

Thousand Oaks March



Soaring Society 2011

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

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

Minutes of the TOSS Meeting Held 3/30/11

In attendance: Bob Swet, Bill Bertram, Charles Babcock, Gary Filice, Jim Pendergrass, Martin Usher.

New Business

-Club charter, insurance, and school papers. Bill Bertram gave an update. School papers were turned in to the school last week, but the follow-up paperwork from AMA has not come in yet. If the papers are not in by Friday, we will not be able to fly on the weekend of April 3rd. Steve and Bill have been back and forth with AMA. Paperwork went to AMA unsigned by a club officer. Terry Koplan is not an officer, and an officer must be the one to sign the paperwork. Still going through the final stages, and still waiting for final paperwork. If the final paperwork is not completed by this Friday, there will be no flying at the field this weekend. However, we have the option to fly at Paramount Ranch that day.

It is now proposed that TOSS begins the yearly process of renewals both with AMA and the School district in the month of January of each year. This way, we have a time buffer with which to work out any

problems that may arise in the renewal process.

Old Business

-Bill Bertram presented the final informational packet about TOSS, professionally done up in a bound brochure form to be presented to Ed Jones, and the Simi Church that controls the land in Tierra Rejada valley area. The club was told to make the first initial contact with the Simi Church. We also have the task of contacting Mr. Van Dyke at some point who also is involved with that land. Again, this land was partially developed for a Polo complex that required a 100 by 300 yard precision level area for the planting of grass for polo fields. It has water, and it can be put into use with clearing and planting. When the meeting is set up, Bill will include a few key folks from the club to attend that meeting.

-Jim Pendergrass gave an update report on the club women's club activity that was talked about. This came from Dianne Pendergrass. Further plans are forth coming.

We at TOSS have had members or family

members in the hanger for extensive work, and we wish all of them swift recovery. This includes: Don Northern's wife Beverly, Jay Harland and his hip reconditioning surgery, Art McNamee with knee surgery, Richard Mason with shoulder work, and Steve Miele's wife Ilene with knee surgery as well. Almeda Babcock is progressing nicely after having cataract surgery. WOW! Lot's going on with the TOSS folks. Who's next?

-We all know that it has been challenging concerning the weather. It seems that week days are nice, but bad weather returns just in time for the weekend. Hah, one of those years again! Despite the inclement weather, the field is still in good shape, and the grass is very thick and green, despite the cutback on water.

-FAA ruling on potential flight restrictions for AMA hobbyists supposedly coming out at the end of May. So far, the message is positive, and things are looking up with the recognition of hobby activity as a separate consideration by the regulators. This is posted in the AMA Today Magazine on line where you can read into more of the details. The big differentiator with AMA flyers involves the pilot maintaining a visual line of sight with the model at all times. UAV and other activities involve flying autonomously.

Some stories from Gary Filice

Some of you flyers may have noticed a

new face at the field the last week or so, and that face belongs to John Peterson. John is a fellow I met on the beach one day in up in Carpenteria while flying my hand launch. Like Jay Harland, John is a superb craftsman in wood. The day I met him on the beach, he was testing out some of his magnificent hand-made kayaks. He has a line of Kayaks that can be seen on line at Shaman Kayaks.com where there are photos and interesting explanations of everything he does in a native tradition. John has done some flying as well! He will be a welcome addition to our group. John wants to start out with hand launch, and I will help him out where possible. Welcome aboard John!

In regards to boats and planes, here is an interesting quote from a book entitled The Forty Knot Sailboat by Bernard Smith that goes back to 1963.

“To one who has turned lifeless materials into a thing alive and forced it to his bidding against the resisting forces of nature, in silence, without fuel, and without defiling air or water, there can never be anything more wonderful than the Sailboat. To one who has not had the experience, no telling of it can touch him.”

And so it is with the Sailplane and those who fly them!

Speaking of weather, attached is a picture of the fantastic wave cloud formation, called a lenticular cloud, just North and West of Moorpark and Somis!



News from Yuroop (Jon Charnas)

Hey Martin,

As much as I could still go in and post new updates on the TOSS site, I figured that's your job now, and I'd rather not confuse the non-technology oriented in our club.

I was in touch with Don this week after he sent me a question about putting something up on the site, and I figured I might as well send the club an update of what I've been up to.

So there's a few pictures of the scenery attached, and here's a short blob of what I've been up to.

