

# underground

newsletter of the RW council /

No. 12  
December 1974

## CASA GRANDE BOOGIE

About 150-200 relative workers showed up in Arizona for the Turkey Day RW weekend and got it on with two Lodestars, several Beechcraft, and many good skydives.

There were quite a few 20-man attempts (some more successful than others), several large-star attempts organized by Jerry Bird (unconfirmed results: a couple of plus-or-minus 24-man stars...) There were many outa-sight formations and sequential dives, too -- among them, a 16-man wedge (completed), a 16-man diamond attempt, an 18-man Tri-Wedge attempt, a 9-man diamond dock with center pull-out, a 10-man eagle-to-snowflake maneuver (completed), and a completed 11-man hourglass, the two ends of which docked when the center man pulled out of it. (CONTINUED on Page 2)

## ZEPHYRHILLS BOOGIE

A whopping total of 52 ten-man teams entered the annual Big-Z Meet at Zephyrhills, Fla. during Thanksgiving week. There was also a 20-man event at this year's World's Largest Parachute Meet (14 teams entered it,) but bad weather forced the cancellation of the planned 16-man maneuver event, as well as some rounds of the other events.

A Florida team, Slots for Tots, took first place in the 10-man event after completion of three out of five rounds. Their fastest 10-man was reported to be 16.7 sec. Michigan's Beechnuts team took second, with the Delray Aerial Circus, also from Florida, in third place. Meet scores were unavailable at RWu's press time.

(CONTINUED on Page 2)

## RUMBLES at the RUMBLESEAT

The annual Rumbleseat 10-Man Meet was revived this year, after a layoff last year, and 18 teams showed up at Elsinore to compete for the Perpetual Trophy. When the dust cleared after four fog and haze-plagued rounds, two teams had withdrawn in protest of the judging, the team put together by Jerry Bird for the express purpose of beating Capt. Hook on his homeground had lost, and everybody else had had a great time.

Capt. Hook & the Sky Pirates made a clean sweep of first place with a 71.10 sec. total, with Locoallomia, from northern California, in second with 111.13. Hook's star times ranged from 15.6 sec. to 20.16. Poultry Products Ltd., from Perris, Calif., was third with 114.7 sec., and Ground Rush from Casa Grande, Arizona, fourth at 115.8 sec.

Handsome medals were awarded to the top three teams this year; hereafter the Perpetual Trophy will remain on display at Elsinore. The Rumbleseat was the "original" 10-man star championships; the first was held in 1967.

(STORY CONTINUED PAGE 9)



# NEW EXIT THEORIES



RWu has had reports of "hard-core" competitive 10-man speed star teams who, in their continuing quest for the fastest way to build a star, are experimenting with some unusual techniques. All center around the theory that you "build an exit, not a star."

The Slots<sup>are</sup> for Tots team, for example, pack themselves carefully in the door and, we understand, exit in such a way that a little grab-ass out the door (in other words, trying to get your hands on somebody immediately) results in an instant three- or four-man, which is then stabled out for entry by the others. There are no assigned slots and no specific floaters on their team -- just whoever can get a handhold on whoever else right away.

It must work, as Slots<sup>are</sup> for Tots took first place (out of 52 teams) at the Z-Hills 10-man Meet. RWu hasn't seen the official meet scores to know whether or not they are consistent in their times, but their fastest was reported to us as 16.7 sec.

A couple of teams are experimenting with using lots of floaters -- up to four -- and both very successfully. The Beechnuts do it with a DC-3; Capt. Hook & the Sky Pirates use a Beech. Both teams manage reasonably consistent times.

## Casa Grande Boogie... CONTINUED

Yours truly participated in most of the above sequential plus a very remarkable sequence of eight separate four-man maneuvers that clicked together so fast it takes much longer to tell it than to do it. Here it is: a 4-man facing diamond to a donut to a caterpillar to two 2-man caterpillars to two left-hand stairsteps (grip change), flown in tandem to dock into a regular diamond which splits into two right-hand stairsteps which turn 180° in tandem and fly into a facing diamond. (From 10,5). Ground practice is helpful. Sure was lots of fun ... lots of RWu. Casa Grande is a major center of non-round relative work.



The weekend was marred by the very untimely death of Tom Phillips on a jump Friday afternoon. He pulled his reserve too low after a malfunction/cutaway. He had been RWu's candidate for election as Mountain Conference Director on the relative work slate.

