

# Soaring News



Vol. 3 Issue 2

"Newsletter of the Orlando Buzzards R/C Soaring Society"

March 1998

CLUB OFFICERS Jerre Ferguson, President (407) 295–0956 Bill Townsend, Vice President (407) 831–7212 Lewis Gray, Treasurer (407) 365–6766 Rob Rierson, Secretary (407) 273–1127

NEXT MEETING Apr. 5th, Noon at Club Field May 3rd, Noon at Club Field

Corner

Jerre Ferguson

Greetings Fellow Buzzards. Here we are in

the month of March and already there has been quite a bit of soaring activity along with more than our fair share of rain. While on the subject of rain, the conditions at the Snow Hill Road field were not dry enough to chance running FSS #3 at that site. Our home field was used and considering what the weather conditions were all over the State, we had a real good turn—out both days. Thanks to the CDs Ben Cleveland and Al Sorenson and to all the helping hands, we had a very successful weekend under a variety of weather conditions, including an unwelcome downpour on Saturday. Our next con-

test, FSS #4, on 28 and 29 March will again be scheduled to be flown at the Snow Hill Road State Preserve field, weather permitting. Rob Rierson and Hank McDaniel are the CDs for the contest. Again, the assistance of all the club members that are able to lend a hand before, during, and after the contest will be greatly appreciated. On the subject of continued use of the Snow Hill Road facility, a letter has been composed expressing our thoughts on the past use of the field and requesting that the original approved sailplane flying allowances be rein-

stated. This letter will be in the mail to the Division of Forestry during the second week in March. I am not sure what response we will get in return, but I am hoping that it will be in our favor and that we will not have to go to a higher authority. However, we are prepared to do just that, if necessary.

"Good flying to all,"

Jette

Editor resigns with next issue!

Wanted: member with computer access

and skills to continue the tradition of SOARING NEWS! If you are that person, please contact:

> SOARING NEWS 1471 San Carlos Ave Deltona, FL 32738–9771

or email to:

flyboy@bitstorm.net

## 1998 MEMBERSHIP ROSTER

The 1998 Membership signup is complete. 42 members! But some of you are still missing from our membership renewal list. Did you forget to renew?? Don't delay any longer! Write your dues check and forward to Lewis Gray before you miss—out on all the fun. This issue of *Soaring News* contains the current 1998 club roster. Please notify Lewis Gray it you have any changes to your frequency channel number(s), addresses, or phone numbers.



I never thought it would happen to me. I thought it was pretty stupid to pickup a transmitter and turn it on without the proper frequency pin. Now I know different.

In past columns I wrote about being ready to fly, not just your aircraft, but yourself. I fell victim to the very thing I preached: "Don't go flying if you are mentally or physically fatiqued". I have been very busy lately: I write this newsletter: I am a Senior Chief in the Navy Reserves: I am a Cub Scout Leader; I am President of a Recreational Basketball League; I work long hours on a new business venture for Lockheed Martin; I have a wife who attends school full time; and I have two kids with field trips, dance lessons, guitar lessons, etc. I'm not telling you this for sympathy, but to help you understand how easy (and common) it is for us to feel overloaded and not recognize the signs of fatigue. I kept pushing myself to meet every commitment. I did not notice how dull my senses had become. I was coping well by unconsciously doing the same habits I have always done.

Then, during FSS#3, I changed my habits. For some strange reason, I felt compelled to impound both my transmitters, even though I would not be using one of

them.(Normally, I keep additional transmitters in my van, in a bag where they won't be turned-on during the contest.) So round two begins, I grab my timer, I grab the pin. and I grab my transmitter from the impound table. I go over to my plane, turn on the transmitter, turn-on the receiver, and nothing happens. I had just charged the receiver and I had just completed round one with no problems. How could my receiver battery be dead? It must be the wires to the battery pack? I decided to pull over to the side and troubleshoot the problem. I borrowed a Voltmeter from Garnett and checked it out. Continuity and voltage all checked good. Then what could be the problem? Started looking at my transmitter program, then realized that I had the wrong transmitter (I have two identical transmitters). Sure enough! The antenna froquency pin shows number 19 and the big numbers right below it show number 52. That was pretty dumb! Oh well, return it to the table and lets....OH-OH....I remembered Doc was heading to the winch when I had this problem (me and Doc always share 52 at each contest). I had been so rushed and self-absorbed in this problem. that I never heard or saw Doc crash and return the pieces. to his car. I saw him near the scorers table and went to ask if he flew. He said he crashed on launch, out-ofcontrol. I knew right then why, so I explained it to him. then went home and ordered him a new Vulcan.

