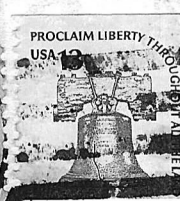


RELATIVE WIND

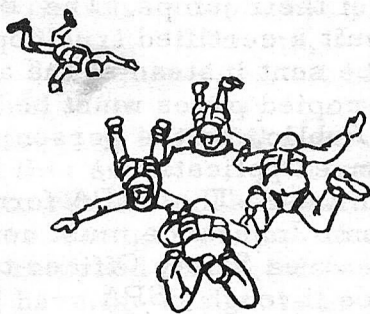
**USPA
WESTERN
CONFERENCE
NEWSLETTER**

**NANC E. GRUTTMAN
EDITOR
FEB '78 VOL. 3**

**RELATIVE WIND
PO BOX 1036
LAKE ELSINORE, CA
92530**



Aerial Enterprise
Unlimited
8989 Pierce Road
Freeland, MI 48623



If I never turned on the TV set, I would never realize what a dangerous sport skydiving really is. Did you happen to catch big DAR STUDDFACE or whatever his name was on Super Stunt? He went out and did relative work with a Steerman with a drogue chute on it. I have never laughed so hard in my life. On his first approach, he went low, totally geeked the pass and crashed off the wing. All the time cameraman Ray Cottingham sat idly by, in perfect position to swoop himself, but exercising immense control by waiting for this turkey to do his act. The first attempt, from 10,500 feet, was unsuccessful. Lee Varvin, narrator of the attempt, punctuated the "action" with such flashes of pure intellect like "It's 80° here on the ground, but at 10,000 feet, it's only 10° above zero, and Dar can only stand on the wing for a few seconds..." or "A few engineers have said that they just don't know what will happen when Dar touches the wing...the aircraft could lose all control." (I pictured that photo of the Beech with all 10 people standing outside of it!)

But in spite of my laughing, griping and envy, Hollywood stunt man Dar (something) made "150 jumps to practice for this stunt", DID leave another aircraft, fly over and climb onto the wing of the Steerman. Yeah, it took him 2 tries, and any one of us could have done it in 10 seconds (!), but He did it, not us.

P.S. Hey, Cottingham....what was it like having to use your parachute and landing in winds gusting to 40 or 50 when a parachute is useless and can slam a parachutist into the ground? Especially when Dar got to land hanging onto the other plane? HOORAY FOR HOLLYWOOD!! THANK GOD FOR THE SIX MILLION DOLLAR MAN!! And lest we forget the Bionic Woman, who, after a 2-man from 18,500 feet, dumps a PC, turns in for a landing, has her canopy turn into a rag and then streamer at 100 feet, dumping her into some trees which were, moments before, a quarter of a mile away. Wow. I'm going to bed.

(Ed. note: Rumor has it from California City that it really took 6 jumps to get the required footage for the show.)



The following is a summary of action taken by the USPA Board of Directors at the Sept. meeting in Washington, DC.

★Helmet Law Revised--Since control over who wears helmets, when, was increasingly more difficult, the Safety & Training Committee recommended the revision of the Basic Safety Regulations so that only jumpers with less than 25 jumps ("A" license) need to wear rigid or halo helmets. The rule, which used to be waivable by an ASO is not waivable now.

★Restricted Licenses--Since several current jumpers have some sort of physical

handicap which prevented them from obtaining a US/FAI license, the BOD voted to issue restricted licenses, which will state on the face of the license exactly what the restriction is, e.g., jumper is blind and cannot spot. The license number will be followed by an "R", i.e., C-7650R. This will enable many skydivers to more fully participate in our sport.

★Mailing in Logbooks--This has posed a problem from the start, because most jumpers are reluctant to mail in their only record of their jumps. The BOD voted to permit a certified true copy of logbooks to be sent instead of the actual books. The copied pages must be signed by a Notary Public, or the person verifying the license application.

★Demo Insurance--The USPA form for acquiring Demo Insurance must now be signed by the Area Safety Officer to obtain insurance through USPA.

★Affiliated Centers and Clubs--These may now send a copy of Parachutist to a local college of their choice, with no cost to the center or club. Contact USPA.

WE HAD A PARTY!!!
(BOY, WAS BYRON SURPRISED!)
by Ragman

Ragman (Dean Frazier, boy Hawaiian jumper), Nancy Frazier, and Toggles "Ragdog" Frazier, hosted a Drop-In Party for all jumpers, wives, girlfriends, relatives, lovers, gigolos, anyone past, present or future in anyway interested or connected with skydiving (the entire sweaty hurd), in Mililani Town, Saturday, 11 June after jumping.

Everyone was there, and the expectation was a celebration of ragman's Gold Wings, and recent Aloha Stadium jump, complete with "blow-away".

In fact, it was a surprise party for Byron E. Black, Mr. Jump Hawaii, who, as owner-operator of Jump Hawaii (a US-PA affiliated jump operation), Hawaiian ASO, Instructor, D license holder, and recently FAA Senior Parachute Rigger, & general all-around BOO-HOO for jumpers in Hawaii, has been the driving force and mainstay behind civilian jumping in the 50th state for the past year.

Against tremendous odds to continue parachuting at a small (and only one available) dropzone right next to the Pacific Ocean, at an airfield buzzing with powered general aviation traffic and gliders, Byron has maintained an excellent rapport with the Feds, and made it so we can jump and have good fun.

Byron has kept the sport alive in Hawaii. He is constantly training new students, setting up demos, writing all the letters, signing off the awards, packing and lugging all the gear, etc., etc., etc.

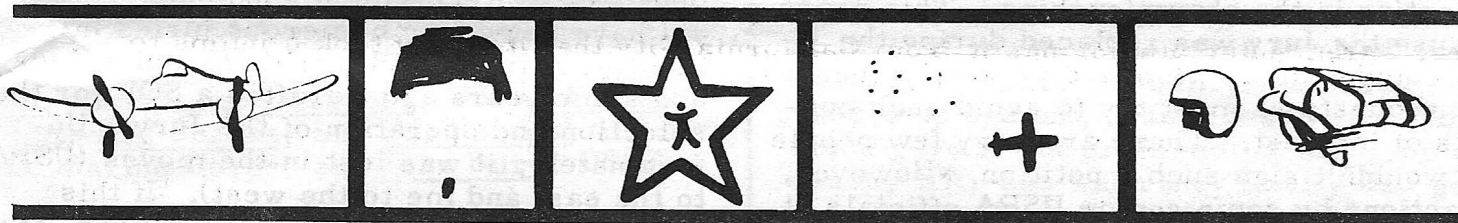
All jumpers in Hawaii desired to express our love and Aloha of appreciation for Byron's excellent work.

We did so formally at the party, with a presentation of a skydiving trophy inscribed simply as follows:

BYRON E. BLACK
MR. JUMP HAWAII
1977

Byron, we love you, appreciate your efforts, and wish you continued success in parachuting.

Jumpers of Hawaii



BOD Notes, Continued...

★The Safety & Training Committee has set up a USPA Rigger Certificate Course which will allow the USPA stamp of approval for Sr. and Master riggers who are involved with sport equipment. The first course, on how to pack a Ram Air reserve, will be sponsored by Para-Flite, Inc.

★Nationals News--Bids were received for the 78 Nationals from two places, Tahlequah, OK and Richmond, Indiana. At this time, Tahlequah does not have plans to lengthen their runway to meet our needs; therefore, it looks like we will be at Richmond this summer. Although many of us want to return to Tahlequah, the DC-3's require a longer runway than T-quah has. If we returned to OK this summer, we could have the nationals stopped at any time by the FAA. Also, the pilots/owners of last year's DC-3's informed USPA they would not return to Tahlequah unless the

runway was lengthened to meet DC-3 operating standards for emergency shut-down.

National Dates--June 23-July 11, 1978
June 23--Style & Acc Practice, June 24-29--Style & Acc Competition, June 28-30--Team RW/Acc Competition, July 1-4--Bogie, July 5--RW Practice, July 6-11--RW Competition. Watch this newsletter & Parachutist for further information.

