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Newsletter of the Skyline Soaring Club, Inc., September 19, 1992

SKYLINES

NEXT MEETING SCHEDULED

Our next club meeting is scheduled for Saturday, October 24, 1992 at the New Market airport after a day of flying. Please take the time to plan to be there for flying as well as the meeting. Come out, enjoy and support your club.

(insert here under the title A SPECIAL MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT)

TREASURER'S REPORT

Bela Gogos says that we have more than \$13,000.00 on hand. We are doing all right, but we need to have more flights! We will have expenses soon for the Annual Inspection on the Pawnee, which will possibly need some expensive work. We also have daily operating expense for fuel, hangar space etc. Support is provided by the members using and paying for the equipment.

OPERATIONS REPORT

Kit Carson, our newly appointed Chief Tow Pilot, made the report. We need more tow pilots! Several possibilities were advanced and talked about as ways to fix this; honorary membership, non-member tow pilot, full- membership for such pilots. There are several points which must be understood before this decision is made. First and foremost are the insurance rules for qualifying new tow pilots; 100 hours of taildragger time and 25 tows. This means all that must be satisfied before a pilot can be insured to fly for our club. Do you have an idea on how to deal with this situation? Let us hear and discuss them. We tabled further discussion until we have more ideas and information. Bela is going to question the insurance company on particulars. We must be concerned with:

- tow pilot checkout procedures
- insurance costs
- possible special memberships to accommodate tow pilots

Further operations concerns were discussed and our president made the statement that we need radios on the ground for Duty Officers, if not in the air (in club ships) for safety and efficient operations. We need a meeting of instructors and student pilots to assure ongoing progress in learning to fly. We need procedures to assure currency of pilots who fly club equipment and/or a list of qualified pilots.

Bill Jones reminded members to use the approved patterns for landings. Those who are on duty should take note of this point and gently remind pilots.

MAINTENANCE REPORT

Jim McCulley made the maintenance committee's report. Jim mentioned the Pawnee's exhaust system is in a delicate condition and should be carefully checked prior to flight. He also cautioned against excessive use of brakes on club ships. Mainly to prevent damage to the grass field as well as wear and tear on the aircraft. Jim Miles is gradually amassing a spares supply. Some discussion followed on the advisability of purchasing the Warrenton Soaring Center's (WSC) parts supply. The asking price is \$350.00. Bela suggested that we offer \$250.00 and be done with it. It was decided that would be done. Bela will send a check for the parts to Jim Kranda.

FACILITIES REPORT

Charlie Lee says the hangars still leak during rainfall and it looks like that will have to be tolerated as he couldn't stop it! Ed Rainey is supposed to be appropriating \$200.00 to purchase gravel for the hangar floors. The doors for the hangars still need to be installed.

MEMBERSHIP REPORT

Shane Neitzey has to step down from the position of membership director due to pressing personal needs. A heartfelt thanks to him for his yeoman service in getting the club up and running. Shane was as instrumental as anyone in starting our club. Phil Jordan has accepted the position as director for membership.

COMPETITION REPORT

Nothing to report at this meeting.

BY-LAWS SUB-COMMITTEE REPORT

Bill Westerman reported that the draft by-laws are not yet ready for general review. The sub-committee is scheduled to meet soon and talk about the draft. It is hoped that the draft will be ready by the time of the next meeting.

We need to be thinking ahead to next year as 1993 isn't that far off. We will have to create a budget for the new year as well as:

- a plan for increasing membership
- plans (ideas) to promote greater member participation
- better communications with the membership
- invite Mr. Rainey to our meetings to develop a better relationship with him

Our President will be speaking with his counterpart at the Mid-Atlantic Soaring Association (M-ASA) about the possible affiliation of our two clubs.

The old camping trailer used as the office at WSC is ours and must be removed by us. We will place an advertisement in a local (Warrenton) paper.

We discussed the possibility of obtaining a telephone and answering machine for the club. No decision was taken.

The Schweizer trailer needs much attention. It is feared that we will lose the use of this piece of equipment if action isn't taken soon!

Mention was made of the possible need for a backup tow plane when the Pawnee goes in for its annual. Spencer is investigating what might be possible as regards the Piper in hangar behind us. He's found the owner's name and will be attempting to contact them. Anyone know of a deal for purchase or lease of a suitable aircraft? Spencer suggested we might look at a winch for launching as an alternative to aero towing.

There was some discussion of whether or not we should operate throughout the coming Winter. A sort of concensus was reached that we should operate, weather permitting, during next Winter.

SPECIAL NOTICE

We will be operating on Monday, October 12, 1992. Ralph Wentzel is duty officer and Bill Jones is tow pilot. We will start at noon.