Pretty Dumb Huh? It will happen again. Don't let it be you. My wallet is hurting, but I feel lucky that no one was injured. You never know when your guard will be down. Build and maintain good safe habits. And as I always say...Uhh....Oh yeah, "THINK! SAFETY FIRST".

# ODDS-N-ENDS

- □ ANOTHER OVERSIGHT! Last issue I congratulated the Annual FSS winners. I missed the fact that John Masiello was also a winner, taking 3rd in Expert. □ TANGERINE COVERAGE. Check out the
- February issue of R/C Soaring Digest for an article on the Tangerine Championships held last November. Pictures taken at the contest will be distributed to the club members at the April Meeting.
- ☐ BAD NEWS / GOOD NEWS!? Bad News: Stan Pfost has sold the club field. Good news: he has leased it back for the next 5 years, just so the Buzzards can keep flying! Do you love this guy or what!?
- LITTLE RED WAGON!! Well, not quite, but we do have a neat new wagon for pulling the winch setup around on the field. This should make it much easier for everyone to get involved without a trailer hitch or 5-man effort. Special Thanks to Al DeMarcken for this acqusition and his beautiful handy work. Check out the custom stool, it's a work of art! Nice Job (as usual) Al!
- SNOWHILL ROAD CAUTION: R/C Power (gas) guys continue to fly at Snowhill Field. If you encounter these people, please be smart: exchange frequency info and let them know your flight path routine. Driving on the field is not permitted and the lock on the gate has been changed. Future field use (drive on) is restricted to those with approved limited—use permits.



FSS #2. The R/Seal lawks of Cape Coral hosted this one. Weather continued to be unkind during this early part of the flying season. High winds and the threat of rain prevailed. Rich Kiburis and John Masiello were the only Buzzards in attendance (Saturday only). Rich was attempting a come—from—behind victory when he lost sight of his Super Vee! Attempts to locate it were unsuccessful.(He vowed to return; see next contest results.)

	FSS#2 OF	ILANDO
PLACE/CLASS	EVENT	NAME
1-Sportsman	2meter	DON HEATH
2-Sportsman	2meter	LARRY SQUIRE
3-Sportsman	2meter	AARON DARR
1-Expert	2meter	KURT CARLSON
2-Expert	2meter	JOHN MASIELLO
3-Expert	2meter	B. BROCIOUS
1-Master	2meter	JOHN AGNEW
2-Master	2meter	CARL MOHS
3-Master	2meter	RICH KIBURIS
1-Sportsman	Unimtd	JOHN ROSEBERY
2-Sportsman	Unlmtd	FRANK COLLINS
3-Sportsman	Unlmtd	DON HEATH
1-Expert	Unlmtd	MIKE WILLIAMS
2-Expert	Unlmtd	JAY GALYON
3-Expert	Unlmtd	POH KHAW
1-Master	Unlmtd	BRIAN AGNEW
2-Master	Unlmtd	MIKE AGNEW
3-Master	Unlmtd	MARK ATZEL

FSS #3. What a bad weekend! No, the weather was tine, but the sailplane gods took a lot of sacrifices. Garnett White lost sight of his Kummerow Searcher (it was ro turned in pieces by a neighbor later that day). There were two mid-airs, one was Ed White and Lee Montgomery, the other was Cy Baylor and I believe Kurt Carlson. Doc Agnew was shot down on launch. Jerre Ferguson and Larry Squire both folded wings on their launches. Mike Agnew landed in the Trees. Ken Goodwin broke a wing, but landed intact. And somebody flying with Matt Thorn landed too hard and broke his wings. Anyone who survived this one is to be commended. Way to go Buzzards!!

	FSS#3 OF	ILANDO
PLACE/CLASS	EVENT	NAME
1-Sportsman	2meter	JIM STANDERFER
2-Sportsman	2meter	JERRE FERGUSON
3-Sportsman	2meter	TOM KODEY
1-Expert	2meter	JOHN MASIELLO
2-Expert	2meter	RICK ECKEL
3-Expert	2meter	CHARLIE BRECHT
1-Master	2meter	BRIAN AGNEW
2-Master	2meter	ED WHITE
3-Master	2meter	SCOTT HUNT
1-Sportsman	Unlmtd	BILL TOWNSEND
2-Sportsman	Unlmtd	JERRE FERGUSON
3-Sportsman	Unlmtd	MIKE ELIAS
1-Expert	Unlmtd	CHARLIE BRECHT
2-Expert	Unlmtd	KURT CARLSON
3-Expert	Unlmtd	LEWIS GRAY
1-Master	Unimtd	BRIAN AGNEW
2-Master	Unimtd	DAVE ELIAS
3-Master	Unimtd	RICH KIBURIS

## CONTEST VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!!

Orlando Buzzards will host FSS#4 in late March. Club participation and assistance at contests has been outstanding. Let's continue to lead the way and show other clubs what Soaring Spirit is all about! Call Hank or Rob.