★Conference Boundaries--Changes were made in the Western Conference, due to problems in co-ordinating the mailing lists with the computer by ZIP code. Therefore, the Western Conf. was extended to include the following: Nevada: 89000-89199, Calif: 90000-93599, Hawaii: 96700-96899. All of Arizona is still in the Western Conference.

★The Judging Committee recommended the following be submitted to receive their FAI Judges rating: Larry Casada, Diane Kelly, Bill Knight, Wayne Noel, Sherry Schrimsher, and Don Strickland. This brings the FAI list to 17 for the USA. Congratulations!

CONFERENCE MEETS

NOTICE!

--Proposed dates: Style/Acc, 6-7 May 78;
RW, 27-29 May 78.

--Proposed locations: I am now accepting
bids for the 78 Conference Meets. DC-3's
will be required for the RW meet.

--FFI: Please contact Nanc E. Gruttman,
PO Box 1036, Lake Elsinore, CA 92330

* '77 nationals

(something to consider)

To the Editor,

One cannot help but become troubled by the Southern California petitions presented during the recent USPA Board meeting in Washington, DC. The Signatories indicated deep anxiety about the conduct of the national championships and certain USPA officials. Unfortunately, the petition drafters neglected to venture beyond the obvious irritant and search deeper for the cause of the problems we experienced in Tahlequah.

One petition requested a ruling that Board members and meet officials be barred from competing in the championships. This arose because the Jury was replaced during the July competition. This is a perfectly reasonable request; we must try to avoid such conflicts of interest. There are very few people who wouldn't sign such a petition. However, the actions by some senior USPA officials at the Nationals were not the problem, they were the necessary reaction and natural result of the problem. The cause of all the trouble was a complete disregard for the rules and a lack of common sense by a jury evidently not qualified for the job.

Juries are not all powerful; they don't write the rules, their job is to interpret them. In courts of law, juries make decisions within strict guidelines from the presiding judge. If they refuse to do so, the judge dismisses the jury, declares a mistrial, and a new jury is selected. In Tahlequah, the Jury apparently let their imagined power go to their heads, as they began to grant frivolous requests for rejumps based, not on the Part 50 Competition Rules, but on the accompanying "Administrative Notes". Now, we must remember that when a merciful jury grants a rejump on a frivolous protest, they are injuring every other competitor in the meet.

We've all been attending and running the Nationals for the last 18 years, and we should credit ourselves for learning some-

thing during that time. At one time, we had every possible thing in our rules and some disappointed competitors would protest items such as the wind sock being 53m instead of the 50m from the target despite the fact that the location was the same for all. In its infinite wisdom, the Competition Committee, composed of many judges, competitors, meet staff, etc., both on and off the Board, separated the meet management check list ("Administrative Notes") from the meet rules. It worked and the number of protests were trimmed considerably.

While clearly marked, the notes and rules were printed in the same document in the current reprint. This year the Jury refused to separate the two despite being informed by numerous people with prior experience in the matter. They were granting rejumps on frivolous protests, injuring all the other competitors & making a mockery of the entire evaluation and appeal process. The Competition Committee met and saved the Nationals by replacing them. Note that the Jury was replaced, not dissolved. The competitors did not lose their right to a jury, they benefited by receiving a good one.

I have served on numerous juries in both the national and world championships and some years ago I drafted a SOP for the selection and operation of the Jury. Unfortunately, it was lost in the moves (USPA to the east and me to the west). If this document had been available this year, the jury might have been selected differently, they might have understood their responsibilities better and the petition and this letter would not have been necessary.

The Competition, Judging and Executive Committees are working on safeguards to insure that this cannot happen again. Additionally, I am redrafting the jury SOP. To be fair, we should all remember that this jury problem has never occurred before in the 18 years of the nationals. There was no good reason to expect that it might happen.

So let's give credit where it is due. Let's find the real cause of these problems and work together to correct them. As long as we have competitive events, there will only be one winner, everyone else loses. But we do have the right to expect the one winner will be selected fairly.

Dan Poynter

Chairman of the Board

* ANOTHER view

To the Editor:

On behalf of the majority of the "dismissed" jury, I thank you for the opportunity to respond to Dan's letter. His remarks attempt to get a great deal of unwarranted mileage from the terms "frivolous re-jumps" and "frivolous protests". Any of your readers with enough sense to differentiate between their main and reserve ripcords will have noticed that his letter to you does not describe anything specific. This is an age-old tactic used in this case to play down a shameful act and keep the jumping membership tranquil and therefore in their place.

Specifically, Dan refers to a rejump given to a team which filed a Jury Protest (and I remind your readers that a protest reaches the Jury only after it has been denied by the Judges and is accompanied by a healthy fee) in such a manner that we were able to substantiate through our investigation that the viewing angle afforded the Judges was so great as to prevent the team from being judged fairly. It is true that our decision was based upon "Administrative Notes", a section of Part 50. But what Dan fails to tell you or your readers is the Jury acted upon the Administrative Notes only after (a) The Event Judge had allowed a protest from the same section and the same specific point (viewing angle); (b) The Event Judge and Jury met to discuss the precedent and (c) The Event Judge, the Jury, and the Meet Director (RW) met to discuss the precedent and make a formal decision. The decision was that we were to rule on "Administrative Notes". In this particular protest, the Jury allowed a re-jump. Dan, of course, neglects to tell you and your readers that other protests which could not be substantiated to our satisfaction on this "frivolous" viewing angle were not allowed.

His letter implies that the Jury handed out many, many re-jumps. In point of fact, the Jury awarded only 3 re-jumps. It was the third re-jump which brought the wrath of the gods down upon our heads. It gets a bit complicated, so your casual readers are excused from reading any further.

The Sky Pirates, in 4th place, filed a protest against Sea Gull, in 2nd place. Specifically, they claimed that Sea Gull had made 3 of their jumps from their home DC-3, and were about to board their aircraft for a 4th when howls of protest (there's that word again) went up from other jumpers. The information furnished the Jury addressed itself to a

number of points within Part 50. Please note that their protest had nothing to do with Administrative Notes. It also had nothing to do with the size of the DC-3 doors. BUT there were astounding differences with the aircraft interiors. For example, some fuselages were literally gutted, while others had bulkheads by the exit door, some had luggage racks on the "line-up" side which would inhibit the movements of a team member over 5'10". In short, if one team were to make most of its jumps from one aircraft, or an aircraft it had practiced in before the Nationals, it would place the other teams at a disadvantage. It was this aspect the Jury addressed itself towards. There were other facets in the Sky Pirates' protest, & the Jury investigated the entire protest. We paid particular attention to the written records of the Manifest Section. We awarded a re-jump. Being awarded a re-jump and getting to actually make a re-jump are two different things, as the Sky Pirates (and the Jury) were to learn. Because it was at this point that the world went a little crazy. "Gentlemen, the feces have engaged the blades" as Nemo Cretz used to say.

It didn't take one particular member of Mirror Image very long to realize that if the Pirates were to make a re-jump and turn a time of less than 20 seconds, they would move certainly from the 4th to 3rd place. This would not do, especially since Image, while "only" in 3rd place for 10-man, was in good contention for 1st place Overall (10, 8, and 4-man).

"I'm just here as one of the guys," the member was heard to repeat many times during competition. I suggest that the member is far too modest; in real life, beneath that "one of the guys" mask is our own President of USPA: Curt Curtis! (Hark! Trumpets in the distance!) And if there was one shining message delivered to the Sky Pirates and the Jury at Tahlequah 77, it was this: Thou Shalt NOT Endanger the President's Medals.

Shortly after the Jury posted its notice of an awarded re-jump, things began to cook. We were to learn that there are several ways to get around the section of Part 50 which declares that the Jury decisions are final and not subject to appeal.