ALL-GIRL RECORD ATTEMPTS. Casa Grande was the scene of serious 20♀ attempts which were observed by FAI judge, Lorrie Young, and by photographers Ray Cottingham & Mike Jenkins. A 16♀ -- the largest -- is confirmed on Cottingham's film. The "official" 5-sec. star, when confirmed, will be submitted to the FAI as the World Record. Patty Wickliffe organized the sponsored attempts, attended by girls from all over.

## My Kinda Star \*

Far above an ocean,  
Far above tall trees,  
Far above creation,  
In a world of open seas.

A star consisting of people,  
A star consisting of love,  
A star consisting of brotherhood,  
Is a star from far above.

If you can feel a precious love  
For all those in company,  
Then you can build a star with them.  
Just try it -- then you'll see.

\*written by Estelena Fulp, in Crawfordsville, Indiana, in September when she had only 7 jumps.

## Zephyrhills Boogie... CONTINUED

Seven 20-man stars were made in that event (three in the first round and four in the second.) A team from the Northeast (Mass.-N.Y.-Conn.-N.J.), Pillsbury Doughboy's **PF** Fliers, took first place -- they made a 20-man star in 42.7 sec., according to unconfirmed reports. Crago's Motley Circus was the second place team.

The Roach Pile team, from Wisconsin, won the C.G. Godfrog Good Vibes Award after some pretty heavy campaigning on the part of several teams who were vying for it. This perpetual good-sportsmanship trophy was first presented at the 1972 Nationals, by RWu, and has been reawarded many times at various meets.



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ARTICLE:

## ON BECOMING a SKYgod

ONCE YOU'VE MASTERED all of the basic relative work maneuvers and have applied this mastery to 30 or 40 stars, you generally sprout a 7-foot wing span to match your inflated ego, will give autographs on request, and are very fast and never miss. When you reach this stage you should take on the name "Skygod" or something similar that goes well with your shiny, cast-iron ego.

Then, jump only with your friends, the other skygods. Never let turkeys or toads on your loads -- they may slow down your star or get in the way. If you do honor anyone with a star, pick a good-looking girl or a close personal friend (if you still have one), and let them go base. They'll then have the entire jump to watch YOUR entry and mastery of flying.

If somehow a novice relative worker finds himself on your load, be sure to make him feel at ease with soothing words like: "If you bomb the star, I'll zap your reserve." Or, "See if you can get close but DON'T TOUCH." Or, "If you make a mistake, don't bother to pull." Obviously words like these don't do much to lessen a novice's anxiety or to teach him anything about what relative work

CONTINUED on page 4





# A Fable: **THEM vs. US**



The following is more opinion. We are trying to present things from the USPA hierarchy's point of view, based on conversations with several people who look at the BOD from a different viewpoint than ours.

In this fable, USPA is represented by "THEM" while RWu is called "US." This is weird, but that's how most jumpers look at it ... in terms of "Them" and "Us."

**THEM:** This "Us/Them" stuff is really stupid. I mean, isn't it supposed to be just all "us" ... you know, brothers in the sky, we all use parachutes, jump out of the same planes, etc.?

**US:** Yes, it is rather stupid. But that's the way we perceive it: "Us/Them." Or, if you would, Heaton vs. relative workers.

**THEM:** That's illogical!

**US:** You're right. Still, we believe that Heaton is actually not handling today's reality of jumping and should be replaced.

**THEM:** Replaced? With who? That logic doesn't follow.

**US:** With anyone. With a professional management man hired for his organizational capabilities. It's just a change that's needed. Undoubtedly Heaton has done more for parachuting than anyone else in the U.S.A. except for maybe five other guys. However, he doesn't seem to support relative workers and their special interests. RW'ers tend to be scroungy. He thinks their image and actions could give parachuting a bad name and trouble with the FAA. So he discourages us.

**THEM:** That's not true. But even if you were right, who could replace Heaton? Who would want the job? It's a pretty horrible job. Heaton's trying to manage the worst sort of organization -- a membership of people who tend to be dissatisfied with "things" in general. The average USPA member is unstable by definition: generally single, 30 years old or less, male, a strong personality. To work in the office is to hear only complaints. You get to hate to answer the phone. It's always someone with a bitch. You work your ass off and nobody notices. You try your best to keep the skies free for jumping and people only complain. It's not worth it because the job doesn't pay much and everything you do is dictated by a Board of Directors who don't get any of the blame for their mistakes (which are always attributed to you.) Who would work as hard as Heaton does under such ratty circumstances? Replace Heaton and you'd just have a rapid succession of replacements.

**US:** Perhaps this negative attitude you speak of is fostered by Heaton's character. Maybe he has created his own environment.

