun came out for her flight, but was not strong enough to trigger any thermals.



With a high thin overcast, warm temperatures and a gentle breeze, Wednesday was just right for hanging out at the glider club.

## WELCOME NEW MEMBER CHRIS (C.R.) GILLESPIE

C.R. Gillespie received his primary instruction from former crop dusters in the coastal Texas area and earned his Private SEL certificate in 1979. His first glider flight was at Dillingham Field on Ohau, whereupon his instructor said, "Go west (to Arizona) and go thermaling." He has honed those skills in Colorado and Texas as well as Hawaii and Arizona. With his wife, Susan, he recently relocated (landed) in Ohio and was thrilled to discover Red Stewart Field and CCSC at his back door where he could fly taildraggers and gliders from grass strips. What more could a guy want! In fact, C.R. also enjoys other activities the area has to offer: cycling,



New member C.R. Gillespie (front) with Lynn Alexander ready for C.R.'s checkout in the Grob-103 on Wednesday.

kayaking, trap / skeet and might even for C.R.'s checkout in the Grob-103 on Wednesday. pull on his boots for horseback riding in an indoor arena this winter. He is interested in Civil War history (particularly enjoys visiting Antietam and Gettysburg battlegrounds). C.R. has flown with Emerson Stewart for the past couple of months to complete his qualification as a tow pilot. Wednesday he completed his checkout with Tim Christman to serve as a CCSC tow pilot and with Lynn Alexander to fly the Grob-103. Welcome C.R.!

### **CLUB STATISTICS**

<u>ACTIVE MEMBERSHIP</u>	<u>11/1/2014</u>	<u>11/1/2015</u>	<u>FLIGHT ACTIVITY</u>	<u>2014</u>	<u>2015</u>
Full Members	156	169	Last month	121	215
Family & Youth	40	37	Year to Date	1741	1873

One interesting change in flight activity for the first 10 months of the year is the decrease in flights by privately owned gliders from 506 in 2014 to 398 in 2015, probably caused by the poor weather during the spring and early summer. That drop of 108 flights was more than offset by the increase of 240 flights in club-owned gliders, 78 of which were in 2-33s.

### **NEW MEMBERS**

At the November meeting the Board approved membership applications from Chris (C.R.) Gillespie, Bill Hall, Jr., and Bill Clawson and youth membership applications from Blake Bailey and Jakob Salzmann. Welcome each of these new members when you see them.

## **GAS COST FALLS - FUEL INDEX LOWERED**

The fuel index is now \$0.30/100 ft, down from \$0.34/100 ft thanks to a lower price on the most recent fuel delivery. Come out and fly and take advantage of the bargain fuel index in effect.

## OUR FACEBOOK PAGE, TO LOOK AND TO LIKE

#### By Tom McDonald

A few years ago Chad Ryther suggested that CCSC have a <u>Facebook page</u>. His idea was enthusiastically seconded by our youth campers, most of whom were already spending a lot of time on Facebook. Having a "page," was appealing because it is something that you can just look at, or click on and "like". I'm one of seven admins or editors for our CCSC Facebook page. In case you are not watching it regularly, this article will hopefully give you an idea about how CCSC is using Facebook and what you can do to help.

Chuck Lohre shepherded a print ad campaign at this time last year to attract more guest rides. That was also the real start of our online presence for non-members. The ads for guest rides sent people to Facebook. In addition to gift certificate sales, this got us a lot of page likes from local people, and thereby kept the club in front of their eyes all year. Some of them have joined CCSC since then. Seeing our posts made others remember us later, finally taking an intro flight long after the print campaign had ended.

Over time since then, the page has become an important part of our online visibility. I try to post at least twice a week during the soaring season. Often, my post is an item by Jim Dudley from this newsletter, such as a new member welcome or first solo congratulations. The average post is seen by several hundred people, and often also shared by other clubs, or on the SSA Facebook page. Several new members found us online.

This fall, the Board authorized a small budget to try some targeted online advertising. Facebook allows one to specify the audience parameters for a low-key ad that appears with the rest of the user's news feed. The ad that accompanies this article was targeted to Facebook users who live within 50 miles of Waynesville, and also listed an interest in learning to fly, or who worked for an airline, or as an engineer. It was seen by 3708 users; CCSC was charged for 3391 of those hits - a total of twenty dollars. Of those, 152 clicked on the post or page, including 18 page likes. We had 17 guest flights the weekend after the ad ran, and continued interest since then. That's quite a lot of bang for only twenty bucks.

The current Facebook ad runs until next Sunday. The target audience is different this time. I kept the 50 mile radius from the club, but changed the focus group to include Facebook friends of those who already like the club page. That alone is a very good reason all club members (including you), to click the "like" button on our page. Your local friends will occasionally see an unobtrusive glider picture and a suggestion that they come out for a ride. Many of my Facebook friends are people with similar interests to my own. Maybe one of them will think, "Hey, doesn't Tom fly there? Maybe I should try that myself."