We were summoned to appear before the Competition Committee. It seemed not to matter that the majority of the Committee

was not present. There were, I believe, only 3 at the meeting. Every possible attempt was made by Jerry Rouillard to invalidate the protest. First, he tried to claim the protest was submitted too late. I replied that it was submitted within the 60 minute cut-off time after posting of the last score from the event. My source for this was Event Judge Major Bohringer. Then, he tried to claim the protest was over door size; I replied it was not. Rouillard brought up other points, mostly frivolous (thanks for the word, Dan). I reiterated the Jury's integrity, and reminded him that while I was from the home DZ of the Pirates, the other jury member, jeanni McCombs, and the Jury President, C.M. Solis were from the home DZ of Mirror Image, the President's DZ.

Rouillard then said "If we allow this protest, we will have to re-run the entire event!" My reply was (a) no other protests were allowable because of the 60 minute cut-off time--the same rule Rouillard tried to use to break off the Sky Pirates, and (b) if USPA set up an event so shoddily then it was fitting that the event be re-run.

Rouillard replied heavily, "Mike, there is the right way, the wrong way, (So help me God, I thought he was going to say, 'the Army way!'), and the real world way. When the meet is over you Jury Members will not have to answer to anyone. But I have a Board of Directors to answer to, I have a constituency to answer to!"

My final comment to Rouillard was 3 fold and I said, "I don't think you can do wrong by doing right; the Jury's decision is final and stands; and as to who you have to answer to, I suggest you first have to answer to 200 plus competitors outside this door. You seem to have forgotten we have gathered here to serve them--not be served by them." The Jury left to allow the meeting to continue on in private. Shortly thereafter, Rouillard came up to us and declared us to be only an "interim" jury and fired us. (The other two members of the Competition Committee involved in this decision were also competitors in the RW event. --Ed. note.)

I asked him if he didn't think that was a bit hypocritical in view of the fact that the Jury had been selected over 6 months ago. I also commented that we did not accept his decision or authority in the matter; however, the irony of that was lost on him and he walked away.

A new "Jury" was convened and to under-

score the hypocrisy and raise tokenism to new heights, the fired jury president, C. M. Solis was allowed to play. But only as a member--not as president. C.M.'s health had been failing and on the day of the giant rip-off, Jim Hovda, our paramedic had been administering oxygen to him.

The reaction of the Pirates was understandably strong and astoundingly well controlled. But on the other hand, your ordinary readers would expect this of World Champions. There were several tight jawed conferences with Jack Bergman, USPA Treasurer and over-all Meet Director. Bill Stage, RW Meet Director, began to demonstrate his true colors by doing everything possible to keep the actual re-jump from being made, while simultaneously promising the Pirates to do everything possible to allow it to be made.

Finally, with time running out on the Pirates, they put forth this idea: "Let us make a jump and have it judged. If the re-jump is allowed, enter our time from the jump; if it is not allowed, call our jump a "fun jump" and we will pay for it."

Stage rose to the occasion by quickly saying the judges were off duty. The judges replied heavily they would time anything that appeared in their telemeters. Stage, in a noteworthy recovery backed water and said Bergman would have to approve it. Poteet and Miller of the Pirates asked Stage in my presence if Bergman approved the jump would Stage do the same? Cornered, Stage said he would. Bergman approved the jump and Stage then replied he wanted to investigate further! It was clear that the plan was to run the Pirates out of time and wait until they had to disband and return to their jobs in California. That plan worked. It was a scene right out of Hunter S. Thompson's Fear and Loathing in Las Vegas.

I wrote earlier of shameful acts. Please understand I am not particularly upset that 3 individuals on a Jury were fired. The shame is that an entire Jury was fired because its decision would trouble a team that had for a member the President of USPA; the shame is that there exists a power elite within USPA that is so entrenched that it can spit upon any person or group in the membership. We have been hearing about these exploitations for years and when that occasional single voice is raised in protest, he is pushed

aside as a disgruntled sniveler. USPA, with my help (and others), drove out Lyle Cameron long ago. I wonder now if I owe Lyle an apology? I think I probably do, and this is it.

The 77 Nationals is now just a memory, but the mechanism that damaged the Sky Pirates is still alive and unhealthy. It's waiting for you, or your whole team; it comes with a smile and it strikes you where the sun doesn't shine. My only reason in writing this "guest editorial" is to make you ask questions. Question the Pirates if you see one; question the "interim" jury members, QUESTION USPA. The only concession USPA has made so far was to admit at the BOD meeting that the fired "interim" jury was indeed selected properly. B.F.D.

Ed Miller of the Pirates confronted Pres. Curt Curtis after the debacle. Tight jawed, yet under control, he questioned Curtis closely about his actions. Arms waving, Curtis exploded: "I'm sick and tired of all these questions!" Miller's reply seemed to speak for all of us: "Curt Curtis, I've lost all respect for you. The only thing I want to know is: would you have called a special meeting of the Competition Committee over our protest if your team or our team had been in 10th place? I fucking doubt it!"

And where was National Director Dan Poynter while all this was going on? Where was that very informed gentleman who wrote that cleverly worded little speech that preceded what you have just read, elsewhere in this newsletter? Why, he was standing next to the tallest hill in Okla., at the Nationals. The National Hang Gliding Championships, that is. It's true, sports fans, rather than be with you, he chose hang gliders. I wonder if the National Director was wearing his "Please Buy My Book" T-shirt? You might remember that shirt come the next election.

M. Anderson Jenkins, A1824

To The Editor: Please print the following letter which I have sent to the BOD of USPA.
Sept 13, 1977

Dear Directors:

After 5 days of busy and undisputed jury duty at the 1977 US Nationals, I was very disappointed in the unadmirable behavior of the Competition Committee who summarily dismissed the jury because they did not agree with one unanimous decision to authorize a rejump warranted by the protest, the judges' scoresheets, and the rules. The regulations (Part 50) were tampered with and the rejump was disallowed.

As a member of USPA since 1960, a com-

petitor and former team member, my integrity was violated, and I request a full investigation together with a closer watch on those elected officials who administer the rules of our sport.

Norwithstanding my disappointment, I will continue to support my first love, Sport Parachuting.

Respectfully and honestly,
jeanni McCombs

1977 US Nationals Jury Member

"Jury: a group of people sworn to hear evidence in a dispute and to give a decision.

---Webster's Dictionary

awards

We have several members who have earned USPA's highest awards in recent months. Please join me in congratulating:

Bill Pyle--10 year pin

D-Rey--Gold Wings

Ron Delmazzo--Gold
Wings, 12 Hr FF

Ed Miller--Diamond
Wings, 10 yr pin

Bud Krueger--Gold
Wings, 12 Hr FF,
10 year pin

Tom Bunce--12 Hr FF

Frank Radford--Gold
Wings, 12 Hr FF

Bob Nelson--Gold Wings

Mitch Poteet--Gold
Wings, 12 Hr FF

Steve Fielding--Gold
Wings

Mike Blood--Gold Wings,
12 Hr FF

Shinichiro "Ito"--Gold
Wings, 12 Hr FF

Larry Fatino--12 Hr FF

Ron Haun--Diamond
Wings

"Godflicker"--12 Hr FF

Ty Zellers--12 Hr FF,
10 year pin

Bob Hudson--Gold Wings

James Bilsborrow--10
year pin

Dean Frazier--Gold Wings

Flip Holstein--Diamond
Wings

☆NEVADA

Nevada jumpers started the new year off right with a new Nevada record--a 16-man quadra-pod, reports Harold Acheson, ASO. The record was made possible when Larry Patterson brought down his DC-3 from Cedar Valley, so the jumpers could all exit from the same aircraft--something unique for Nevada record attempts. The lucky participants: Sam Larson, Doug Devries, Cheryl Rowe, Shawna Eva, Wayne Snyder, Al Turner, Peggy Newman, Jim Johnson, Larry Bagley, Karen Collette, Hank Barber, Barry De Pola, and Harold Acheson. The other 3 participants were last seen hopping off into the Nevada desert in ecstasy before anyone could record their names.

The local skydivers were very happy with their new Twin Beech, but when it crashed (fortunately, no one was hurt), it set back their hopes for Beech-Cessna 182 formations.