**THEM:** That is all wrong.

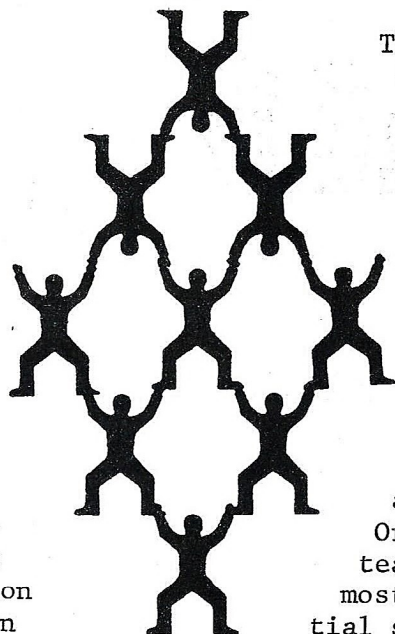
**NOTE:** There is no conclusion to this fable. Because, unless you, as a USPA member, cast your vote in this election, then Apathy -- not Heaton, not the BOD -- controls sport parachuting.

**Skygod...continued** is all about. So, be friendly and helpful to novices, not because you are basically a nice guy, but because you can help build a positive attitude in the sport that will help us grow ... and build bigger and better stars. Or diamonds and wedges.





# Other-than-Star Relative Work

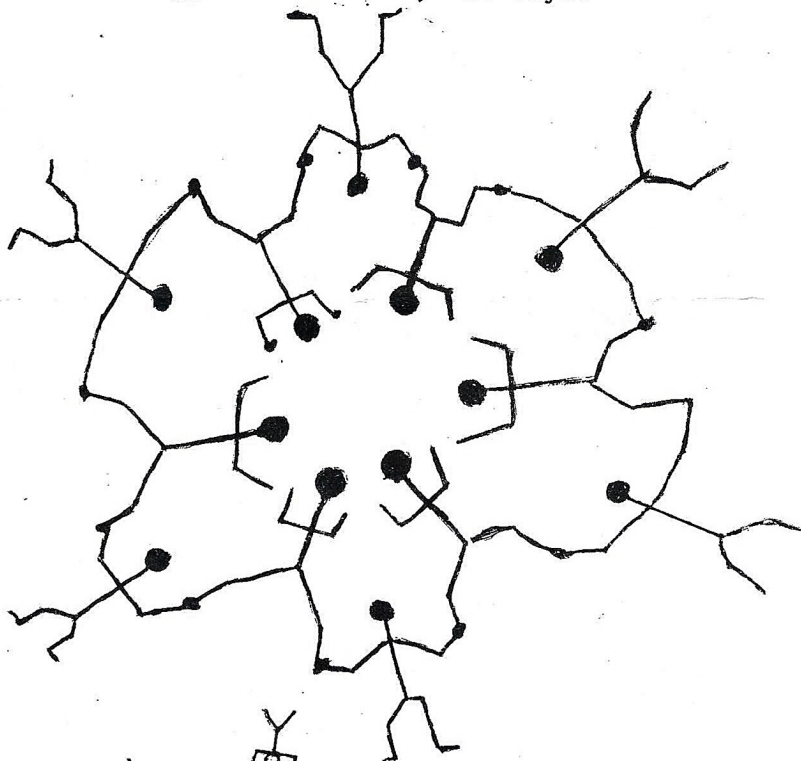


Formations have attracted the interest of Allan Banfield in South Africa who sent us a sketch of a large formation he thought up. "I haven't seen drawings or pictures of anything similar so I'm hoping that it is original. Perhaps you can get a crew to build it and send me a photo -- if it hasn't been done yet. We don't have a regular large aircraft here for our RW freaks to get it together."

