

Thousand Oaks
April / May



Soaring Society
2013

TOSS is a District X Member of the Academy of Model Aeronautics, CharterClub # 1493

<http://www.tosoaring.com/>

Gary's Two Hour Thermal Flight

From: Gary Filice Sent: Wednesday, May 01, 2013 12:26 AM
To: sjmiele
Subject: 2 hour Thermal Duration Task

Hi Steve,

I wasn't sure if you were there for the final results, but I had chosen last Sunday, the 28th of April as the day I was going to try and get my LSF 2 Hour Thermal Duration Task finished. Here is something for our newsletter. It sort of went like this:

My first attempt at about 9:15 started out with a launch after the fog was generally cleared out. I figured that the kind of day with the overcast beginning is the kind of day that usually ends up pretty good. Well, after about 33 minutes, I was back on the ground when everything just seemed to drop out with a huge sink cycle. I just found myself out of altitude and ideas. The air lower down just seemed to be really funky - hard to center up and relax! So much for the easy day!

I felt that I should go back to the car and top off both my radio and plane on the charger before another try, just in case! I connected the radio and plane to the charger and proceeded to go up to the upper field and throw the handlaunch around for a while. Well, after about 30 minutes or so, I returned to the car and everything seemed to be topped off!

Mike Reagan was assisting with the timing on the task, and he started his clock as I proceeded to launch again, albeit a bit later than before, so I figured I would perhaps have a better chance at some good lift. I punched out to the hill and found pretty good lift on the left, the right, and out front. This lasted for about 30

minutes or so, and then things began to soften up again. Oh no, not again! I found myself low and out over the infamous intersection about 75 feet up looking for anything that told me I could pull off a save. Well it was all or nothing when suddenly my plane was jolted by a violent tug on the tail section. It was unreal! I made a quick bank to the left and began to claw my way upward to get everything I could in the way of some altitude. I did this until the lift again played out. Well, I was up about 400 feet when I decided to go back to the hill where there was considerable traffic made up of a bunch of other planes in a soft gaggle. I had to decide whether to loiter around or take a chance and go to the right behind the school, thinking that perhaps the conditions at the field have shifted to support lift out over the ridge to the northwest. Well, I used up all of my altitude to get out as far as I could when I hooked in way behind the left side of the school at the limits of my vision.

I took the lift all the way up to at least a thousand feet and just camped there, all the while Mike telling me to "stay high" over and over again. He read it right! I burned up another 40 minutes at high altitude the whole time working back and forth along the area behind the school. I have other pilots like Bob Swet and Don Northern as well as Mike Reagan who were giving some good indications as to where to go or not to go when things began to soften up again. At this point I had another 30 minutes to go to get this task done. I again found myself over the gym in marginal air. I popped a small thermal near the ball diamond and followed it back to the fence when I decided to punch back out front to the gym, thinking I might find another one - kind of like when we fly handlaunch over the basketball courts. Well I did this several times, each time gathering a bit more altitude. Mike said that Bob and Don had something back near the hill to the right of the gym, so I punched out near Bob. Thanks for help Bob, I was able to hook in and claw back up to keep this thing going. Another save! With the added altitude, I punched out back over to the northwest corner where the lift was back in action! This was insane! My neck was sore, but I was going to get this thing done. Hang in there! How much time Mike? He indicated that I was about there! I began my decent in a normal landing pattern had completed my two hour to the tune of an official time of 2 hours and 5 minutes when my plane touched down!

My thanks to Mike Reagan for supporting and timing me through this task, and signing my LSF card along with Bob Swet as witnesses. Thanks to all of the other guys up there with me who helped me to read the air on what turned out to be at times a rather tricky day, especially down low!

Anyone else contemplating their two hour just tap me on the shoulder. I will be happy to support you when you decide to go for it!

Gary

Minutes of the Meeting Held 04/24/2013

Present at the meeting were: Andy Tiffin, Mike Stern, Don Northern, Gary Filice, Bob Swet, Lex Mierop, Steve Miele, Charles Babcock.

Treasury : \$1,272.81 as of 4-24-13

- All TOSS memberships should be paid up. John Ellias, Jim Luken, Kyle Paulson, Mike Reagan, Gus Piangirelli, John Stevenson, Bill Wibel, Ben Wright; please be sure to get your dues in so we can cover our yearly costs.
- Lex on the F3K contest – hand launch contest in Denmark, U.S. Team, last week of July. They have a fundraising campaign going on for the team, and they would like to get funding in a few weeks before. You can do a direct donation on line at www.teamusaf3k.com to make that donation. The funds go through the AMA directly, and it is tax deductible. There is also a link to a raffle through the donation site with some dandy prizes being given away. There are also hats and shirts available from Lex directly to save shipping. Prospects are looking good for the senior team. We also have several juniors (18 and under) flying for the team from around the U.S. We have a good chance to come home with some medals for juniors! The

seniors are another story—we are against the best in the world, and it will be a much tougher venue for them.