# Future Contest Dates:

Mar 28-29	FSS#4, Orlando—2 meter/Unlimited	June 20-21	FSS#7, Punta Gorda-2 mtr/Unlimited
	CD: Hank McDaniel (407) 831-3688		CD: Ollie Wilson (941) 627–2117
	CD: Rob Rierson (407) 273-1127	July 18(tenta	tive)Annual, Orlando—Gentle Lady Plus
Apr 18-19	FSS#5, West Palm—2 meter/Unlimited		(senior/junior & team award)
	CD: Charlie Brecht		CD: Rick Eckel
May 2-3	Nostalgia Event, Orlando—Unlimited	July	AMA Nationals, Muncie, Indiana
	CD: Dave Davidson (407) 647-0553		(see Model Aviation Magazine for info)
May 22	Cross Country, Morriston-Unlimited	Sep 5-6	FSS#8, Morriston-2 meter/Unlimited
78	CD: Ken Goodwin (904) 528-3744		CD: Ken Goodwin (904) 528-3744
May 23-24	FSS#6, Morriston-2 meter/Unlimited	Oct 17-18	FSS#9, Morriston-2 meter/Unlimited
U SAME A CONTRACTOR	CD: Ken Goodwin (904) 528-3744		CD: Bob Wargo (813) 938-6583
Jun 26-28	Mid-South Championship	Nov 27-29	25th Tangerine Soaring Championship
	HLG/2 meter/Unlimited.		Orlando Buzzard's Snowhill Road

# TECH-TIPS

Save your airplane. There has been at least three airplanes lost in the past few months. To my surprise, none
of these contained the owners address, phone number,
or AMA number on them! AMA rules specify that you
must have your AMA number displayed on your aircraft
to compete in contests. It would be just as prudent to
have your name, address, and phone number on the aircraft as well. The words "Reward if Found" won't hurt
none either. I'm sure these three fellows wish they had.

Save your money. Rob Rierson says to think about this:

1) A JR trainer cord is simply a stereo 1/8" patch cord!

No need to spend \$25.00...it can be bought for \$2.50!!!

2) Tower Kote (Tower hobby's version of Monokote) is lighter and operates at a much lower temperature than Monokote or other premium shrink coverings. Tower Kote tends to melt through if too high of a heat is used, and does not give as nice a finish as Monokote. For nice model finishes, stick to the premium coverings! You get what you pay for.

Create Anything. Did you or your neighbor just buy a

computer, stereo, or other major home electronics? Did you notice the packing inside the box? Most heavy electronics are packaged in custom cradles made of Highdensity EPP foam. This version of EPP foam is not especially great for making airplanes (it's not closed cell), but it is fantastic for a hundred and one other uses. Using just a knife or coping saw, you can safely shape this foam into anything. I have used it for:

- Jigs or holding fixtures for my airplanes on the Work bench or flying field.
- 2) Storage holders for fuselages or wings on the walls.
- Cut out silhouettes and store tools or hang charger cords in it.
- Line your tool box with it and cut out where each tool or socket goes.
- 5) Transmitter packaging. Glue in layers to create deep pockets surrounding and protecting the transmitter. Do not use this toam inside your airplane as shock absorbing material for the receiver. It is OK in the nose for a Battery. It is meant for heavy impacts, not vibration absorption. Let your imagine run wild, you'll love this stuff!

# HANDLAUNCH GLIDERS By Sherman L. Knight email address: duworm@aol.com

My first article stated: "No matter how well your aircraft performs or handles, it you can't launch you can't win. Would someone please, please argue with this point."

It's always nice to fly a model with an extremely high pertormance ratio that allows a "save" when the model is only a couple of feet from the ground. However, if your launch technique suffers, then every flight turns into a "save".

A Hand Launch pilot's engine is his entire body. Not just his "arm", but his entire body. However, before we get

into the technique of throwing, let's first take a look at keeping the arm and shoulders fit. That's right, this means off-season training.