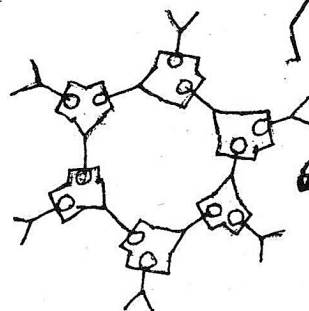
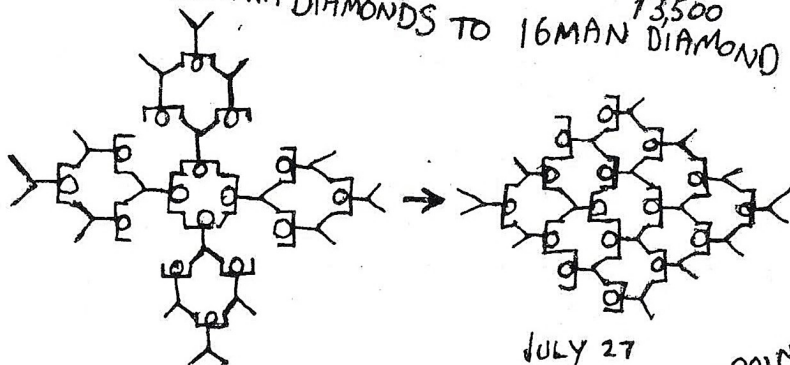
Allan calls it a 12-man Broken Cluster and suggests putting the guys with the long arms in the back row. Here it is, and if it's been done -- let us know so we can let him know. If not, try it and let us know how it goes.

Here are more maneuvers and formations sent us by Gruber Gorman (see last issue.) These were performed by the Seattle group this past summer. Seattle is also a major center of non-round RW; they have a large formation team.

The formation reproduced at left was sent us by Jack DeChristopher, SCR-1426. It illustrates not only a 9-man diamond formation, but also the nifty rubber stamp he and his team use to plan and illustrate their jumps. "I'm a firm believer that RW can be furthered by visual aids in order to make the organizing process easier and more understandable. We use a freefall rubber stamp and cardboard cut-outs to plan our RW," he says. Jack has these stamps available for \$5.00. If you want one, his address is 1648 E. 24th Ave., Eugene, Oregon, 97405. He jumps with the T.R.A.S.H. team from Oregon. "We've been working mostly with 8-11 man formations and sequential stuff and are now breaking into 16-man and bigger formations," he says.

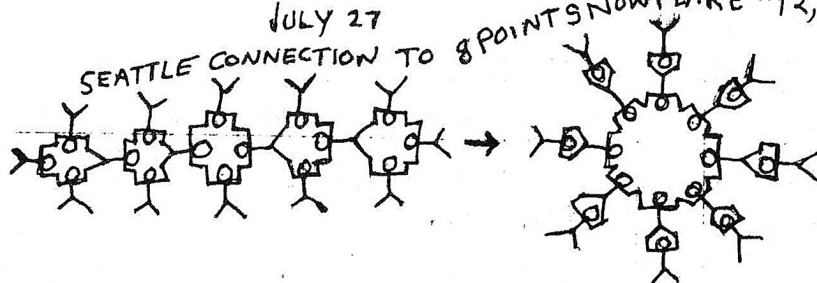


AUGUST 2  
QUADRA DIAMONDS TO 16MAN DIAMOND 13,500



JULY 21  
6POINT DONUT FLAKE 12,500

JULY 27  
SEATTLE CONNECTION TO 8POINTSNOFLAKE -12,500







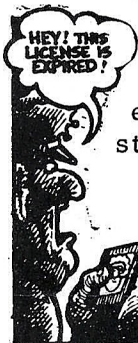
# THE WORLD

## RW COUNCIL IN SOUTH AFRICA

Arland Read wrote us some months ago that an RW Council has been started in his country, South Africa. "...for the sole purpose of promoting this side of the sport. Your mag will help us in passing on many useful hints. We are also trying to get past the stage of the big knobs being demigods who feel they are a select bunch in a secret society."

RWu encourages this attitude. It's what relative work is all about. We can all grow together by sharing ideas. Start an RW Council in YOUR country ... and keep in touch with us.

ILLINOIS, U.S.A., PARACHUTISTS are still facing heavy duty restrictions proposed by the state which will, in effect, make jumping in that state next to impossible.



State licenses, permits, proficiency tests ... that sort of thing. If you jump in Illinois and want to keep it up, write to the House of Representatives in Springfield and tell them you oppose Bill #845 and support the proposals of USPA and your conference director, Dick Giarrusso.

BOISE, IDAHO jumpers are getting into four-man skydives in the absence of a regular Beechcraft, according to Jeff Wragg, SCR-3442, and charter member of the Ickymessajelly 4-man team. "Have a couple of teams going, both with high hopes," he writes.

DELRAY DONUT FACTORY

is the name of another 4-man team with high hopes.

"We are now competing in the Florida Council ...and are going to take a shot at our conference meet and then the Nationals in 75," writes Dick Rapacilo, SCR-694, from Delray Beach, Florida.



## RELATIVE WORK IN FINLAND

Finnish relative workers are making plans for their first national RW championships and looking forward to taking part in the First WPC of RW in Germany, writes Kari Vaahtera of Helsinki.