Target groups for ads next year will include area motorcyclists, bicycle riders on the nearby trail, people checking in at Caesar Creek State Park, and tourists coming to the area for various festivals.

One goal of our Facebook page is to introduce the sport and increase membership. This requires an online presence that easy to find and up to date. Another objective is to keep those who are either interested or are already CCSC members informed. Posts along the lines of "A great forecast, come on out!" or "Stopping operations early due to high winds" are really useful when people are planning their weekend. Several crews have a designated person to make those kinds of posts during the operating day.

As to the guest riders, only a few of them will join the club. For those who don't join, I hope that they enjoy the ride, and tell their friends. I appreciate them helping to pay for the operation, and giving me personally a chance to fly the glider for free. I want guest rides to be fun, interesting and worthwhile for the club as well as the visitor. Remember that ultimately we members pay the bills, not the guests.

#### Here is the ad from mid-Otober:

<u>Caesar Creek Soaring Club</u> shared their <u>photo</u>.

This is a great time of the year for a glider ride. Set the GPS for 5375 Elbon Road, Waynesville, OH and join the fun! We fly on weekends and Wednesdays. Questions? Message us, or leave a comment here.



## **FINANCIAL CONDITION**

At the end of October net income year to date was \$29,558.54 favorable to plan. Expenses are below plan because several planned items are delayed. Weather delayed painting the roof of the main hangar, so \$12K allocated for that work has not yet been paid. One tow plane annual was completed and paid in December, so the annual on that plane will not show up until December although it was budgeted for January. Runway drainage improvements have been completed, but the \$5,000 bill has not been received or paid. So, expenses are really running right on target. Income is looking good with membership fees (including stock purchases) \$6,266 above plan due to increased member flying. Total revenue from Introductory Flights (guest flights) YTD is \$11,397, which exceeds the plan by \$3,177. So, it looks like the club will be able to set aside more that originally planned for future capital improvements, such as refurbishment of gliders, replacement of the big tractor, etc.

## **CALENDARS FOR 2016**

2016 SSA Calendars are available for \$11.00. If you would like one, sign up using the form on the merchandise case in the clubhouse or email <u>Brian Stoops</u>.

## WALLY DETERT UPDATE

Bob Root has been in touch with Wally's wife. She reports that his surgery went well.

### **FIREWOOD CUTTING**

Another firewood cutting event is scheduled for this Saturday, November 14. Participation in the prior event was great and a good quantity of wood was prepared, but no where near enough for the full winter. If you did not help during the first firewood cutting event, please join us this Saturday.

#### ANNUAL BANQUET

Maury Drummey has been investigating options for our annual banquet. The current thinking is to hold the event at our own facility in the spring after the weather warms enough to permit our tow plane hangar to be used for the catered meal and program. A committee is being formed to formulate plans that may include other activites the same day to make the event much more attractive to a much larger number of club members and their families. If you have ideas, please send them to Maury Drummey, or better yet tell Maury that you are willing to help on the committee.

### **GRANDFATHER CHEERED ON BY EXTENDED FAMILY**

A gift certificate purchased a couple of months ago as a 70th birthday gift was cashed in on Saturday for a Mile High Introductory Flight. It was one of 17 flights reported by Maury Drummey who was serving as Crew Chief. Although there was very little lift, John Lubon found some zero-sink over the spillway to extend the flight.



Guest prepares for Mile High flight with John Lubon.



While extended family documents the occasion and cheers him on!

## **MINUTES FROM BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETINGS**

(http://soar-ccsc.com/?page\_id=484 The password is printed on your monthly bill.) <u>CCSC IS ON FACEBOOK</u> (https://www.facebook.com/CaesarCreekSoaringClub) <u>CCSC WEBSITE</u> (http://soar-ccsc.com/)

## FOR SALE

One eighth share available for the Red Wing Soaring Club 1-26. \$1000.00 Call Jim Grueninger, 740-503-0032, share owner, or Bob Anderson, 937-609-8937, managing partner Red Wings. Fun, easy soaring! Always tied down and ready to go!

LAK 12 glider and trailer. 50/1. It's big. Price negotiable. Located on the field. Interested parties should contact Wally Detert, 937-667-6950.

### **CCSC GROUND CREWS**:

#### 1<sup>ST</sup> SATURDAY

**CC:** Steve Fenstermaker (cell: 937-581-7713), **ACC:** Kevin Price , **Tow Pilots**: John Armor, Richard Perry, **Instructor:** Paul McClaskey, Bill Gabbard, Tom McDonald, Richard Perry. **Crew:** Gerry Daugherty, Waseem Jamali, Courtney Ohl, Mark Schababerle.