The shoulders are one of the body's most complicated mechanisms. As many as fifty (50) arm and shoulders muscles are involved in throwing. The most important of these constitutes the rotator cuff, a series of four muscles that holds the upper arm bone (the humerus) to the roof of the shoulder (the glenoid labrum). The four muscles of the rotator cuff are the supraspinatus, the infraspinatus, the teres minor, and the subscapularis. The supraspinatus muscle is especially important in throwing because during the follow through it keeps the shoulder fixed to the head of the humerus. Like all voluntary muscles in the body, those of the rotator cuff operate in pairs, one contracting while the other relaxes.

Maintaining a healthy a rotator cuff will enable you to establish and sustain a full range of motion needed for successful hand launching.

Baseball pitchers that participate in regular workouts with weights of 3–10 pounds. These same exercises can help keep you from unwelcome dates with the Advil bottle.

Tom Seaver (the baseball pitcher) has performed exercises similar to these approximately 3 times a week during the off-season. The objective of small weight work is worth repeating:

To obtain equal strength throughout the entire range of motion of the shoulder muscles. You achieve this by slowly lifting the weights against the force of gravity. If you use force or momentum to carry you through these exercises, you are only fooling yourself.

There should be no pain or discomfort in these exercises. Do them to the point of fatigue, rest, and start again. If there is pain or soreness, it won't be used with continued aggravation. Give the muscles a rest of a week or ten days and then resume the exercises. If there is still soreness, consult a physician.

If, at first you can only do one set with five or six repetitions, don't be discouraged. Accept that as your starting point and work toward a goal of increased repetitions. But do the work honestly. Don't cheat yourself.

### There are seven separate exercises:

Exercise 1. Standing, with your arms hanging from the shoulders, palms against the front of your legs, raise the weights (directly in front of you) until your arms are paral-

lel to the floor. While holding that position, turn the weights until they are perpendicular to the floor. (Palms facing each other, shoulders width apart). Haise the weights until they are directly overhead. Pause at the top and then reverse the sequence and return to the starting position.

Exercise 2. Standing, and your arms hanging from the shoulders, with the palms against the side of your legs, raise the weights until your arms are parallel to the floor and on opposite sides of your body. (Palms facing the floor). Rotate the weights 180 degrees until your palms face the ceiling. Raise your hands over your head until the weights nearly touch. Pause, and then reverse the sequence and return to the starting position.

Exercise 3. Start with the arms in an outstretched position (on opposite sides of your body, arms parallel to the floor, palms facing the floor), rotate the weight until the thumbs are pointed straight at the floor. Slowly lower your arms to your sides and then return to the starting position.

Exercise 4. Lie on your side opposite your throwing arm. The upper portion of your throwing arm should be parallel to your upper body, elbow light against your side. Bend your elbow 90 degrees, establishing an L between your upper arm and your forearm. Hold your forearm close to your waist and parallel or slightly above your belt line. Palm toward your body. While keeping your elbow tight against your side, raise the weight until the arm is pointed at the ceiling, pause, and then return to the starting position.

Exercise 5. Lie on your back with your elbow as close to your side as possible. Bend your elbow 90 degrees establishing an L between your upper arm and your forearm. Your forearm should be lying across your waist parallel to your belt line. Keeping your elbow close to your body, rotate your upper arm until your forearm is pointed away from your body. Pause, and return to the starting position.

Exercise 6. Lie on your stomach on a table or the edge of your sofa with your arm hanging straight down as possible and the weight resting on the floor. Raise your arm forward (parallel to your body) as far as you can without pain or discomfort. Then, bring the weight backward (parallel to your body) without any pain or discomfort. Pause and return to the starting position.

Exercise 7. Lie on your stomach or on the edge of your sota with your arm hanging straight down and the weight resting on the floor. Bring the weight out, parallel to the

floor (perpendicular to your body), pause, and return to the starting position.

As always, exercise within the limits of your capabilities. If you feel pain or discomfort, see your physician.

In a future article, I will spend more time on the technique of the throw. By then, I hope to have multiple frame photographs of Joe Wurts and Steve Cameron and compare their style of throwing to the modern day baseball pitcher and javelin thrower.

In the past several months, I have received some interesting e-mail. Most of the mail concerns choice of airfoil. Most of the individuals I have responded to are a little disappointed in my answer. Unfortunately, there is no "bost" airfoil. I firmly believe, that regional condition may have a larger impact on choice of airfoil than what airfoil won the last contest or reviewed in a magazine.

Here in the Pacific Northwest, the first flight in our contest routinely starts at 9:00 a.m. After traveling around the country to other contests, I was surprised to attend several that either didn't start the contests until "the lift developed" or filled the morning with short, easily accomplishable tasks. I must admit, I was a little disappointed.

