

VALLEY FLYERS



NEWS LETTER JULY 1967

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President's Corner

Let's hear it for the astute F.A.I. Team of Messrs. Kraft, Spreng, and Werrick. I don't feel it would be fair to the other competitors to say that our team had an advantage with their shirts, but we don't want to discount it either. At any rate, our congratulations to the victorious team.

Now, let's hear it for those people who are going to compete in the Nats. Good luck to you all and may the best man, woman or youngster win.

Speaking of youngsters, I want to thank, on behalf of the club, Randy and Doug Kempf for the work that they did on the Air Show. The signs they made were beautiful. They devoted much time both before and during the show, and we owe them a real vote of thanks.

If I may editorialize a bit in this same vein, it's too bad we don't get this kind of cooperation from the majority of the membership. It seems a shame that it takes the kids to show us the way but more power to 'em!

There WILL NOT be a meeting at the women's club this month. We will meet at the Basin instead. Try to come a little early and get some flying in. We want to get a club picture too, planes and all.

Picture? Picture? Oh yes, Reed Packard. You remember him. The one with the high pressure refueling system. Now ask him about landing upside down!

Back to the July meeting... There will be a raffle at the Basin. We are going to have a bigger one than usual. So, be there!!!

Earl

**NO JULY MEETING!
FLY-IN & RAFFLE AT
THE BASIN. JULY 11
COME EARLY!!**

CONTEST REPORTS

I received the following information in the mail from an anonymous author. I do appreciate it very much but honest fellows, you can sign your name.

Anyhow, below are the results of the West Coast Championships held on May 21, 22, at the Basin:

Class III Expert:

- 1- Phil Kraft (Lark)
- 2- Larry Leonard (Valley Flyers)
- 3- Clarence Lee (Valley Flyers)

Class III Novice:

- 1- Fred Sage (Long Beach Area)
- 2- Bob Upton (Valley Flyers)
- 3- Bill Dennis (No club)

Class II Open:

- 1- Boon Faber (BIRDS)
- 2- Willie Gardner (Valley Flyers)
- 3- Gil Hortsmen (Las Vegas)

Scale:

- 1- Jack Stafford (Lark)
- 2- Granger Williams (Lark)
- 3- Joe Bridi (BIRDS)

Pylon:

- 1- Cliff Weirick (Valley Flyers)
- 2- Ray Downs (Lark)
- 3- Jack Stafford (Lark)

Winners per Club:

Valley Flyers-	5
Larks-	5
Birds	2
Las Vegas	1
Long Beach	1
Loner	1

Comments:

The flight lines were well run due to the BIRDS "System". P.A. System was good but could have been more interesting to the spectators. (We could use a good PR man on the mike at our events). Paper work was handled very efficiently with Betty Stream at the helm. Judging, as usual, was a problem. Good or bad it seems difficult to get consistency in judges.

The weather (wind) was very favorable both days, but the heat was something else. The haze on Saturday made sunburns galore and the hot breezes on Sunday added a little more torment to the painful regions. Spectators were plentiful and orderly and acted very interested in the activities.

There were NO mid-air collisions and about 5 wrecks were caused by pilot error or equipment failure (Some crystals were suspected of failure due to the heat on the new 72 MHz band). One contestant was hit by another on a touch and go and received several abrasions on his bare legs (he was wearing shorts). All in all, it was a well run contest but a better judging system is needed.

Ye olde editor caught the tail end of the Speed Trials on Memorial Day but I didn't get all of the results. A Bird member took top time with 125 mph in a Rossi .60 powered "Pencil Bomber". Cliff turned in the middle 115's with his Goodyear, .40 powered. His last flight was picture perfect. The stunt-multi type event was taken by a San Gabriel Valley flyer at about 102 mph. All pretty quick flying.

Don't forget our own contest the weekend of June 10-11, at the basin. See you there ?

SELECTED SHORT TOPICS

We (The Club) received a nice thank you letter from Phil Kraft. It is reprinted below:

Gentlemen:

My sincere thanks and appreciation for the wonderful team FAI shirt presented by the Valley Fliers. I am sure all of us on the team will wear these shirts with a great deal of pride.

Perhaps they will give us that little edge which could well be necessary.

Very truly yours,

Phil Kraft

You are quite welcome Phil.

I have spoken to Doug Spreng and he also sends us many thanks for the FAI team shirts. He apologized for not being able to make the presentation, but said that he will try to make the next meeting.

I had a short, but interesting, conversation with Glenn Jarvis concerning the West Coast Championships. He was not entered in the stunt event but he did do some calling, and a lot of watching, and he also was a bit less than enthusiastic about the judging. It is extremely difficult to obtain competent judges, and it is pretty rough to sit out on a hot runway (and it was hot) all day, and to get a stiff neck looking up at toy airplanes. Glenn suggested that perhaps we would be able to obtain a few judges out of the private pilot ranks by posting bulletins at the local airports. Don't knock the suggestion, it is the best (and only) one that I have heard about.

In a more serious vein, I received a call from Al Cox this week concerning the club's reaction to the death of his father. Al was flying at the Cal Western and was called from the field by his brother. Al's father had suffered a heart attack which later proved to be fatal. He left the field to rush to the hospital, and the club members at the field passed the hat and sent a beautiful wreath to the funeral. Al told me that he was very appreciative of the club's concern and that the wreath was the most beautiful that he had ever seen. He promised to send me a thank you note in the mail, to be reprinted here, but just in case I hadn't received it by press-time, I decided to include it here. Our sincerest sympathy Al.

Fellow flugen-machine masters, I guess that I really should apologize for not being able to do a top notch job on this newsletter for these past six months. Between my job, and night school, I just haven't been able to devote the time to the newsletter that it requires. I haven't even been able to attend a meeting since last year. I am finishing school this month and hope to be able to do a better job for you the rest of the year.

Here is something for you to kick around a bit. How about pilot competence flights before a contest. I have seen some pretty wild flying in contest pattern flights, and some very near misses. It would not seem unrealistic, to me, if a pattern flyer were required to demonstrate his proficiency with his airplane before flying in front of several hundred spectators.

Below is the picture of our monthly "HERO". I am sure that all of you recognize Bob Upton, with his new Thunderstormer (or TS'r, as I like to call it.). This really is a beautiful ship and I can personally attest to its flying ability as Bob and I were both out flying the evening before the Cal Western. This ship performs beautifully. Bob did quite a job of squeezing his PCS into the baseball bat fuselage. By the way, I think it is kind of cute that one of the members of the British teams at Corsica will be flying a Thunderstormer against Doug Spreng.

Bob put his usual superb finish on this one in his official color, scheme.



PACKARD PHOTOGRAPHY
BURBANK

By the by, if you have not been receiving a club newsletter, or if your name has not been appearing on the rosters, contact either me or Frank Kagele. My mailing list is copied from the PAID UP club roster. If I have an error in your address, give me a ring to correct it.

See you at the meeting.....

Larry