A quorum of TOSS members voted and approved a donation of \$100 towards the raffle. Any prizes will in turn be raffled to generate funds for TOSS.

- Last months TOSS contest results are published in the TOSS Newsletter. Times were 3-4-5 for beginners, and 6-7-8 for advanced. There were 13 participants in the contest, a definite uptick in participation! This is a positive thing, and everyone seems to be having fun.
- There was an SC-2 contest at the Torey Pines field at Encinitas Field (a former land dump). The air flow at this field is tricky to say the least since you are flying from the crest of a hill. This makes for difficult centering on the thermals.
- BUBW in Visalia on the 4th and 5th of May. TOSS will have a good showing of close to 10 participants.
- Cal Challenge hand launch contest is in Visalia June 2nd AND 3rd.

- TOSS is hosting the SC-2 contest on May 19th at the Fish Canyon locations as opposed to Redwood Middle School Field. We have enough TOSS hands to help with the contest. Lex will contact the SWSA club about arranging this with them for use of their field at Fish Canyon off of the 210 FWY at Irwindale.
- New Pilot instruction manual has been updated by Craig Borstelmann and reformatted in size to fit the small size three ring binder for field use.

Subject: SC2 Contest at SWSA (Fish Cyn.) May 19th
From: "Steve Miele" Date:4/30/2013 9:57 AM
SC2 Contest at SWSA (Fish Cyn.) May 19th

To All,

Lex, our SC2 contest CD, has informed me that due to the unique launch environment at SWSA, all of the arrangements regarding the winch setups will be handled by SWSA. They will also send out the requisite SC2 flier with details about protecting the special landing surface (indoor/ outdoor carpeting) and the need to use alternative nose skeg materials to protect the carpet.

I am also requesting that we, TOSS members have a good showing to provide the support staff for computer operators, retriever operators, landing judges, line break repairers, and other needed support. So please mark your calendars, we should also consider carpools to the location in Irwindale.

For those NOT participating or flying, you might want to discuss having an alternative winch setup or high start at Redwood.

T.O.S.S. APRIL 2013 CLUB CONTEST CD-A1C

NAME	CLASS	Plane	ROUND 1						ROUND 2						ROUND 3						TOTAL POINTS	Normalized Points			
			Goal Time	Time Pts	Pts/Sec	Time	Landing	Land Pts	Points	Goal Time	Time Pts	Pts/Sec	Time	Landing	Land Pts	Points	Goal Time	Time Pts	Pts/Sec	Time			Landing	Land Pts	Points
Gary Filice	Expert	Open	8	480	1	8:00	94	0.5	527	7	420	1	6:59	89	0.5	463.5	6	360	1	6:00	88	0.5	404	1394.5	1000.00
Jim Luellen	Expert	Open	6	360	1	6:00	96	0.5	408	8	480	1	7:59	77	0.5	517.5	7	420	1	7:01	91	0.5	464.5	1380	996.77
Art C	Expert	Open	6	360	1	5:59	86	0.5	401	7	420	1	7:00	91	0.5	465.5	8	480	1	7:59	87	0.5	522.5	1389	996.06
John Elias	Expert	Open	6	360	1	5:59	59	0.5	388.5	7	420	1	7:01	94	0.5	466	8	480	1	8:04	79	0.5	515.5	1370	982.43
Bob Svet	Expert	Woody	6	360	1	6:02	84	0.5	400	7	420	1	7:00	73	0.5	465.5	8	480	1	8:02	69	0.5	512.5	1369	981.71
Mike Stern	Expert	Open	6	360	1	6:03	82	0.5	388	7	420	1	7:05	52	0.5	441	8	480	1	8:06	91	0.5	519.5	1385	974.18
Don Northern	Expert	FES	8	480	1	8:01	97	0.5	527.5	7	420	1	6:58	88	0.5	462	6	360	1	5:11	81	0.5	361.5	1341	961.63
Richard Mason	Expert	Open	6	360	1	6:00	83	0.5	401.5	7	420	1	7:00	41	0.5	440.5	8	480	1	8:05	42	0.5	496	1338	959.48
Bill Nibley	Expert	Open	6	360	1	4:11	87	0.5	294.5	8	480	1	7:02	0	0.5	422	7	420	1	6:32	0	0.5	382	1108.5	794.91
Andy Tiffin	Beginner	FES	3	180	1	3:13	0	0.5	167	4	240	1	4:00	82	0.5	281	5	300	1	5:22	62	0.5	309	757	542.85
Bary Bremner	Novice	FES	3	180	1	3:14	91	0.5	211.5	4	240	1	4:21	0	0.5	219	5	300	1	5:08	9	0.5	286.5	727	521.33
Kyle Camara	Beginner	Woody	3	180	1	2:25	11	0.5	150.5	4	240	1	4:01	83	0.5	280.5	5	300	1	5:04	0	0.5	286	727	521.33
Tim Bullock	Beginner	Woody	3	180	1	2:35	45	0.5	177.5	4	240	1	2:42	27	0.5	175.5	5	300	1	5:01	0	0.5	289	662	467.55