John Miller and Judy Marshak earned their SCR's at Elsinore SCRambles--it's about time!!! Congratulations!

Colleen Dalton's first hook-up with Al Turner went well; first 3-man with Bruce Smith and Dave Holmes did fine, also. But, when she attempted a 4-woman with Judy Marshak, Carol Maxfield and "Mel" Alexander, they had 4 one woman stars. (Ed. note: Such is often the fate of women's attempts--take it from one who knows!)

New "C" license holders: "Mel" Alexander, Russ Maxfield and Phil Agee. Congrat's.

A short lesson for all jumpers: If you wiegh about 214 pounds, NEVER try to make a W.R.I.S.T. landing. Bobby A. will be in a cast for a couple of months, folks.

Bob Steenerson and Dawn Arbogast have transplanted themselves to Santa Monica, CA, so this is the last time their names will appear under the Nevada title of this column. Bye to Bob and Dawn from the Nevada jumpers! They all wish you well.

☆ARIZONA

Coolidge has been a very busy place, with the Halloween Ghoulidge Meet, the Thanksgiving Turkey Meet (West Coast Style) and the Women's Record Attempts & Boogie recently. Sally Rogers represented the local ladies in the new 20-woman world record formation which was made at her home DZ. It certainly was a busy weekend, with a lot of jumps for people who participated in the Third Alternative event, plus some interesting ones for the women on the record attempts.



Marana Skydiving Center has opened up again. Perhaps some of you old timers will remember when Marana hosted a nationals several years back. Tony Frost reports that they have a restaurant, bar (for AFTER jumping recreation), pool, motel, tennis court, and skeet range. (Sounds a bit like Pope Valley) They have a Twin Beech, with music on board, padded & carpeted interior, and good rates--\$8 for 12,500', \$7 for 10,500' \$5 for 7,500'. The atmosphere is healthy and they welcome visitors. You can contact Tony or Greg Behrens for further info at: (602) 622-3671, ext 266 or 311.

Ft Huachuca jumpers claimed the first jump of 1978 when two soldiers, SP5 Lawrence B. Quevedo and CPT Larry M. Wortzel made a jump at the stroke of midnight over the Ft Huachuca Gold Course.

Jim Morton from Sierra Vista really gets around! He has been reported to be seen in all parts of Arizona, plus California. But that is nothing, compared to what he plans to do! Jim is going to do a one-month tour of the USA, stopping in every state to make a jump. That's going to be some trip! He has been working on several JCC's and ICC's in Arizona, filling a much needed service for Arizona jumpers who desire these ratings. Jim, himself, is currently working on an IE rating--no easy feat.

Howard Manguin (Douglas AZ) has rec'd his "C" license and JM rating, while Larry Wortzel (of midnight jump fame) earned his JM rating, also. Jim Morton and Howard Manguin jumped thier squares into the Mexican Independence day celebrations at Douglas, AZ.

The Golden Eagle Parachute Ranch (Hereford, AZ) contributed to the Jerry Lewis Muscular Dystrophy Telethon by providing Sport Parachute demonstrations for 1 1/2 days in Sunizona, AZ. Approx. \$13,000 was raised. Good Job!

8 SUBSCRIBE TO THE RELATIVE WIND!

Yuma, AZ, has a new parachute club. Anyone in the area who might be interested, contact Richard Elliott, PO Box 3445, USAYPG, Yuma, AZ 85364. He will be glad to hear from you and give you any info you want about the club.

☆HAWAII

Sub-conference Director, Jim Grimes, had to resign, since he was transferred to Ft. Bragg, NC. Frank Sammis has taken over the Sub-conference Director responsibilities.

Hawaii recently had a new large formation-- a 14-man formation! Congratulations to the islanders. Canopy RW is growing slowly & cautiously, as ASO's have placed a "D" license requirement and minimum of 100 jumps on the canopy before anyone can attempt.

Lee Dunlap broke his leg at Dillingham recently, guess that keeps him out of the sky for a while!

Byron Black, Mr. Jump Hawaii, reports that several of his friends accompanied him to the big island of Hawaii, where they did a first jump course and JM'ed 5 new students for a club that is just starting. Also, Jump Hawaii is in the market for a Twin Beech (D-13 or C-45).

An ICC provided 6 new Instructors for Hawaii. Please join me in congratulating: Gordon Tipton, Carl Phillips, Alton Goss, Frederick Bursey, Frank Morrison, and John Damoth.

Flip Holstein and a whole crew of Hawaiian jumpers appeared at Elsinore for the SCRambls. They particularly wish to thank Ed Miller and Dan Smith who introduced them to many jumpers at Elsinore, and helped them get on outstanding loads.

Art Ybara did a fantastic demo, according to Rupert Lopez, ASO, at the town of Hilo. Thanks to Art, 8 top notch skygods rec'd outstanding ovations from the audience, plus complimentary meals "and things". (What I want to know is what the "and things" were! -Ed. note) Rupert also has informed me of what an outstanding job the Hawaii Para-Council has been doing with fun-jump weekends, pig roasts, etc. Demos are really popular, as Hawaii's biggest canoe race in the Akua Canal was the site for a demo for a few of Hawaii's finest skydivers. Rupert, himself, is just recovering from a series of operations on his ankle, and hopes to be back in the air shortly.

It's always good to hear what's happening over there, so keep up the good work, you jumpers and let us know how it's going!

The SCRambls at Elsinore attracted several islanders, and a lot of jumpers earned their 16-man's: Drew Hurley (also got an SCS), Dan Shinder (also got an SCS), Mike Salmons, Roy Zinna, Jim Lathrup, Anne Uhrig, and Flip Holstein, (also got his first 20, 24, and 29-man stars). Leonard Mix got his SCR, and Kai Shipley (still on student status at the time) got to watch it all.

☆CALIFORNIA

Taft jumpers are really getting around these days, after overcoming mechanical flu that hit all their cars, they were able to attend the Elsinore SCRambls and the women's record attempts at Coolidge. Ron Shipe has been seen frequently at these DZ's with a few of his compadres. Taft had a high altitude weekend a while back, with jumpers going to 20,000'. The largest thing they had was a 6-man before it was bombed. They used a super-charged version of a Beech to do it. Carl Algee, famous for his ram-air handling, spent several months in the hospital, and is only recently able to get around with a cane, after his ParaPlane (?!) decided it wanted to land before he did. We are all going to be happy to see Carl back in the air with us one of these days. Ron Shipe told me to warn everyone that "if you ever on a load with Bill Parsons spotting, you may as well be wearing your hiking boots and have a survival kit with you!" Bill Newell is jumping again! Ed Armstrong has a new star in his family, his name is Walker.

Cal City is still in operation, mostly local people, but friendly to visitors!

Edwards AFB has a new jump club, with Rick Laws and Wayne Feldman doing the JM routine and Bob Zinn assisting with instruction.

Perris Valley Paracenter has been booming--a pool, new hanger, restrooms, the whole shot. Ben & Diane Canister are working hard there, and Audrey Jackman has recently joined their staff. Brief notes: Mary Anderson got to air out her reserve a while back--ask her about it. Bill Venegas broke a bone in his back at an accuracy meet at Perris, hope he's healing well! Tim Long made his 200th FF at Parker, AZ, when the Perris Beech flew there to jump. Jim Wilkins flew the Beech to 12,500' in 14 1/2 minutes! Nord Peterson got a belated pie in the face after his birthday. By the time Mathew Fickling got off student status, he had EARNED IT!!!

Bob Celeya is still after Bob Jones' sock. Bill Stage and Tim Long were operating full time--in a booth at the LA Sports Arena, assisting them were: Joyce Wolfson, Mary Anderson and Jim Wilkins. The booth was interesting to work, according to Bill Stage, who ought to know--he's done a lot of that!!

