

Clouds & Planes



The Newsletter of the Black Forest Glider Park Association

Volume 1 Number 1 Summer 1992

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Editor's Note

Welcome to the first edition of the newsletter for the Black Forest Glider Park Association (a mouthful in itself, let's just say Association for short). I've felt for a while now that the lot owners need some sort of method for communication. There's a lot going on at the field, many of us aren't there very often, and indeed some of us live out of state. So we need to have something to let each other know what is happening, what events are coming up and provide a vehicle of enthusiasm or frustration (your pick) for the members.

I've selected "Clouds and Planes" as the newsletter title, so one of the first orders of business is to see if anyone can come up with a better title. I'm open to suggestions.

My plan is to publish the newsletter on a quarterly basis; if there is a need for more frequent issues we can step it up. At the moment I'm funding the costs out of my own pocket, mostly because our treasury doesn't have anything in it. Donations are welcome. Or buy me a tow sometime.

To make any newsletter work you have to have something to put in it - so I'll start off right now with the typical editor's plea for material. Send me anything — letters to the editor, biographies, lot plans, what

improvements you'd like to see, etc. Photos are welcome too.

If I misspell a name or get something you did mixed up, please forgive me, no slight is intended.

I hope to have fun with this newsletter; I hope you do too.

Finally, I've included a membership roster at the end of this issue. The roster will only go to lot owners.

- Mark Palmer, Editor

New Board Members

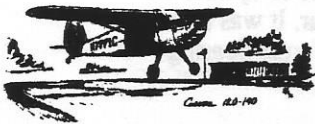
At the May 16th membership meeting, the following were elected to the Homeowner's Association Board of Directors:

President - Mark Palmer
Vice President - Bill Rhodes
Secretary - Alan Bielanski
Treasurer - Doug Curry
At Large - Ben Kelly

Congratulations Everyone!

Allens About to Give Birth to Waco

After years of work, look for a new gliderpark member soon. Dave and Jeanne Allen (not to mention AK, John Allen and others) are nearing completion of their Waco replica. Dave has confidently predicted that

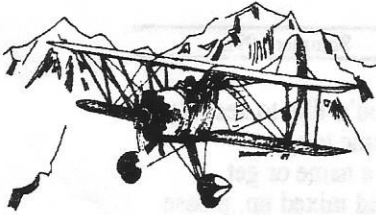


the ship will be flying in June. He has not predicted which June however.

But the good news is that the major construction appears to be finished and the covering is well along.

275TW (as she'll be known) is a Waco Taperwing replica. If you want to know everything about the numerology of Waco aircraft — ask Dave.

Flying in '92 maybe?



Assessment Questionnaire

If you haven't sent in your comments on the Glider Park Association assessment options, please send them in right away. The Assessments Committee will be studying your comments and preparing a ballot to mail out in August. We need you input. Please send your comments to:

BFGP Assessments Committee
c/o Alice Palmer
3461 S. Elm St.
Denver, CO 80222

Fatal Accident at Glider Park

The Glider Park experienced a tragic fatal accident on Saturday, April 25th. BFSS member Steve Willey was flying the club's 1-34 two miles northeast of the field, when it abruptly pitched over from about 1500 feet and went straight into the ground.

To date, no cause for the accident has been determined, and while there has been a lot of speculation, nothing

matches the what was reported by the eyewitnesses.

Steve left behind a wife, Sylvia, and we send her our condolences.

Caterpillar Stampede at Glider Park Threatens Thistles!

Sunday, June 21st, found the glider park full of hundreds of thousands of caterpillars. They were moving like some wild herd from south to north and as they went they were devouring the Canadian thistle. The thistle has plagued the field for the last few years.

By mid-afternoon they had already eaten thousands of the plants. I knew biological pest control would work! It was great to see it in action.

Ben Kelly contacted the Kiowa Soil Conservation people. They said that these caterpillar infestations happen every few years. The caterpillars eventually turn into butterflies.

The caterpillars aren't the only ones working on the thistle. Ben Kelly has been doing quite a bit of seeding and weed spraying this spring and summer. By the first week in July, the thistle were in very poor shape and the grasses were doing quite well. It would appear that the efforts of man and insect have given them the upper hand for the moment.

Who's Got What?

Okay, here's your editor's quick assessment of what owners have what aircraft. If I've missed anyone, you'll have to write me!

Mark & Alice Palmer - Cessna 140, Schweizer 1-26.
Bill Rhodes - Grob 109.
Doug Curry - Cessna 210
Ben Kelly - Cessna 180
Dave & Jeanne Allen - Waco, Champ.
Jim Walker - 1-26

Marion Cruce - 1-26

Jon Stark - Phoebus

Bob & Jan Ehlinger - 2 helicopters, (but I've never seen them.)

Dick Seaman & Phyllis Wells - Cessna 180, Concept 70.

Fred Wipperling - ASW-19

Larry & Janet Knauer - Twin Grob.

Dewey & Carol Reinhard - Some sort of balloon.

Beat Wackernagel - Beech Sierra.



What is BFSS?

I asked Phyllis Wells, President of BFSS, to write the following article in order to help Association members understand some of the history behind the gliderpark and the relationship among BFSS, Ben Kelly, and the Glider Park Association. - Mark.

The old Black Forest Gliderport, north of Colorado Springs, had operated for 25 years as a commercial gliderport, open to the public. In 1986 it was sold to land developer Frank Aries, who was willing to allow a club to operate on the property for a year. It was at this time that the Black Forest Soaring Society was formed.

The club began with 30 members who were determined to obtain the equipment and find a place to fly in order to offer soaring to its members and the public. While searching for a new location, the club learned that Ben Kelly had property in Elbert County and might be interested in developing it into a gliderpark.