"At the moment there are three groups of ten in Finland making plans and saving money for next summer. . . The largest star so far in Finland is a 10-man ...The unavailability of large aircrafts is a problem ...Chances are great that even in the 10-man Championships we will have to use a two-aircraft formation.

"In general things look good for relative work in Finland (relatively speaking) ...the students who take parachuting as their sport seem to grow into relative work much better than a couple of years ago. Everyone likes RW the most, but yet there is no kind of discrimination against other types of jumping... Everybody seems to respect other people's ideas and work better than before to help each other. The students are no more left on their own. The more experienced jumpers help them learn, not just to fulfill certain training regulations as before."

Kari also sent examples of a freefall postcard and posters they sell as one way to make money for the Finnish RW Team.

CALIFORNIA'S "OFFICIAL" LARGE STAR ... Frame-by-frame analysis of Jerry Tyson's films of Elsinore's record large-star attempts (contact 31-man on film) reveals that a 28-man flew for 5.88 seconds. This has been submitted to the FAI as "Official" according to the rules of the Sporting Code for record attempts. Exit to entry of #28 took 51.72 sec., #29 was in for 1.94 sec., #30 for 1.72 sec., and #31 contact.



# Why is it?



...that the World's Largest Parachute Meet, with more than 520 competitors present, can be run so much more smoothly -- no hitches, no protests and judging hassles, no problems other than poor weather -- than our National Parachuting Championships which is yearly plagued with gasoline shortages, poor judging and a continuing parade of headaches for competitors and organizers alike?

Quite a few people have pointed out to us that a small staff manages to keep the annual Zephyrhills 10-Man Meet running smoothly. And it makes money for the organizer, too.

U.S.P.A. should consider hiring a professional Meet Director to manage the Nationals for them.

## SPECIAL INTEREST STARS

ALL-BOB 8-MAN in Ohio, reported by Bob Franks, SCR #3119. At the Greene County Circuit Meet in Xenia, Ohio, in September ... all with the first name "Bob."

ALL-POPS 8-MAN at Fort Bragg during the POPS Nationals in August, reported by Maximilian Miensopust, POPS #541. "We POPS are so few and far between that we only get to see enough fellow members to make an 8-man attempt at either a conference meet or the Nationals... After two years of trying we had finally made it. ..There was a cumulative jump total of 7,680. Just to blow your minds, there was also a grand total of 352 years of live experience in that star. ...Who knows what wonderous fate lies waiting our next large all-POPS star attempt. Perhaps an all POPS WSCR!!"

### MOVING DAY

STILL FAR AWAY



The Board of Directors voted this fall to move USPA headquarters to Washington, D.C. ...with a catch, and it's a gigantic one: "As soon as finances permit." According to president Paul Tag, a 3-man executive steering committee will review the organization's financial outlook monthly to determine when the move can best be completed.

Moving is an expensive operation, and while it appears it can't happen soon, we applaud the BOD for recognizing the need to relocate USPA headquarters closer to the center of governmental action. But, don't hold your breath.

## PIGLET PACKING



After the article on new gear appeared in our last issue, several loyal Piglet canopy jumpers hastened to assure us that their favorite canopy (the Piglet II in its own system by Para-Innovators) does not require any more careful attention to packing than other small, lightweight, low profile canopies. So we watched, and it's true. Packs up as easily as the rest of the round canopies. And in fact, I think its opening is more reliable than my PC.

## A FREAKY CORRECTION

THE FABULOUS FLYING FREAK BROTHERS organization (as reported on in the last issue) sent us a new address for applications:

R. W. Nelson, F.B.#2

33 King Arthur Court, #7, Northlake, Ill.

Requirements are: to be in a 4-man with three Freak Bros., or an 8-man with 5 or more Freak Bros., or larger stars requiring at least 3/4 F.B. Applicants should send jump date, location, names & numbers of participating Freak Brothers along with name, address and one dollar.





# RWu Protests Possible WPC Rule Change

Proposals for the official rules to be used at the First World Championships of Relative Work next year are currently circulating among members of the WPC Rules Committee of the CIP. They will be finalized at the committee meeting in Paris in February.



When the German Federal Republic, organizers of the event scheduled for September in Warendorf, announced this past summer that they intended to change the rule regarding participation in both 4-man and 10-man events, it sparked an uproar. The current rules allow a country to enter both events using the same relative workers. Many countries have done so in both World Cups -- at Fort Bragg last year and in South Africa this year. When it was announced that the events would be separated and that an individual would not be allowed to compete in both, Goran Wintzell of Sweden enlisted our help to protest the change. "To us... a club in a small RW country -- it will stop the development of RW not only in the club but also in the whole country, because there are not people in the clubs to put together both 4 and 10-man teams," he pointed out.

