

Thousand Oaks
May



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 5/25/11

In attendance: Charles Babcock, Steve Miele, Gary Filice, Bill Bertram, Don Northern, Jay Harland, Andy Tiffin, Gus Piangerelli.

Old Business:

Donation to defray campaign costs for Ed Jones. A letter was drafted by Steve Miele concerning the matter, and 5 members stepped up at last months meeting with a \$100 donation to help with costs. A check for funds will be cut for \$1000 via Jay Harland to go along with the letter. Bill Bertram will see Ed Jones on Thursday the 26th of May to discuss further actions on our behalf. Bill suggested having Ed come to the field and then present the letter and funds to him at that time.

Safety issues on the field.

Don Northern commented about the problem of checking not only control surface movements, but to also make sure the movements are in the right direction.

Continued vigilance needed by members concerning folks wandering out on the field in the launch area.

Remember to turn off the power on the winch and retriever while repairing the line; accidents can happen with people accidentally stepping on the pedal.

New Business:

Flying site update by Bill Bertram included news from Conejo Parks and Recreation about a letter that went to Tom Hare concerning the intention of TOSS to use Dos Vientos for flying sailplanes. Some possible conflict with the placement of light standards on the new field. We may have a chance to have input into their overall placement. Bill passed out the 2007 version of the plan for the new field; this plan may be revised or updated. This includes placement of light standards, and Ed Jones will try to see to it that the standards are placed in such a way that would allow flying at the far end of the field.

Further updates on the Bordier Nursery site indicates that there may be another opening for flying at the south east corner of the land at Tierra Rejada since control of the land is in flux.

There is still a possibility that a hand launch contest would be held at the field during July. Terry Koplan, with

his vast experience with HLG, has shown interest in being the CD for this contest. We are looking at either a Saturday or Sunday to have the contest. This has not been decided yet.

Charles Babcock donated three mini Mag-Lite style flashlights for giveaways; Don, Andy and Jay “won” them.

Smith Hill — the West Face

Monday, being Memorial Day (and quite a nice day at that), I thought that it might be interesting to revisit Smith Hill to check it out. We've all heard stories about overgrown tracks, fences, homeowner's associations and so on so let's go see what's really going on.

I approached from Lone Oak, the west face, parking at the base of the tracks that used to up this face. Over the winter the ample moisture and lack of traffic — foot, horse and (especially) vehicular — has allowed mustard to flourish, six foot tall plants covering the entire track. Buried deep in this thicket, about half way up, is a shiny metal gate and a sign warning off drivers under dire penalty. Continuing to the top there's a stretch of chainlink fence extending out from the tract property line, a fence that's not really doing anything (certainly not in the way) because it just ends and in the distance against the tract property you can see a “No Trespassing” sign. The hill itself is COSCA — Open Space.

The hill itself is flyable, or at least would have been if I had brought up the right plane. So I descended, and in the process discovered the ‘new’ way of going up the hill. This is a path that starts at the old switchback (a little north of the old track) but instead of curving away to the right (and into the mustard) you keep walking straight across the face of the hill until you intersect another path going across the hill face near the top. This is the path you'd fly from, and when I plodded up the hill again a little while later with my Ninja I actually got some flying in before the wind died.

Why bother? Well, its a lot nearer to my house and a lot less of a climb than Wood Ranch.. Also, the slope at Wood Ranch is unsuitable for new planes — when you toss that plane out you'd better be sure its trimmed properly.

So I suppose that provided you don't mind a bit of walking and you don't go out of your way to annoy the homeowners Smith Hill is OK. (*Martin*)

**THERE WILL BE A CLUB CONTEST SUNDAY,JUNE
12TH**

**IT WILL CONSIST OF THREE TASKS
10 MINUTE 8 MINUTE AND 6 MINUTE ROUND
STARTING WITH THE 6 MINUTE ROUND THEN THE 8
MINUTE AND END WITH THE 10 MINUTE ROUND..**

!!!!!!START TIME 9:00AM!!!!!!

**ONCE THE CONTEST STARTS IT IS FLY AT WILL, BUT
YOU MUST FLY THE 6,8,AND 10 IN ORDER
AFTER FLYING THE 6 MINUTE ROUND YOU CAN FLY
THE 8 AND THEN THE 10
(HONOR SYSTEM)
THE CONTEST ENDS AT 1:00PM
NO MATTER WHAT TASK YOU ARE FLYING**

**\$5.00 ENTRY FEE
TWO CLASSES, OPEN AND SPORTSMAN PLUS A SPE-
CIAL JUNIOR CLASS IF WE CAN GET AT LEAST 2 OR
THREE JUNIORS TO SIGN UP**

**SCORING USING THE 990 POINT SYSTEM + THE 100
POINT MAX LANDING TAPE
MODEL CLASSES WILL BE OPEN, BENT WING AND
WOODY**