Ben decided to divide the property around the runways into salable lots and agreed to give the club a 5 acre lot if the members sold 20 lots. This

was accomplished and BFSS became the owner of lot 8.

About this time the club developed a long-range plan based on the desires of the membership. The plan was to have a commercial glider operation at the new location that would serve the club members, lot owners and the public. To help clarify operational matters and to determine how maintenance expenses of the common area would be paid, Ben Kelly and BFSS negotiated a lease.

The lease, signed in August 1987, gives BFSS the exclusive commercial glider rights to the common area for a period of ten years. In return for these rights the club must provide commercial services at least four days a week, must maintain the common area (mowing, snow removal, etc.), must pay 75% of the cost of maintaining the paved runway (Ben Kelly pays 25%), must pay the county taxes on the common area, and must provide \$5,000,000 liability insurance for the common area. To date the club has spent about \$4,000 per year and countless hours of volunteer labor to maintain the common area and pay the taxes and insurance.

To help provide the commercial services required in the lease, the club formed a subsidiary corporation, Soar Black Forest. SBF has employees, leases towplanes and gliders, and rents them to club members, lot owners, and the public. SBF is open 5 days a week, maintains a glider towing service and an operations building with restrooms, refreshments, and pilot lounge.

The club has paid for most of the improvements on lot 8. These include three hangars, an operations building, landscaping, driveway and parking lot, fencing, fuel tanks and pumps, water lines and septic tank. The club provides volunteers to supplement the paid staff.

Last year the club was awarded second place in a contest to bring new members into the Soaring Society of America. Over 50 people have obtained their Private Pilot license or glider rating since the club started 5 years ago. BFSS now has 135 members and owns two gliders. It has an active flight school with two full time and several part time instructors. There is a full time flight manager and a part time business manager. The club has programs to encourage pilots to earn badges and fly cross country. Each year a soaring contest, the Friendship Meet, is co-sponsored with High Flights, a soaring club at Meadowlake Airport. Also, each year, BFSS contributes to a college scholarship for a young soaring pilot. BFSS encourages young people to get into soaring; there are several teenagers flying with the club and two university soaring clubs are affiliated with BFSS.

Feel free to drop by any time and visit with us. We'd like to get to know you as well as have you get to know us.

Kolstad Dinner

BFSS will host its annual Kolstad Award Dinner on August 29th at the Glider Park. Dinners are \$10.00 per person. The proceeds from the dinner are donated to the Kolstad Scholarship Fund, which annually awards college scholarships to young people involved in soaring. Everyone is welcome. For reservations and information call the Soar Black Forest office at (303) 648-3623.

BLACK FOREST GLIDER PARK OWNERS

Doug and Kerin Curry
3035 Commodore
Colorado Springs, CO 80920
Lot 2

Dewey & Carol Reinhard
4408 Greenstone Circle
Colorado Springs, CO 80915
Lot 3

Allan and Deborah Bielanski
740 Winding Hills Rd.
Monument, CO 80132
(719) 481-4165
Lot 4

Bill Rhodes
6395 Highline Place
Colorado Springs, CO 80908
(719) 495-2055
Lot 5

Jon Stark
666 Greenwich St. #626
New York, NY 10014
(212) 691-8901
Lot 7

Black Forest Soaring Society
24566 David C. Johnson Loop
Elbert, CO 80106
(303) 648-3623
Lot 8

Donald and Karen MacNiven
306 County Rd. 29
Prattville, AL 36067
Lot 10

Ed Smull
6597 S. Newland Circle
Littleton, CO 80123
Lot 11

Beat Wackernagel
51 Broadmoor Hills Dr.
Colorado Springs, CO 80906
(719) 576-2382
Lot 13

Randall Raile
P.O. Box 645
Benkleman, NE 69021
Lot 14

Dave and Jeanne Allen
685 Winding Hills Rd.
Monument, CO 80132
(719) 481-4574
Lot 15 & 16

Larry & Janet Knauer
2189 S. Parkridge Lane
Sedalia, CO 80135
(303) 660-0429
Lot 17

Alan and Marueen Ford
23 Puritan Lane
Madison, CT 06443
Lot 18

Lewis Hull and Paul Janak
1909 Sunlight Dr.
Longmont, CO 80501
Lot 19

Kathleen K. Taylor
P.O. Box 1210
Broomfield, CO 80038-1210
Lot 26

Tony Fernandez
P.O. Box 3118
Boulder, CO 80307
Lot 27

Fred Wipperling
8025 S. Krameria
Englewood, CO 80112
(303) 689-9193
Lot 28

Thomas Tauber
135 Hilldale Rd.
Lansdowne, PA 19050
Lot 31

Thomas and Dorothy Newell
6941 Poinsetta Ave.
Longboat Key, FL 34228
Lot 40

Jim Walker
2522 Paseo Road
Colorado Springs, CO 80907
(719) 634-4560
Lot 41

Marion Cruce
P.O. Box 60118
Oklahoma City, OK 73146
Lot 42

Bob and Jan Ehlinger
7741 S. Eudora St.
Littleton, CO 80122
Lot 43

Gary and Beverly Childers
19040 South Parker Road, Box 432
Parker, CO 80134
Lot 44

Mark and Alice Palmer
3461 S. Elm St.
Denver, CO 80222
(303) 759-0515
Lot 45

Dick Seaman and Phyllis Wells
14050 Citation
Peyton, CO 80831
(719) 683-4303
Lot 46

Fred and Jody Koblenzer
1011 E. Spooner Rd.
Fox Point, WI 53217
Lot 48

Peter and Laurie Demitry
6711 Doolittle Dr.
Edwards, CA 92523
Lot 49

Ben & Lois Kelly
2570 E. San Miguel
Colorado Springs, CO 80909
(719) 635-2136
"All the rest!"