

# The Frequent Flyer

The Monthly Newsletter of the Caesar Creek Soaring Club

March 2009



## Double Solo in February!?

**Lorrie Penner**

### **Two on Second Sunday Crew earn "A" badges!**

After having almost ten inches of snow in my yard at the beginning of the week and watching it rapidly melt throughout the rest of the week, I had doubts that there would be any flying on my crew day, February 8.

Surprise! The wind and sunshine did a nice job of drying out most of the field and gave us a beautiful afternoon of flying. The highlight for everyone was two solo flights; one by Casey Hildenbrande and the other by Jamie Morris.

The two pilots arrived at the day of their solos from completely opposite ends of the spectrum.. Casey is an ATP flying for Pinnacle with over 8,500 hours in powered aircraft doing a glider add-on to his license. Jamie is a 16 year old high school girl with less than 20 hours of glider time working toward her private pilot glider rating. When asked, both pilots agreed that the solo was a great experience. Casey thought it was a "very enjoyable 15 minutes". Both professed not to be very nervous about it and Jamie remarked that she was only "a little nervous" about the solo.

Whether an experience power pilot or a brand new pilot there are always challenges in learning to soar. Casey said the most difficult thing for him in learning to fly the glider was getting used to the amount of rudder needed and using the yam to keep coordinated. Coming from the airline world, using rudder is much more conservative, so using full rudder travel took a bit of getting used to. Also using the yam for coordination felt alien and backwards from any other type of coordination instruments he has used in the past. He also felt that his lack of taildragger time handicapped him a little. "It (gliding and taildragger flying) is just a different kind of flying."

After she earns her Private pilot glider rating, Jamie would like to go on to earn a Private pilot single engine land rating. In the meantime, she offered that, "My favorite thing about flying the glider is thermaling". She just enjoys that sensation and accomplishment of soaring higher.

Both pilots have worked hard over the year in preparation for the solo and shared a couple of their most memorable experiences. Casey pointed out the various aspects of training and what a real-life experience can do to help with flying technique. He was gratified at being able to fly on a day in December with a brisk direct crosswind from the south that helped him learn about crosswind take-offs and landings. Jamie's most memorable flight actually was taken away from CCSC when she took an aerobatic glider ride in Alexandria, Indiana.

Even after having to drive about an hour and half one way from the Centerville area, Casey has enjoyed his time so far at the club. He and Jamie both are grateful to their instructors for taking the time and sharing their knowledge. Casey flew with three instructors; Tom and Tom and Jim. Besides the three already mentioned Jamie also took instruction from Bill Gabbard, Gordon Penner, and Rich Caraway. (If I could read their writing in her log book I would thank at least three others for her as well....)

At the end of the day after all the planes were pushed down for a rinse from their mud splattered state, everyone on the crew came into the club house. There Gordon Penner, newly reinstate SSA instructor gave the pair a couple of "A" badge applications to sign, their blue card and the "A" badge pin.

## **CCSC Member Rosters**

**Sara Palmer**

CCSC member rosters have been updated. The updated copies will be available in the clubhouse. Please advise if any of your information is incorrect.

We've got a lot of operations items this month. Here they are, in alphabetical order:

**Altimeter setting.** We're going to start setting the altimeter on club aircraft to field elevation, instead of setting it to zero. This is just a 'heads up.' I don't have an exact implementation date yet, because a lot of getting the word out needs to be done first. However, it will be sooner rather than later. This old habit will already be hard to break, so it makes sense to make this sort of change close to the beginning of the season, rather than in July.

**BFR/Spring checkout ground school.** Having trouble getting that BFR done, or could you use a painless refresher class for your spring checkout? Come to the BFR ground school on 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday in April or May from 10:00 a.m. to noon. Eric Hinz will conduct a review of FAR's and glider performance, plus some UOP information. His signoff is for the ground portion of your BFR is good for 60 days, and you can then take the flying portion with any club CFGI at your convenience. This procedure will improve standardization, and is much more efficient than taking an instructor off the line for each individual flight review. Eric instituted a similar program at his old club, the Texas Soaring Association, with great success. I hope it catches on quickly here, and member demand prompts Eric to extend the program beyond these first two months. Remember, the BFR ground training has to be *logged*. That means you need your logbook, license and photo ID when you show up for class.

**Congrats** to David Coucke for finishing his winch launch endorsement. By the time you read this, he will probably be our newest CFGI, too.

**Crewchief meeting.** This will be at 12:30 on Saturday, April 4. That's right after the CCSC board meeting. Crewchiefs should already have received an email notification.

**Introductory flights.** SSA is giving a free three month membership, including the magazine, to people taking introductory flights. We've made changes to our program, and are hoping to convert more of these guests to members. I'll be going over this in detail with the crewchiefs.