RWu wrote many letters to members of the CIP-RW committee and to parachuting publications and relative workers around the world. We feel strongly that an artificial separation of RW at the international level would hinder the growth of our sport the world over. This is particularly important to small countries -- if they are to be fully represented, it is necessary that they be permitted to compete in both events.

We received some very thoughtful correspondence from members of the committee and from other concerned relative workers worldwide. It seems the change was considered for several reasons, including: 1) the organization of the meet would be much simpler if the events were separated, and 2) it was hoped that by separating the events, RW'ers who chose the 4-man event would become much more proficient at it and its quality would improve. (As it is now, many countries that combine their 10-man and 4-man teams concentrate more effort on 10-man and do poorly and inconsistently in the 4-man competition.)

However, it now appears that the majority of the CIP-RW committee members will not agree to separate the 10-man and 4-man events, and the current proposal specifies that competitors may participate in both.

## Lighter Gear + Faster Stars = Longer Freefall Time

Relative work 10-man teams and judges around the country are finding that freefall times are considerably higher than the old 10,500-equals-45 sec. formula usually applied.

The Beechnuts team from Michigan reports, for example, that they average 47-49 seconds of freefall from 8,000 ft. exit to 2,500 ft. opening altitude. And the judges at the recent Rumbleseat Meet in California recorded freefall times averaging 52 seconds from 9,500 ft. to 2,500 ft.

These increases are probably attributable to larger jumpsuits, smaller, lightweight gear, and faster stars. It appears that the faster you build your star, the more freefall time you get.

Time your team. Let us know what kind of freefall times you're getting.







## SKIES CALL

Andy Keech has done a superb thing with his new book, "SKIES CALL." It is the best explanation of parachuting I've ever seen. Words, and mainly, beautiful photographs convey the images and the feelings we all love about our sport.

I'm buying copies for my relatives for Christmas. Now finally, they'll see the beauty of the sport, and understand why. I recommend you get a copy now. You'll be glad you did.

Pat

### RUMBLESEAT MEET... CONTINUED FROM P.1

One unhappy incident was the poor handling of a clearcut rule infraction which later resulted in the withdrawal of two teams. The judges declared that a portion of the first man of one team was clearly seen showing in the door on jumprun. The rules (same as for USPA Nationals) stated that nothing was to be seen in the door for five seconds prior to exit.

The team was the Seagull Squad -- members from Arizona, Utah, and Colorado, and including Jerry Bird. They voted to withdraw from the meet in protest of what they felt to be unacceptably awkward handling of the situation by judges and meet officials. It was after the second round -- they were then in second place, 4.32 sec. behind Capt. Hook. Northern California's North Star team withdrew in sympathetic agreement.

This situation is another indication of a rising tide of dissatisfaction on the part of serious competitors with the quality of the judging encountered not only at local meets, but at the National Championships as well.

RWunderground believes that Jerry Bird was not intentionally cheating. We continue to support his efforts at promoting relative work worldwide. However, when we polled the other competitors at the meet, most of them felt the withdrawal showed a lack of sportsmanship. We agree.

## ...FOR ALL YOU COMPETITION FREAKS...

Get your dates squared away now! Here's the schedule for the 1975 Nationals:

- 10-11 July -- Practice jumping & registration for 4-man and 10-man events
- 12-16 July -- RW team competition
- 17-18 July -- Practice & registration for style and accuracy
- 19-27 July -- Competition for style and accuracy events

The move from June to July for the Nationals will give those Eastern teams a few more welcome weeks of good practice weather. The First World Championships of Relative Work, to which USPA will send a team, are to be held in Warendorf, Germany, September 4-15.

If your team is **SERIOUS** about competition this year ... then check out the special report on the '75 Competition Scene in the December Parachutist. It'll tell you almost everything you need to know, except the date of your Conference meet. You can get that and a copy of the competition rules from your Conference director.

ALSO, encourage your best team timer to go to the Nationals as a Training Judge. Send the names of all the judges in your area you consider **QUALIFIED TO JUDGE RELATIVE WORK** to the Competition Committee. **WE MUST IMPROVE THE QUALITY OF RW JUDGING AT THE NATIONAL LEVEL ... NOT JUST THIS YEAR, BUT EVERY YEAR IN THE FUTURE!!!**

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# How Far is UP?