It's obvious, that we all understand how conditions may change during the day. However, we seem unwilling to accept the fact that conditions may change regionally. After Steve Cameron's success with the Orbiter and the SD-4061 wing profile, I vacuum bag, one of my own, and was delighted with the results. However, as the day wore on and the wind came up, I found myself shifting back to my '93 Alleron Monarch, it just "felt better" in the wind. I discovered later, Steve Cameron was switching from a 4061 to an RG 15 as the wind rose during the day.

Given the conditions in Muncie, at the Nationals in 1995, Steve Cameron's choice of the 4061, given the extremely hot, humid, windless conditions, may have been the best choice for the region and conditions at the time.

The nice thing about hand launch, is that they don't take a lot of time to build. It's an ideal class for experimentation. If you want to win your local contest, the airfoils used at that contest should be your starting point. An airfoil selected by someone clear across the country, with different average temperatures, different average humidity, different average wind velocity and at a different altitude may not work well in your region.

If you send E-mail please include actual name, address and phone number. I really want to know about your latest experiment. Thanks again.

# More Neat Web Sites

Dave's Alreraft Works makes some great slope and foam trainer gliders. Dave is also now a column writer for several Soaring Magazines. http://ourworld.compuserve.com/homepages/ davesaircraftworks

Carl McBurnett makes a competition Hand Launch Glider in San Antonio, Texas. http://www.mindspring.com/~bludartar

Tim McCann has some neat accessories (Skegs) for your Glider, http://www.alltel.net/~tmccannn

Hobby Club sells some very affordable (and some

not so affordable) scale sailplanes. This stuff is neat just to look at!

http://www.HOBBYCLUB.COM

Trick R/C, makers of the Zagi Foam Flying Wing have all the hot West Coast Slope Gliders. http://www.Zagi.com

Sailplanes Unlimited, LTD. Talk about the beauty of scale sailplanes! This distributor has a whole slew of imported kits that are unbelievable. http://www.sailplanes.com

# Orlando Buzzards Roster

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## MANUFACTURERS HALL OF FAME

The manufacturers listed below have been recommended by your fellow Buzzards. They have done business with these manufacturers or used their products and are very satisfied with the product or service quality.

### SLEGER INTERNATIONAL

Ed Sleger sells only high performance sailplanes. Ed does not mess with anything that is a compromise. He supplies competitive sailplanes such as the Fazer, Condor, Super Vee, and Laz er. He has both imported and domestic planes that are very superior in workmanship and extremely strong. Ed was Grand Champ at Tangerine with his Fazer. Eddie White has been using Sleger planes for years. Check out Ed's Advertising in R/C Soaring Digest. Ed has donated over \$600 worth of merchandise to the last two Tangerine Championship Raffles.

Web Address: http://www.slegers.com

Mail Address; P.O. Box 364, Long Valley, NJ 07853

Phone: (908) 879-9964

### MARK KUMMEROW MODELS

Mark has designed and manufactured some very competitive sailplanes. His Present line includes the very popular 2-meter searcher (flown by Garnett, Terry, Jerre, and Victor) and his highly coveted HLGs, Cricket and Helix. The Helix is brand new and appears to improve many of the attributes that made the Cricket the most popular entry in Florida HLG contests. Mark has good workmanship and sells completed models for very reasonable prices. Mark can always be counted—on to donate finished models to the Tangerine Championship Raffles.

E mail Address: kummerow@cafes.net

Mail Address: 2258 Hillboro Blvd, Manchester, TN

Phone: (931) 723-2538

### BRADLEY MODEL PRODUCTS

Jim Bradley has been a genius in the use of Composites on Free Flight Airplanes. Now Jim sells the very products he uses and is very free with his advice and experience. The composite materials are of very high quality and in various sizes and forms to meet the needs of Sailplane Builders. Jim also has donated various composite fabrics/materials to our Tangerine Raffle.

Mail Address: 1337 Pine Sap Ct, Orlando, FL 32825

#### AIRTRONICS

Airtronics has abandoned the Sailplane Kit market, but continues to concentrate on high-quality Computer Radios. While these radios may not be directly compatible with other brands, they are definitely superior in capability and component quality. They have many features targeted specifically for sailplane pilots. John Masiello can show you the Stylus Transmitter. Airtronics is available through almost all mail order and local hobby distributors. Airtronics has been extremely generous during our last two Tangerine Contests, donating Stylus Transmitters and hundreds of dollars in discount coupons and servos. They have really shown to be a class act.

Web Address: http://www.wtp.net/DBEST/Airtronics/AirtronicsHome.

Mail Address: 1511 Barranca Pkwy, Irvine, CA 92618-2216

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