**Pilot Information Cards.** The club has no record of who is checked out in which aircraft, what pilot certificate club members hold, or when a BFR expires. This situation does not square with our insurance requirements, and the club safety committee recommended a fix. Simply put, we need some record of this information separate from the pilot's own logbook. To that end, we will have a simple card for you to fill out starting next month. Information that changes, like BFR dates, may be entered in pencil for easy updates. I would like to get this in place early in the flying season. After June 1, flying without this card on file, or with outdated information on the card, (with thanks to Bob Root for suggesting an appropriate penalty) "shall be a beer-buying event."

**Pilot safety meeting.** We have annual meetings for instructors, towpilots and crewchiefs. Two different boards meet monthly to govern the club. There is one group that we've never scheduled a meeting for during my time here – the pilot group as a whole. Buck Towne and I will conduct our first pilot meeting along with the potluck dinner on the third Saturday in April. We'll review some safety issues, in hopes of not repeating history this flying season. Try to be there.

## **SSD Annual Meeting and Board Elections Coming Up**

### **Lucy Anne McKosky**

The Soaring Society of Dayton will hold its annual meeting on April 8, 2009, at 6:30 p.m. at the CCSC clubhouse. All stockholders are invited to attend.

Elections for three positions on the SSD Board of Directors will be conducted by mail later this month. Four candidates have declared their intentions to run for election: Dave Edwards, John Lubon, Dave Menchen, and Lucy Anne McKosky. Information about each candidate will be included with the ballots.

Ballots will be mailed to all shareholders about March 25<sup>th</sup>, and should be returned no later than April 5<sup>th</sup>, so that counting can be completed before the SSD Annual Meeting on April 8<sup>th</sup>. Stockholders get one vote for each share of stock they own, and a quorum equal to 50% of the total number of outstanding shares is required. Please help the board by returning your ballot promptly!

## **Thar's Gold in Them Thar Hills!**

## **Pat DeNaples #214**

And Silver and Diamonds, Too! Come join Dave Rawson and Pat De Naples for the 35th annual spring ridge soaring camp at Tom Knauff's and Doris Grove's Ridge Soaring Gliderport in Julian PA. Back in 1975, Bob Root, Pat De Naples and John Bennett mined three diamonds, a Silver Badge, and three Gold Badges in two days in the same 1-26 on those fabulous Pennsylvania hills. And there are lots more of those treasures in those hills waiting for you to claim!

We plan to leave on April 26 for an eight-day camp. To date the following also plan to be there: Lynn Alexander, Jim Hurst, Max Marshall, Charlie De Berry, Don Green, John De Naples, and Dennis Fisher. We will have a CCSC ASK-21 as well as several private ships there. If you're interested, contact Pat or Dave for more info. Remember, thar's gold in them thar hills, but you have to bring your own pick, shovel and pan.

# **SSD Board Meeting Minutes**

**Lucy Anne McCosky**

**February 21, 2009**

Present: Pat DeNaples, Wally Detert, Bill Maxwell, Lucy Anne McCosky, Frank Paynter, Bob Root, Dieter Schmidt    Absent: Dave Edwards, John Lubon

The meeting was called to order at 9:37 a.m. by Bob Root. The minutes of the previous meeting were reviewed and approved. The treasurer's report was reviewed and approved, and the 2008 balance sheet was reviewed. Redemption of 12 shares of stock for the Dana Colvin estate was approved.

Old Business: Wally reported on the 2-33 progress. The rudder, elevator, and horizontal stabilizer have been recovered. The vertical fin was found to be damaged and was replaced with one salvaged from an old club ship. The interior is complete and Cubby has fabricated new seats.

Purchase of a radio for the other ASK-21 was discussed. John Murray recommends a Dittel, with an approximate cost of \$3,000. Frank Paynter reported that he had found cheaper brands unsatisfactory. A motion was passed to purchase the Dittel radio.

Pat DeNaples reported that he had met with the county extension agent to discuss funding of erosion control work. Getting state funding does not appear feasible.

New Business: Frank Paynter reported on the campground electrical upgrade project. He has met with a DP&L representative and developed a plan to add a 25kVa transformer to service the campground. This will double the electrical capacity of the site. Because the project addresses a low-voltage problem, DP&L may provide the transformer and installation without charge. A motion was approved to spend up to \$5,000 to upgrade the campground electrical service, although it is anticipated that the cost will be considerably less.

There will be a power outage in the campground while the work is in progress. Pat DeNaples recommended sending a letter to the campground tenants about the outage. Rolf Hegele will coordinate this with Sara Palmer.

Rolf Hegele reported that Gerry Proffitt is planning to reseed the runway areas where the new drainage was installed.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:37 a.m. The next meeting will be Saturday, March 21, 2009, at 9:30 a.m. at the CCSC clubhouse.