Elsinore Paracenter has been the site of a lot of record attempts. Night stars, night women's records, no jumpsuit loads, nude record attempts, large formation attempts, etc. When Steve Parker set up the ground rules for the Night World Record Attempt, he did an outstanding job of organizing the load. One of the items on his list was: "Safety--No drugs, wires or mirrors". Al Frisby stood by and watched several no-jumpsuit loads go up and decided to go them one better--he organized a world record nude jump. Unfortunately, he couldn't get it to be official--he was requiring nude judges, and you know what conservative people judges are! There were 8 new NSCR's on the all-woman night record attempt. Not bad, considering there were only 11 women on the load. The jump was 100% and many happy faces unseen in the dark when they all safely landed. Even your own Conference Director got her NSCR (despite rumors she is afraid of the dark & would never have a NSCR). Organizers: Sally Miller & Wendy Neustrup. The LA Times should get a dubious journalistic award for their outstanding coverage of the 50-man attempts--when they printed a huge 9"xl1" photo of the attempt--upside-down. Al Krueger, event organizer, plans another attempt for early March, with practice loads for the "front 30" during the weekends prior to the attempts.

Vicki Wery has been a human whirlwind while working on the Women's Record Attempts for Coolidge. She quite possibly has personally talked to every woman skydiver in the entire country since she started all this. Her efforts were rewarded when several new womens records were set, (more to come later).

Mary Wolfrank seems to be holding her own on all the large formations lately--as the only woman repeatedly asked back for the next load. Keep up the good work, Mary!

Don Hansen is back at again--getting a team together for the Rumbleseat Meet. And even the Sky Pirates are getting back together for this one! Yes, it's true, Mitch Poteet, Al Krueger, Leo Orlovski, Bruce Krueger, Bud Krueger plus some other faces from the past will get together to go for the gold one more time. It will be a meet worth watching.

Nick Lucas of Exitus has been spending some time out here, amazing everyone with his ram-air deployment system. No pilot chute, just a toggle on the nose of his square, which he pulls out, it starts to inflate, and he lets go. It is free-packed and seems to be working well for him. All these new-fangled things sound pretty scary to me!!

Jerry Hartman, Larry Fatino's assistant at Elsinore, has had his logbooks removed from the area by person or persons, unknown. There were approximately 350 jumps in them, and he requests that everyone be on the alert for them, especially if someone tries to pass them off as their own in order to jump.



Belated Correction...

jeanni McCombs, that illustrious lady from the North has informed the Editor that we had incorrect information in our last newsletter--remember that one? Yes, it was a long time ago. She informed me that The Flying Circus was NOT the first to jump at the Anaheim Convention Center. She opened the Convention Center with her "traveling demo team" and was paid by the Anaheim Chamber of Commerce to do it--on 12 July, 1967. With her was Lyle Cameron and Paul Henley (with two legs), and she carried a 12'xl8' flag that said, "We're Proud of It, Too! -- Anaheim Chamber of Commerce"

So, we have given credit where credit is due. And wish to thank jeanni for setting the record straight. Better luck next time, Pat!

CHANGE OF ADDRESS???

Please let me know, I received numerous newsletters back from the last mailing, and would appreciate knowing if you have moved since last June. It is expensive to mail these out and to have to remail them a second time.

Thanks for the help!



Canadian Boogie
By Scotty Gallan
D3584, SCR 2355
SCS 3589, USPA ASO

Labor Day Weekend, Goodrich, Ontario, Canada, was the site of the 1977 Canadian Boogie. The Boogie was co-sponsored by the Godrich Old Timers who act as a fund-raising group for the local international hockey team. Randy Radigan was the co-ordinator for the event. Two DC-3's were used the first day, backed up by a Lockheed Lodestar on the second day. A lack of large aircraft in the Midwest US and Canada attracted 480 registered jumpers. With a minimum of 100 jumps required to participate, there were predominantly 10-30-man loads, attempting both sequential and rounds. The wedges and quadradiamonds were the most popular formations for these RW fans, with all sorts of "Why don't we try this..." formations in between.

Jumpers were attracted from all over the East Coast & Midwest, as well as Canada for this 3 day event. Due to poor weather, the last day was cut short. Initially, the cost was \$3 for a 12,500' jump, however, the pilots of the DC-3 were commercial pilots who were being paid hourly, and they flew to altitude and back so slowly that the altitude was limited to 10,500' during the first day. The second day brought the Lodestar, which permitted them to go back to 12,500' and a price increase to \$6 with the additional altitude.

A scrambles atmosphere was present, so that everyone had the opportunity to jump with strangers and old friends as well. There were a couple of organized teams who participated, plus segments of some familiar names of teams through the country.

The most amazing thing was the predominance of square parachutes, with very few Paradactyls or Piglets.

Location: an old RAF Airport. Green grass everywhere, a truly unfamiliar sight to most of us Western Conference jumpers. The packing area was grass, adjacent to the runway. There were camping facilities within close reach of everything.

Canadian rules for parachutists are very similar to ours, except they are permitted to pack their own reserves, plus they have a repack cycle of 120 days. Everyone has GIANT jumpsuits, but not super-small gear which is familiar to most of us. Everyone was friendly, and looked forward to this 3

day festival with great anticipation. When things started to get rolling, there was a problem with lack of aircraft, so they initiated a quota system, with everyone who was manifested making a jump before anyone would be able to make a second jump that day. After the initial reaction to this, everyone felt it was fair. Most people were able to make 2 jumps on the first day and 3 jumps on the second day.

The all-Canadian largest formation record was broken when they made a 28-man formation on Sunday afternoon. The event drew out lots of spectators from the local area. They were very friendly to all the jumpers and even applauded when they landed. The local populace was also very cooperative in giving victims of bad spots rides back to the airport.

Sunday night was a special occasion with a party for everyone with hamburgers and a corn roast. Beer was a bit scarce when they only had 20 cases for the 480 jumpers who were there. Private supplies filled the void until rain dampened the party around 11 p.m.

Large star attempts (including a 60-man attempt) were scheduled for Monday, but poor weather called a halt to these. Despite the "ungrand Finale" everyone enjoyed themselves, making new friends and jumping with old ones, Americans & Canadians together for a good time.

notes

by Nanc E.



I was tempted to entitle this issue the "It's About Time Issue". Yes, this copy is definitely a late one, and I wish to extend everyone's subscription date by 6 months to make up for it. So, provided all goes well, you should get an issue every two months from now on. Thanks for your patience!

Although most of you have my new address and phone number, here they are in case you don't: PO Box 1036, Lake Elsinore, CA 92530; (714) 674-4367. I have an answering machine, so you can reach me or leave a message 24 hours a day by telephone.

The next issue will be out at the end of April, with more news on the nationals, plus highlights of the BOD meeting which is 17-19 March at Salt Lake City. I would appreciate any articles, letters, ads, etc., you might want to contribute.

Nanc

dope & Jumping!

by Jamey Woodward



Competition Committee News
from Mountain Memo

(Ed. Note: This is taken from the Northwest Conference newsletter, The Hot Swoop; provided to give you some insight into how this problem is being handled in other parts of the country.)

It has come to my attention that an ever-increasing number of people have been involved in drugs/alcohol and then jumping. While it seems to me that common sense would preclude this sort of thing, apparently this is not the case.

Northwest Conference policy is as follows:
"No alcoholic beverages or drugs will be taken prior to, during, or immediately following parachuting activities. Infractions will be dealt with severely:

1. Upon initial discovery, 30 days grounding minimum.
2. Repeated instances will ground you for life in the Northwest Conference.

I'm not going to try to tell you what to do with your life EXCEPT when it involves sky-diving. If you are so inclined, drink or smoke after the jump, away from the airport facilities. That way, if you kill yourself, it won't reflect on the sport.

I have informed the Northwest Conference ASO's, CSO's and Owner-Operators that "smoking" or drinking prior to jumping will not be tolerated. These individuals are empowered to put you on the ground for as long as they please, or until you get the idea that it's a nasty no-no. If you're not doing it, then I'm sure you'll appreciate jumping with people who are straight. If you are doing it, knock it off.