#### **1<sup>ST</sup> SUNDAY**

**CC**: Mike Karraker (cell: 937-830-0627), **ACC**: Mark Miller, **Tow** Pilots: Manfred Mauer, Norb Mauer, Dieter Schmidt, Andy Swanson. **Instructor:** Bob Miller, Rich Carraway. **Crew**: Carter Aleson, Jul Alvarez, Bill Barone, Don Burns, Russell Cook, Del Doddy, Michael Fuller, Bill Grawe, Christian Maurer, Bruce Porter, Dave Rawson, Skye Toomey, Michael Williams, Joe Zeis.

#### **2<sup>ND</sup> SATURDAY**

**CC**: Dick Holzwarth, **ACC**: Bob Root. **Tow Pilots**: Bob Anderson, Haskell Simpkins. **Instructor**: Bob Anderson, Jim Price. **Crew:** John Antrim, Stuart Delk, Jim Hurst, Anil Mahajan, Irwin Mahajan, Jim Marks, Nick Oleska, Dan Staarmann.

### 2<sup>ND</sup> SUNDAY

**CC**: Dave Menchen (cell: 513-313-2315), **ACC**: Lucy McKosky, **Tow Pilots**: Jim Goebel, Lorrie Penner, Gordon Penner, Tom Rudolf, Tom Geygan, **Instructor**: Jim Goebel, Tom McDonald, Gordon Penner, Tom Rudolf, Chad Ryther. **Crew**: Dave Conrad, Alyssa Engeseth, Fred Hawk, Kate Kreiner, Mike McKosky.

### 3<sup>RD</sup> SATURDAY

**CC:**Maury Drummey (cell: 513-543-1906), **ACC:**Rolf Hegele, **Tow Pilots:** Don Green, Steve McManus. Dick Scheper. **Instructor:** Charlie DeBerry, Kat McManus. **Crew:** Gary Adams, Soren Adams, Jake Click, Eric Cochran, Chandler Demler, Jim Dudley, John Dudley, Micah Ferguson, Norm Leet, Poul Pederson, Jack Runyan, Jakob Salzmann, Chris Uhl.

#### **3<sup>RD</sup> SUNDAY**

**CC:** Brian Stoops (cell: 937-750-3788), **ACC:**. **Tow Pilots**:Tony Bonser, Tim Christman, Richard Perry. **Instructor:** Dick Eckels, Bill Gabbard, Chad Ryther. **Crew**: Daniel Beans, Tom Bonser, Mike Brewer, Jon "Rusty" May, Laura May, Topher May, Tony Rein, Zach Siefker, Joey Tomei, David Whapham.

#### 4<sup>TH</sup> SATURDAY:

**CC:** Chuck Lohre (cell: 513-260-9025). **ACC**: Ethan Saladin. **Tow Pilots:** John Atkins, Guy Byars, Bernie Fullenkamp, Larry Kirkbride. **Instructor:** John Atkins, Joe Jackson, Larry Kirkbride. **Crew:** Ross Bales, Jon Fullenkamp, Michael Hayden, Casey Hildenbrand, Ethan Maxwell, Henry Meyerrose, John Murray.

#### 4<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY

**CC:** Steve Statkus (cell: 513-720-8955), **ACC:** Rik Ghai. **Tow Pilots:** Ron Blume, Matt Davis, Tim Morris. **Instructor:** Lynn Alexander, John Lubon. **Crew:** Chad Beckwith, Mauricio Berrizbeitia, Jake Burd, Richard Cedar, Shelby Estell, Jeff Grawe, Keith Kilpatrick, Dan Reagan, Pete Schradin, Stefano Sinigaglia, Chloe Williams.

## 2015 5th WEEKEND CREW DAYS:

Jan 31 – 3rd Sat Crew Mar 29 – 3rd Sun Crew May 30 – 4th Sat Crew May 31 – 4th Sun Crew Aug 29 – 1st Sat Crew Aug 30 – 1st Sun Crew Oct 31 – 2nd Sat Crew Nov 29 – 2nd Sun Crew

## **POINTS OF CONTACT:**

PRESIDENT: John Lubon, 513-543-9154 SAFETY OFFICER: Kevin Price, DIR OF OPS: John Atkins, 937-475-4298 CREW SUPERVISOR: Brian Stoops, 937-750-3788

DIR OF FACILITIES: Bob Miller, 937-882-6012 BUSINESS MANAGER: Noelle Stewart, cell: 513-932-1833, <u>BusinessManager@soar-ccsc.com</u> FREQUENT FLYER EDITOR: Jim Dudley Revised 11/10/15