(A TRUE STORY)

by Pat

SPECIAL  
READER  
BONUS

THERE I WAS, at 12,000 feet. We're flying formation with a Twin Beech. We're in a 182. The crazy pilot is flying us in REAL close. The spotter in the Beech is just giving the "cut" as I step out and fall off the wheel. Goddam! I fell outta the stupid airplane! ...And oh, woe! I'm supposed to be part of a 15-man formation. A 15-person triangle that will grip change into a three-man star inside of a 12-man star, which, if there's time, will become a 15-man star with three people entering from the inside. Horrors, what if everyone gets in but me??? Finally they exit ... slow-motion out the doors far up and far away. Now what in the hell am I gonna do on a solo 60-sec. delay????

In a split second I decide I'm gonna be in that formation. I look straight down and reverse arch til I ache, pulling every trick my skinny body knows about going up. I do this forever, it seems. I've even got my mouth open catching all the air I can. Looking up, NOTHING is in sight. My heart sinks further. More arch! And oh god, I'd just been talking like a plastic Skygod, too ... "I never miss ...blah, blah, blah..."

There, I can see them! ...but they're a long way up and far away. I concentrate on horizontal movement and recovery. Then I'm getting close enough to see colors. I gotta pick out my spot. I'm closing way too fast ... I've built up an amazing amount of horizontal speed. I acutally have to flare and slow down (slow UP?). Spencer, who'd seen me fall, sees me enter and laughs like a madman. We sequence to part of the second maneuver and run out of time.

On the ground, many who had observed the jump wanted to know how I did it. A perfect shot for a heroic rejoinder like, "Oh that ... well, I never miss." But I'd learned too much; I was still stupefied, overwrought with adrenalin. I walked in circles for 30 minutes, sorting it out. "I haven't got the foggiest idea how I did it," I said. But my muscles ached from the strain for two days afterward.

I'd fallen out 3-4 seconds before exit. Think about it. It means you can put out eight floaters with base-pin going out 9 & 10! My physics teacher would be amazed, too.



**Nostalgia Buffs...** You're gonna want a genuine copy of the program printed for the 1974 Annual Rumbleseat Meet at Elsinore recently. It's a real collector's item ... full of historical photographs of every winning team since the first Rumbleseat Meet. (See what Bill Newell looked like "Before" he got to "After." Watch Jerry Bird transform from a clean-cut young man to a real grungy relative worker in only one year.)



There are also articles describing the beginning of 10-man RW competition ... back in 1967 when only two drop zones had ever achieved a 10-man star. You can get a copy by return mail if you send us only 25¢ (for postage & handling):  
RWu, 1656 Beechwood Ave., Fullerton, Ca. 92635

HURRY!! SUPPLY IS LIMITED....



May the Moose  
of Morality  
consume the  
Swampgrass of Sin  
from your  
Quagmires  
of Life!



this



Six outstanding freefall photographers have been awarded the RW Council's Certificate of Merit Award. They join a distinguished list of others who have been recognized for their outstanding contributions to the growth and support of relative work parachuting. Jerry Bird, a roving ambassador for relative work overseas, has been awarded his second Certificate. He is so far the only individual to be thus honored.

The photographers are: Andy Keech, a well-known freefall photographer from Australia. His beautiful book "Skies Call" attests to his unique talent for capturing the unusual, and the beautiful, in relative work parachuting. Andy lives in Washington, D.C.

Ray Cottingham, from Long Beach, Calif. His breathtaking aerial photography of sequential relative work, as performed by jumpers in Seattle and Casa Grande, turned a lot of people on to a new way of looking at relative work. Ray has been shooting freefall film for a number of years.

Carl Boenish, from Los Angeles. He is perhaps the best-known of all freefall photographers -- his beautiful shots are seen in all parachuting magazines, posters, postcards, etc. He shot the 26-man World Record Star in 1972. He produced the popular film, "Masters of the Sky." He has shot zillions of feet of film of relative work, and has also turned his camera on hang-gliding.

Jerry Irwin, from Delaware. He is not only a well-known RW photographer on the East Coast, but a very promotion-minded one as well. His shots have found their way into the general media (newspapers, magazines) where they help bring parachuting closer to home for many people who have never heard of us.

M. Anderson Jenkins, from Whittier, Calif. He shot the World's First 20-Man Night Star -- a remarkable photograph. He has been shooting relative work for a number of years. His photographs have also found their way into the general media.

Peter Böttgenbach, from Germany. He is probably the most well-known European freefall photographer. He filmed the First World RW Cup at Fort Bragg; his photographs grace the pages of many European parachuting magazines. He is working on a new RW film currently.

CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE



# Certificate of Merit ... CONTINUED

Jerry Bird, as captain of the Wings of Orange 10-man team, which represented the U.S.A. at the Second World RW Cup in South Africa this year, and the Columbine Turkey Farm, which won the First World RW Cup in North Carolina last year, has been selected to receive the Certificate of Merit a second time. He has promoted relative work to all of the people he has met in his visits to other countries. He has organized large-star loads, SCR loads and RW training sessions and seminars for groups of relative workers in other countries, including many European drop zones during his visits there this past summer. He is very helpful to other teams, helping them with ground practice, exits, other suggestions at international RW meets.

The RW Council, through its newsletter RWu, awarded the first Certificates of Merit in November of 1972. Since then several notable individuals have been recognized for their support of RW competition or for their contributions to the betterment of our sport. They are:

Chuck Embury  
Joe Garcia  
John Higgins  
Lowell Bachman  
Ted Webster  
Dan Poynter  
Bill Newell  
Skratch Garrison

Jerry Bird  
Chuck Wickliffe  
Ron Haun  
Bill Stage  
Rich Piccirilli  
Bob Westover  
Tom Phillips  
Jim Fogelman

Sam Alexander  
Rod Murphy  
Eilif Ness  
Bob McDermott  
James F. Curtis III

## Astrologically Speaking...

Diane Kelly made a chart of the sun signs of competitors in style & accuracy and in relative work. We thought we'd share the results with you. These percentages were taken at the 1973 National Championships.

	% of style & acc competitors	% of rel work competitors	% of all Nationals competitors (1973)
Aries (3/21)	6.4	10.4	8.2
Taurus (4/21)	10.0	7.0	8.6
Gemini (5/22)	7.8	10.4	8.8
Cancer (6/22)	8.8	17.0	12.2
Leo (7/24)	10.6	11.2	11.0
Virgo (8/24)	7.6	11.2	9.2
Libra (9/24)	12.4	9.0	10.8
Scorpio (10/24)	10.0	9.0	9.6
Sagittarius (11/23)	7.6	5.4	6.6
Capricorn (12/22)	11.2	9.0	10.2
Aquarius (1/21)	9.4	6.0	8.0
Pisces (2/20)	10.6	6.0	8.6



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# coming events

13

December 28-29

SCR SCRAMBLES. Casa Grande, Arizona.

FMI: Mike Larsen (602) 836-1142

P. O. Box 1107, Casa Grande, Az. 85222

February 15-16

SCR-SCS SCRAMBLES. Deland, Florida.

Event #1: SCR-qualified

Event #2: SCS-qualified

Both events from 10,000 ft.; DC-3 jumps; two speed stars and two formations. Entry fee \$35(only cash or travelers checks accepted.)

FMI: Gary Dupuis (904) 734-9803

RR #5, Box 106, Deland, Fla. 32720

March 29-30

2nd ALL-WOMAN PARACHUTE MEET. Pope Valley, Calif.

Event #1: (12-200 freefalls) 4 accuracy: 2 accuracy at 2500 ft., 2 accuracy plus kiss pass at 5200 ft. with a guy (bring your own or use ours). Girl's accuracy only to count. Entry \$33 (girls \$24, men \$9).

Trophies to fifth place.

Event #2: (201+ freefalls) 4 accuracy: same as above.

Event #3: 4-girl team jump. Team entry fee \$60.

1st jump: Star from 7200 ft.

2nd jump: Murphy Star from 7200 ft.

Prize money to 1st and 2nd place teams.

FMI: Tanya McDonald (916) 334-1360

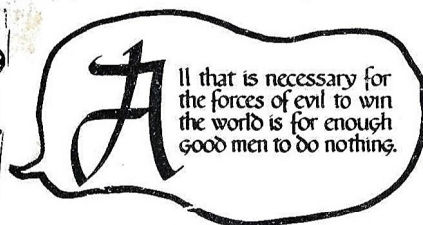
3644 Ohio Lane, North Highlands, Calif.

(or) Pope Valley Parachute Ranch (707) 965-3400



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## RWunderground

Editors: Pat & Jan Works

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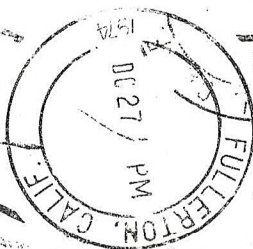


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and for one another,  
and this responsibility  
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imposed on all relative workers  
alike.

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