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After Pres. Curtis appointed Larry Bagley, Mountain Conf. Dir., as the Competition Committee Chairman, he went into committee session with the committee members: Jerry Rouillard, Tony Fugit, Bill Ottley, Bill Hayes and Ed Mosher. Their task was to rewrite USPA Part 50. The following changes resulted:

Four-man TRAC has been written into Part 50 as a national event. Teams do not have to qualify at the conference level. The RW portion is international sequential & the scoring system is Canadian (team is rated in relative work & separately in accuracy).

Any current or past US team member can compete at the US Nationals without qualifying at the conference level.

The minimum performance requirements for a stylist to compete at the nationals has been changed from 10.5 to 12.0 seconds.

Besides the conference meets, All-Military Meet, and the National Collegiate Meet, jumpers in all facets of competition can demonstrate their ability to the conference director at a place & time of the director's choosing. They will have to meet the minimum performance requirements on a set number of jumps (depending on the competition).

The penalties in the style are back to what they were; minor--0.3 seconds, major--0.8 seconds. Also in style, the time will be rounded off to the nearest 100th second.

The ten man exit altitude at the nationals is now 7,500 feet and other than the no-show exit rule, the exit is unrestricted. Should the team choose, they can jump from 5,500'.

All wind speeds in the weather section are now referenced meters per second and miles per hour.

In the classification of the final results, the individual combination winner will be determined by adding the total distance of jumps made in accuracy with 1/2 the average style.

There are now 2 classes in accuracy & style: All jumpers who have rec'd an acc. score average or style score average in national or international competition will be placed in the Masters class. All others will compete in the Senior class.

The SOP section of Part 50 will be preceded by: THE FOLLOWING ADMINISTRATIVE NOTES & JUDGING PROCEDURES (SOP 50-1 thru 50-5) ARE FOR PROCEDURAL GUIDANCE ONLY & WILL NOT BE BASIS FOR A PROTEST.

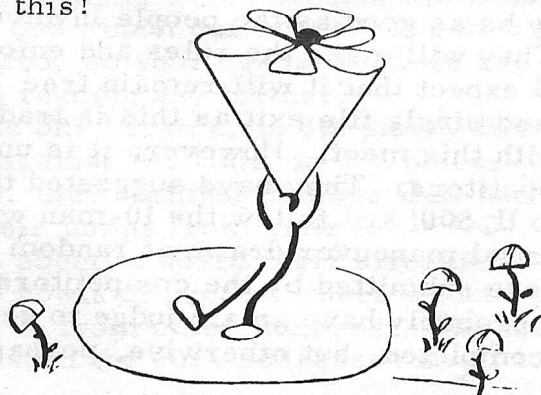
A 20-woman formation became the new world record on 20 Feb 78. It beat the old 19-woman star record which had been established in July, 1976. The following women participated in the formation, a penta-diamond: Vicky Christensen, Karen Collette, Pat Davis, Chris Deli, Chris Doss, Shawna Eva, Helen Frazer, MJ Haught, Betty Hawkins, Dianne Marsh, Sally Miller, Wendy Neustrup, Marilyn Perrine, Julie Reinmiller, Sally Rogers, Cheryl Rowe, Mickey Sleeper, Kathi West, Vicki Wery and Mary Wolfrank. These women did a good job, the star built nicely, and did not get into trouble at any point.

A 24-woman formation followed the 20, but it was not completed within the 60 seconds allowed by the FAI to make it an official record. It, also built smoothly. The 4 additional women who participated in the 24-woman quadra-wedge were: Pam Giganti, Nanc E. Gruttman, Rolayne Mattsson and jeanni Mc Combs.

Sherry Schrimsher performed well in her first record attempt since obtaining her FAI rating. Randy Livingstone was of great assistance to her, with Gatewood Smith sitting in on a few rounds, also

The Godflicker, himself, was filming for CBS, and acting as official air judge (thus, revealing his true versatility). Rande De Luca came down from Montana in response to a last minute phone call, when Carl Boenish decided to decline to film the event. Tony Gonzales and John Peters shot stills, alternating loads between them.

Vicki Wery deserves credit for the entire event, since she worked very hard for months to get it going. The boogie was held Sunday night, with a roast pig, raffle, and live band. D. Ray deserves the "Most Patience of the Year" Award for being able to live with Vicki through all of this!



The Line BOTTOM

Finding myself with a little extra space in this newsletter, I cannot resist the urge to editorialize a little about recent events I have been unfortunate enough to observe.

The jumpers who went to Coolidge, AZ, for a fun weekend and boogie had the opportunity to watch a fatality--a totally needless one. There is a story behind every bounce, and this is no exception. The bottom line is "taking it down". When 3 jumpers break off a 3-man at 2,000' (a high estimate) and something goes wrong, the precious seconds left go very fast.

This story is no different. One guy tracks over another as he is firing off, and catches his pilot chute onto him. The entangled jumper disentangles himself, and the other jumper's canopy opens as it should. The jumper who is entangled, now unstable, and realizing he is low, boy is he low, goes right for the ripcord on the left side of his chest--a wise decision, but the pilot chute bridle becomes wrapped around his neck (what are the chances of that happening on a stable pull?) and he goes in. This was Saturday. On Sunday those of us who were standing on the ground in the packing area heard some canopies opening VERY CLOSE, and looked up to see 3 people just opening amidst the jumpers who had gone out on the previous load--at about 500'. Aside from my personal objection to having someone splat all over me, I fail to see how this sort of behavior can be beneficial to the jumpers involved. The thrill of something like this totally escapes me, and the fact that these mindless skydivers are endangering our sport enrages me. If you think it is "cool", skygod behavior to take it down, why don't you go out into the desert alone and do it to get the thrill you seek, and spare the rest of us the sight of your brains coming out of your nose, and having to fill out forms for the FAA, USPA, and the local police. Also, if we're lucky, we won't even know about it, so we won't have to try to counteract it with arguments about how safe our sport is to those who are in a position to deprive us of it.

☆ FROM ONE WHO CARES--
ANOTHER OPINION
by Diane Kelly, SCR 63

Times change--but sometimes I feel plagued by the fact that I have been close to 10-man competition since its very origin and therefore feel like its "keeper".

Unhappy things are happening in the sport of RW--such as at this year's Nationals. When these unhappy events take place, I become enraged and fight to correct these wrongs, but eventually apathy sets in, and I, too, give up. Right now I don't feel so apathetic, so I am writing this note in the hopes of improving RW competition.

There are so many wrongs I hardly know where to begin. I have stood in the shoes of the 10-man competitor, the rules-maker, the meet director, the meet staff, and the meet judge over a period of eleven years and therefore I feel some understanding for the overall picture.

10-man competition began as a natural evolution of doing something for fun. **THIS IS THE KEY!** When competition in this began, it began as a goal by a group of jumpers to see who was best at doing it. They truly wanted to PROVE who was best, not who could win the meet. This meant that the groups involved had an in-grained set of standards by which to proceed--they needed very little written rules. The rules that evolved were simple and clear-cut, and served mainly as standards by which the judges could fairly score each team, ie., stop watches, 5 seconds of holding time, equal altitude, etc. Judges were "time keepers" and not policemen. Until 10-man got into the Nationals, there were no judging problems, and no talk about 10-man being unjudgeable. It had been clearly judgeable for 6 years! But, then the Nationals happened. Rules became lengthy and the game changed from "Let's see who is best." to "Let's see who can take the trophy home." And judges became policemen to enforce rules because some competitors didn't police themselves anymore. This is why everyone hates judges. (This is really a shame, because a judge is really an innocent, hard working chump.) I say chump because who else would put up with hours of hard work, little time for fun, little or no pay, and plenty of verbal abuse. A judge gets

blamed for everything and at this year's Nationals it seemed to be great sport to create untruths and other circumstances in order to place more blame on the judging.