## **Upcoming Events - Mark Your SSA Calendar !**

21 March – SSD Board Meeting – 9:30 am at the Clubhouse  
21 March – Potluck Dinner – After flying at the Clubhouse  
4 April – CCSC Board Meeting – 9:30 am at the Clubhouse  
4 April – Crew Chief Meeting – 12:30pm at the Clubhouse  
8 April – SSD Annual Meeting – 6:30 pm at the Clubhouse  
11 April – Tow Pilot's Meeting – 10:00 am at the Clubhouse  
18 April – SSD Board Meeting – 9:30 am at the Clubhouse  
25<sup>th</sup> April – Ridge Soaring Camp Week  
2 May – CCSC Board Meeting – 9:30 am at the Clubhouse  
13<sup>th</sup>-17<sup>th</sup> July – Youth Soaring Camp – CCSC

## **CCSC Board Meeting Minutes**

**Rolf Hegele**

### **March 7, 2009**

In attendance were Rolf Hegele, President; Andrew Dignan, VP; Steve McManus, Social; Paul McClaskey, Tow Planes; Gerry Proffitt, Facilities; Jim Lowe, Treasurer; and Tom McDonald, Operations. Absent: Tami Scott, Charlie Richardson.

Gerry Proffitt tendered his immediate resignation. It was accepted with regrets but also with great appreciation for all his efforts and significant accomplishments. According to the By-Laws, the Board subsequently appointed Dave Coucke to fill the rest of Gerry's term on the Board. Welcome Dave.

Dennis Fischer, SSA Regional Director, presented Paul McClaskey with a SSA award for being the Region 6 Instructor of the Year for supporting for the ABC Bronze Training Program. Paul claimed the award was a function of all the other instructors working the youth camp, but he got the credit since he is the SSA Instructor of record. At any rate, Congratulations Paul.

**Vice President** – The status of the clubhouse computers was reviewed. A new router has been installed and the repaired computer will be installed next week. Andrew was authorized to watch for a good bargain and then purchase a second computer for clubhouse use.

**Secretary** – No minutes were available and this item was tabled till next month.

**Treasurer** – The financial statement indicated that again we had good income for the month and budget projections for the year are now positive. It was noted that this report did not show the various components of the income stream. The Treasurer's Report was approved. It was announced that sales tax is now to be paid electronically on a monthly basis. Chuck Turner is preparing our tax statements and there were no new gas bills. A number of delinquencies were discussed and various members will contact the members.

**Facilities** - The clubhouse repair list remains the same as most of the projects are dependent on the weather. The SSD is undertaking an electrical upgrade which will put the campground electric on a separate transformer and prevent voltage drops throughout the facility.

**Tow Plane Maintenance** – One tow plane is at Cubby's for its annual; the others are working well.

**Glider Maintenance** – One of the ASK-21s has a stress issue with the canopy mounting and needs to be corrected. Both have had their annuals and 16Q has a vario problem and 15H needs to have the brake repaired and door fixed during its annual.

**Operations** – Tom presented a Status Report Card to be printed on 4X8 cards and maintained in the crew trailer. It will be introduced at the Crew Chief meeting and will be required to be filled out by all members by the end of June. Tom also presented a recommendation for changes to our introductory flights. After some discussion, it was approved that Introductory Rides be increased to \$80 for a 2500 foot tow or 25 minutes max and also allow a "mile high" tow for \$125 and 45 minutes maximum. The Crew Chief has the option of offering a \$20 discount for a second ride purchased that same day. We are also going to look into offering a PayPal method of payment.

Tom also presented proposed UOP changes to allow flights to Waynesville without having it classified as a cross country flight. Tom will note the new verbiage in the newsletter as required notification. As operations Trustee, Tom also recommended we change our procedures to use MSL throughout our operations. He will coordinate this with Joe Jackson to implement a phase in plan and prepare a UOP change.

**Social** – The next pot luck is scheduled for 21 March. RTL made an inquiry about holding our Banquet at their facility. Steve will compare rates.

**Old Business** – Pat Denaples indicated that we do not qualify for county soil conservation and drainage support.

**New Business** – Kevin Adams requested to use the clubhouse on 27 March which was approved. The Dittel base station radio is not able to be repaired. Rather than purchasing another base station is was decided to purchase several handhelds and mark them appropriately. They will be placed in the Crew Chiefs cabinet and be their responsibility. Gerry Proffitt offered his trailer for purchase by the Board. It has no kitchen or bathroom as it has been converted to more of a bunkhouse and therefore could be rented out for contests or other events. There was some discussion about the youth group being interested and this will be discussed between Buck, Steve and Gerry. Further discussion was tabled.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 12:00 PM.

### **Gas Alert**

In accordance with the Schedule of Fees and Dues, tow fees remain at \$13.50 for the fixed portion and the fuel index remains at \$0.30 per 100 feet of altitude.

### **Classifieds**

Editor's note: Ads will be re-run monthly unless otherwise advised. Thanks!

**For Sale:** Can't be a Thunderbird? The next best thing is to buy my 1/4 share of the best looking best flying 1-34 for sale anywhere. A9 come complete with parachute, trailer, great co-owners and a beautiful Thunderbird paint scheme. \$3,750 Call Dave Menchen (513) 313-2315

Submissions for *The Frequent Flyer* should be sent to  
Tammy Scott at: [tspot1@sbcglobal.net](mailto:tspot1@sbcglobal.net)

Submissions are due by day's end on the Monday before the second Saturday of each month.  
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See our website at: <http://www.soarccsc.com>