"So before I left last August, I promised I'd send back some pictures and an update of what life out here was like. I've been a wee bit busy, so I apologize for the delay in sending this out.

Classes have kept me quite busy, and learning a few new tricks to pull around, which is good. The town I'm in, Neuchatel, is right on the lake of the same name. On the other side of the lake, when the weather allows for it, I can see the Alps. There's a few pictures of what that looks like for you guys to get an idea.

Unfortunately I haven't been able to find a good place to fly gliders that doesn't require a car. There might be a couple of spots I could fly hand launch at, and I will when the summer break is happening, but in the meantime I'm temporarily switching disciplines to remote-controlled seaplanes. The lake is a little harder to crowd in the areas where swimming isn't expressly permitted, and it's always possible to walk a few hundred yards away to an open area.

A classmate of mine has been flying off water for a couple of years, learning on his own, and he was quite enthusiastic about having a flying buddy. As he recently upgraded to a new airplane, I inherited his old airframe. The only thing wrong with it as far as I could tell, was the heavy lead block in the nose, which meant it was impossible to balance with the battery in the prescribed place.

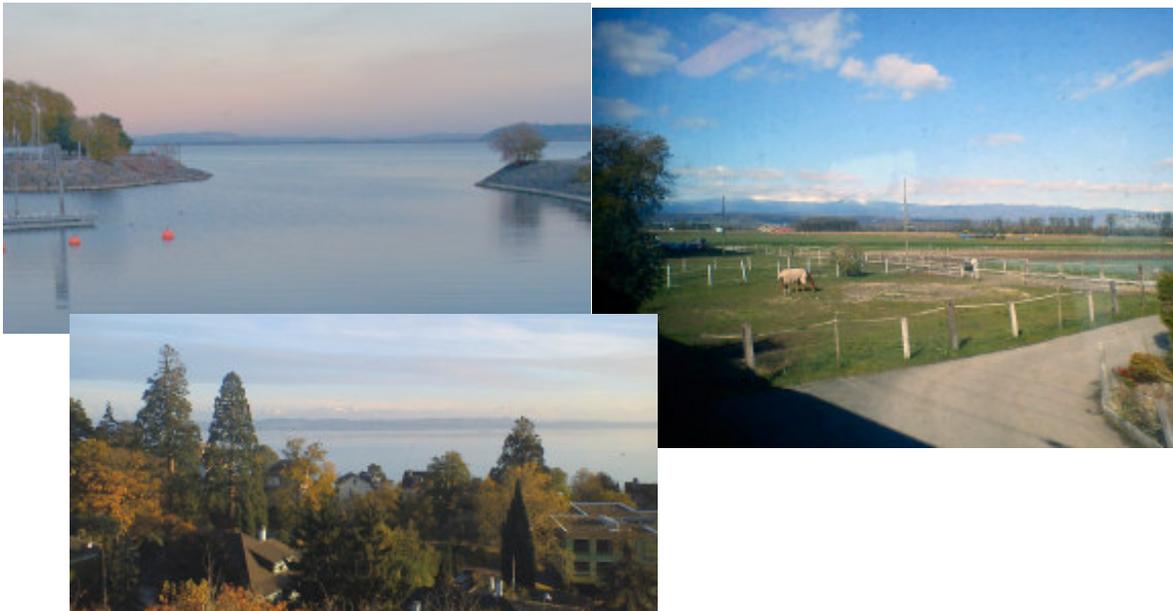
So I am now the proud owner of a Multiplex Cockpit SX with M-Link, Multiplex's 2.4GHz system. There is telemetry built into both transmitter and receiver, which is quite amazing for the price point (340 swiss francs, about half the price of the Aurora or SD-10G here...). I don't want to go on and make you all drool as you can't buy it directly in the US, but take the ergonomics of an Evo, the features of an 8903, the telemetry of the Aurora, and shave off a bunch of the price, and you have the Cockpit.

Weather permitting I shall make my first flights off the lake next weekend, with photos and video accompanying that. At least it'll keep my thumbs active, and then I'll see what I can do to help build up F3K in Switzerland. And of course, when I'm flying, I almost always wear my TOSS shirts. One can never forget one's roots!

When I come back to California, I'll make sure to stop by the field and say hi in person.

Until the next episode of my Swiss adventures,

Jon



SJSS Bent Wing Contest is on 4/16 at Bakersfield

Instructions and a contest flier are at <http://www.ssjss.netfirms.com/>

(NOTE:- Contest information is a Word Document file)