The Nationals were a laughing stock. USPA was an embarrassment and I place all the blame on the competitor. There must be a million ways to cheat. Our cops can't stop all the crime, so how do you expect a few judges, jury, or others to stop all cheating. Competitors have to do this themselves. There is a right way and a wrong way to do things, and everyone knows the difference. If doing things the right way was more important than taking the trophy home, then competitors would act together. They could strike, they could say "Take your trophy and shove it!" They could boo, laugh at, or otherwise shun the team that didn't play fair. Peer pressure works better than all the policemen in the world.

Secondly, 10-man evolved because it was fun. With USPA changing the rules every year, it no longer resembles the original game. I think they are killing it with their rules. Instead of working out the old rules, they make new ones which need to be worked out, too.

Alright, so it's also great fun to jump hooked up in 10-mans. That is what I would call a "new game," therefore a separate event. Have both.

Sequential competition isn't even a game people were doing for fun. It is something that was created on paper. It only vaguely resembles the sequential people were doing for fun.

There are changes to be made in individual attitudes and in Southern California we are going to begin with the "Rumbleseat Original 10-man Championship" this Easter weekend. I say "phooey" with National rules, and am going to give the meet back to the competitors. Judges will only be time and score keepers, and competitors must police themselves. The meet itself will only be as good as the people involved in it. They will make the rules and enforce them. I expect that it will remain free flight, and single file exit as this is traditional with this meet. However, it is up to the competitors. They have suggested that we go to 11,500' and follow the 10-man with a sequential maneuver drawn at random from those submitted by the competitors. We will probably have an air judge to see if it is completed, but otherwise, perhaps

the competitors can vote for the team that they think did the best. We welcome any suggestions from those who plan to be here.



Parachute Club Breaks Record in Okinawa

(News clipping sent in by C.S. Zielewski)
Camp Zukeran--Breaking records isn't something that happens every day. But on Nov. 5, members of the Okinawa Marine Sport Parachute Club broke the Japan National Record by successfully forming a 10-man star, breaking the former 8-man star record.

CPT Ulrich and LT Rogers piloted the big CH53 that carried the men on their jump that day. After ascending more than 10,000 feet up in the air, the men jumped, forming the first 10-man star in the entire Western Pacific.

In order for a star to be formed, the men must join together for 5 seconds or 1,000 feet. The record breaking jump lasted approximately 15 seconds and about 3,000 feet.

The participants included: Roger Cope-land, USN; Vic Ayers, USN; George Consler, USAF; Jim Lundberg, USAF; C.S. Zielewski, USMC; Tom Beranek, USAF; Frank Mott, Bill Sparks, and Pat Barnes, all of the Marine Corps; and John Burg, USAF.



Colorado River Skydivers Water Accuracy Meet by Jim Garrett, SCR 764, SCS 601

The past 3 years were too windy for the Colorado River Skydivers to complete their annual water accuracy meet. But this last June was an exception. Although there was wind, the meet continued, and the 3-year old trophies were finally awarded!

The results were as follows: 1st, Jim Garrett, dead center, Woodland Hills, CA; 2nd, Vern Weinkauff, 6 seconds, Coolidge, AZ; 3rd, Dick Lang, 9 sec., San Diego, CA.

If the competitor didn't hit the inner tube upon landing, he/she had to swim to it and touch it as fast as possible. Everyone had a good time, and thanks go to the CRSD and pilot, Randall Dupree, Blythe, CA; and judge, Lyle Cameron, La Habra, CA.

(Ed. note: Jim wrote of his first jump, when he landed on a roof due to strong winds. I'm sure he got ribbed for that!)

THEY DID IT! (TWICE...)

by Jamey Woodward, NW Conf. Dir.

"No Sense"...that's their name, and to add emphasis to that title, they astounded many onlookers and themselves when, twice in the same day, the team achieved an EIGHT MAN VERTICAL CANOPY HOOKUP!! That's right folks, The world's first CCR (Canopy Crest Relative) dive! It went like this: Steve Haley, Dave Correia, Jan Grant, Jim Schubert, Keith Carter, Richard Kjar, Neil Baker and Norton (all Antioch jumpers) got out over Livermore, CA, from a DC-3 at 12,500 feet and built a base-pin arrangement, with the other "flyers" closing in the pre-determined order.

According to remote Hotswop reporter, Jim Schubert, they had a "million" cameras on the load, 3 air-to-air and one in the chase plane which kept flying around and around the stack. Watch for these pictures in Parachutist, for sure!

For those of you interested in attacking this obvious record, the ground rules include that you hold the stack for 1000 vertical feet in order to qualify. To show what you're up against, it took many dives for these guys to get proficient at this type of canopy RW, and when they finally DID get it together, they were able to hold it together for over 3000 vertical feet. Not bad! Also, Jim wanted me to relay to you one caution...don't violate rule #1, which is: don't attempt to close "too late." That, of course, is any altitude that you'd hate to have to cutaway from. Use your head, and take it slow.

Also deserving very honorable mention, are CCR #9, Tom Courbat; CCR #10, Linda Ballard; and CCR #11, Mike Hurley. They snagged this virgin title on the second dive of the day when the jumpers built the SECOND eight stack. Ho hum.....

SCR Update

Bill Newell reports that the Star Crest Numbers are growing rapidly. The SCR's are into 7500, SCS has reached 3800, NSCR's are to 1135, and SCSA is at 20. People are working to keep the awards unchanged, by using the "old" star rules for rounds and requiring 100% completion for formations--two specific requirements for the awards.

"A Just About Perfect Weekend!"

by David L Holmes

Over Memorial Day weekend, 8 Las Vegas and 12 Reno-Carson City jumpers, their families and friends, met halfway in Tonopah, NV, for the FIRST ANNUAL NEVADA NORTH-SOUTH SKYDIVING MEET. Tonopah was the place for the celebration of the annual Jim Butler Days (discovery of silver). Parades, dances, mock hangings and street gunfights helped to lend a special air of festivity to the weekend.

The "All Nevada" star record was 9 people and on the second day of fun jumping (relative and canopy RW loads), it was decided to attempt to break that record. Using a Cessna 206, piloted by Pat Weatherman, and a Cessna 182, piloted by Bob Lapp (L. V.), 11 jumpers tried to get it together from the 2 planes unsuccessfully on two separate tries--first a 4-person and then a 7-person star resulted. The Tonopah townsfolks were out in mass--cheering, kids crying, and managed to cause a reserve to have to be repacked. However, daylight vanished and all adjourned to some of the local folks' homes in Tonopah (a castle on the hill) for a fantastic barbeque, a drawing for the meet T-shirts, the 2nd-3rd-4th time showing of "Wings" that weekend, and general celebrations to 4 and 5:00 a.m.

It was amazing that anyone was "able" to show up to jump the next morning, but by 10:00, it was decided to attempt the record from 9,500 feet just "one more time." The airplane formation flying was beautiful, and the star went together like clock-work. THE RECORD--FIRST ALL NEVADA TEN PERSON! To top it off, Bob Archelatta (Reno-CC) had a malfunction on a paraplane and landed safely under his reserve. What a way to end the weekend!

Members of the group were: David Holmes, Al Turner & Steve Demeritt from Las Vegas; Dennis Pederson, Bob Davis, Rob Bast, Chaz Robinson, Charlie Higgenbottom, Ms. JoJo Hugheses & Bob Archelatta from Reno. Bob Klosterman was in the slot as the star broke.

A big thanks goes to Steve Demeritt for serving as drop zone manager/motel room juggler and "headache" man for the event, and to the Reno club for their prior planning! We're all looking forward to the 2nd ANNUAL NEVADA NORTH-SOUTH MEET next year! Join us in Tonopah, Nevada, Memorial Day Weekend in 1978!

POPS NEWS

by Pat Moorehead, POPS 572

The POPS organization (Parachutists over Phorty Society) is, in general, a fun group of old-time jumpers who do not tend to take themselves too seriously. During the several regional POPS meets and National Competition meet which are held each year--or at least up to now, it seems that some of our sports hottest divers are easing towards, or into, that dark age of 40 or better, hence the competition is getting tougher and tighter.

At this year's POPS Nationals (held Labor Day Weekend and hosted by the United Parachute Club, New Hanover, Penr,) the accuracy winner, Vic Deveau, had a total of 10 cm in 4 jumps (3 DC's and a 10 cm strike) and he was followed immediately by 5 other competitors with less than a meter totals. Chief scorekeeper, Bobbie Gallo, was kept running by the rapid pace of the meet.

The 3-man speed-star Scrambles was won by a team headed by United President, Tom Morrison (2800 jumps) with an average time of 9.2 seconds.

George McCullough, Age 71, started jumping at the age of 57, and on the 2nd day of the nationals, made his first 5-man on his 800th jump with Jerry Thompson (NY), Roy Grace (MI), Ted Pullum (MI), and Pat Moorehead (CA) assisting.

Mr. B. Biederbeck, who made 62 jumps on his 62nd birthday a few years ago, ended in the top few in accuracy, flying his strato-cloud smoothly to the peas each jump.

After the awards presentation, the 60 competitors motored a few miles down the road to Limerick Airport where 3 (count 'em!) SkyVans provided several hundred jumpers with steady 10-20 & 40-man formation jumps through the weekend. On Monday, Labor Day, the overcast refused to leave and the fun weekend concluded with traditional bull sessions and beer.

Plans are in the works to hold the 6th annual West Coast POPS Meet at Perris Valley DZ, CA, in May 78 (Watch this publication & others) and hopefully, PVA will host the POPS Nationals in the fall of '78.

If you are 40, or will be by May, 78, why not join us for a strictly fun meet. (Well, not exactly without serious competition.)

Sixteen competitors registered Sat., Aug 20, for the 1st Annual POPS West Coast Championships, one of several regional POPS Meets held throughout the country prior to the POPS Nationals, held at New Hanover, Penn.

John Cook, POPS 587, worked hard to entice many bay area POPS to join together at Antioch DZ for another fun POPS weekend. Trophys were donated by Stevens Paraloft, the Altitude Shop, Yolo DZ, Darold Dinsmore, Jerry Graham, Jeff's Restaurant, and other parachuting supporters. Perry Stevens also donated the beer.

Dave Mitchell walked away with 1st place accuracy, with a total of .15 cm; followed by Dick Pedley and Pat Morehead.

Dick Pedley snatched 1st place Hit 'n Rock with a time of 6.2 seconds; followed by Moorehead with 6.3 seconds; and Mitchell took 3rd with 6.8 seconds.

Jerry Thompson, POPS 692 (famous owner of the Bounty Inn "Where Friends Meet") traveled from New York to represent the East Coast, but could only grab a 5th place. Chief Judge was Bobbie Gallo, and Virginia Braun was great as manifestor and recording secretary.

Some interesting statistics regarding the 16 POPS competitors: Total jumps--12,462; Average Age--45; Canopies--9 squares, 7 rounds; Years in Sport--193; Oldest jumper--Max Kaaha, 57 years; Longest in Sport--Ulrich "Tom" Thompson--33 years.

TV TIME

Paul Williams, actor, musician, and Hobbit extraordinaire unpacked his logbook from his jumping days in the early 1960's and hooked up the old static line to give it another try. The event was a tv show called the "Circus of the Stars", and Paul was scheduled to jump with the Golden Knights at Perris, CA. to get some footage for his "circus act". Although the program planning had begun months earlier, Nanc E. Gruttman, assisted by Joe Morgan of Elsinore, had only 4 days to prepare Paul before the Knights were to arrive in early October. His 40 previous jumps (18 years earlier) permitted an accelerated training program, and Paul progressed rapidly. Four static lines with DRCP's on two lead to a clear & pull and a 10-sec delay before any RW was attempted. Joe pinned Paul for his first 2-man, followed by a 3-man on the next jump when Nanc came in. John Hagger joined the group for a 4-man on the following jump. Paul fired out of a 5-man spider on the next jump, as Jack Ballard was added to the load. Paul's 11th jump with us earned him an SCR, as he was the reverse point on a 9-man diamond, watching John Hagger fire out of it--just as Paul would be doing with the Golden Knights in the same formation for the tv cameras. The Knights arrived, and the serious work started. Paul made several jumps with them, with cameras rolling, so they would have several points of view. Things went well and the resulting footage was aired in Dec. The show is due to be re-run in June.

TV fans had an opportunity recently to watch Dar Robertson crash-land his 7-cell into the crowd control rope which had been put up around the \$1 million target he was supposed to do a stand-up landing on. Rumor has it he wants to do the PR for the 78 Nationals.

FREEFALL TIME!!!

The following freefall time chart was contributed by Matt McManus of the Golden Knights. It was computed at 140 feet per second, with an opening altitude of 2500 feet.

Feet --	Seconds
5000 -	17
5500 -	21
6000 -	25
6500 -	28
7000 -	32
7500 -	35
8000 -	39
8500 -	42
9000 -	46
9500 -	50
10000 -	53
10500 -	57
11000 -	60
11500 -	64
12000 -	67
12500 -	71
13000 -	75
13500 -	78
14000 -	82
14500 -	85
15000 -	89

DISTRIBUTORS

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ZEPHYR I*

Dual container harness system. This lightweight system features a hand deployed 36" pilot chute for the main parachute, located between the main container and the jumper's back with the handle located on the side. The reserve is activated by an over-the-shoulder two pin ripcord and continuous nylon loops.

Reserves Accomodated:

Nimbus 26' low porosity conical, Piglet II, Strong, Security and similar canopies.

Main Canopies Accomodated:

Second generation lightweight squares, paradactyls, pigletts and similar low volume canopies.

SIZE SPECIFICATIONS

Length: 18 inches
Width: 15 inches

Depth: 3.5 inches
Weight: 6 pounds

The Zephyr harness is constructed of Type VII nylon with three point WW stitching utilized. *Note: Webbing pull test resulted in failure of the webbing before the stitching!*

ZEPHYR II*

The Zephyr II system is a larger version of the Zephyr I built to accept higher volume mains.

CYCLONE (Throw-out pilot chute)

A 36" diameter pilot chute constructed of zero porosity rip-stop material and mesh.

Zephyr I & II Suggested Retail Price: \$245.00

NIMBUS* (26-foot conical reserve canopy)

The Nimbus is bias constructed of 1.1 rip-stop nylon calendered to zero porosity. A mesh covered tri-vent modification with a large center window gives extra drive. (Approximate forward speed: 10mph.) The suspension lines are constructed of low volume 600 pound braided material.

The Nimbus reserve incorporates all the best features of a reserve system; low pack volume, light weight, (7 lbs.) bias construction, diaper deployment, the Tornado I pilot chute. With a 6" diameter spring 34" long, and a zero porosity canopy 45" in diameter to get it off your back, the rate of descent for 170 lbs. is a comfortable 11 feet per second.

Colors Available: White Only

Nimbus Suggested Retail Price: \$285.00

STORM SUITS

At last...a fully washable, non-fade, non-shrink, jump suit! Constructed of 65% dacron polyester and 35% cotton, the Storm Suit features built-in swoop cords attached to the wrist bands and weighs only 2 lbs.

Colors available: White, Blue, Black

Trim Colors: White, Black

Storm Suit Suggested Retail Price: \$55.00

- DEALER INQUIRES INVITED

Dan Poynter's The Parachute Manual, 2nd revised edition, 1977 is available for sale. A valuable reference for riggers, parachute lofts, and anyone who is interested in gaining knowledge about parachute equipment. This edition has a durable binding which replaces the 3 ring binder used for the 1st edition. There are 500 large pages with more than 2,000 detailed illustrations covering everything there is to know about the parachute. Chapters include detailed discussions on the regulations, the riggers' certificates, loft layouts, tools and machines, materials, and a complete descriptive list of every complete parachute and component part ever manufactured. The step-by-step instructions permit easy repairs, alterations and even manufacture of new items.

The manual is available from most parachute dealers, or direct from Dan Poynter for \$29.95 postpaid. (Californians add \$1.80 sales tax.) Parachuting Publications, PO Box 4232-504, Santa Barbara, CA 93103, USA.

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