



Gull Wings

AMA Charter #129

Torrey Pines Gulls Radio Control Soaring Society, Inc.

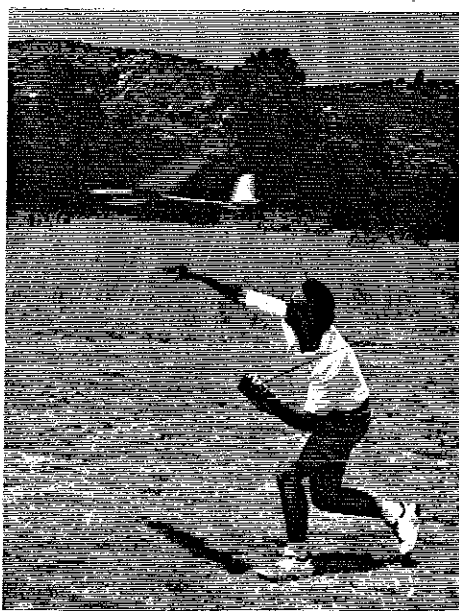
July, 1997

IHLGF Big Success - Perkins Wins Again

By Tom Clarkson

The 1997 IHLGF was a great success. Without exception, every participant with whom I spoke had wonderful things to say about the contest and all the other aspects that make it a Festival. Our club should be very proud to have produced such a quality event. Thanks to all who contributed to this benchmark event, for without your dedicated help, the IHLGF could not be the success it has become.

The fun actually got started on the Thursday before the contest started. We had the field open for practice flying and quite a few people arrived early to take advantage of the opportunity. The first thing that I noticed was the rumored ultralight underhanded launch plane from Phil Pearson of the Seattle club. Phil called it the Tactical ERR.



Daryl Perkins launches Maple Leaf LE

After hearing so much about it, I couldn't wait to see it fly. I was soon rewarded with a demonstration flight and a good look at the plane. It weighed 6.5 Ounces and could be launched very high. The air was light and Phil was getting effortless two minute flights which made it look pretty dangerous. Phil believes that the plane is very effective in dead to light lift and that is where he used it in the contest. When the conditions changed, Phil and his son, Jim, took advantage of their other arsenal of weapons which they call the "Sunspot".

On Friday, we had the field open again and many more people arrived to fly. People started arriving from Ohio, Texas, Colorado, Utah, Washington, Kentucky and the rest of California to

(See IHLGF on page 3)

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July Meeting Program

Date: July 9

Place: San Diego Aerospace Museum

Time: 7:00 P.M.

If you haven't built it or you don't fly it anymore, get that thing down from the attic and dust it off! Gather up whatever you want to get rid of and bring it to our July meeting.

This is where you can exchange what you have for what you want. The Swap Meet is always one of our most popular meetings.

Get there early so you can set up a table and be one of the first to clear out that inventory of wonderful items! Then

you can start fresh with a new batch of of used items!

Be sure and show all the stuff you are taking!

Swap Meet. This will please her to no end. Do not do the same when you bring back a bunch of "new" stuff. She probably won't buy your story that you really need these most valuable items and that they were all bought at bargain basement prices!

Wife or not, be there and bring stuff and money to buy more stuff!

SWAP MEET !

The Gulls Nest

Marshall Geller

BUILDERS BONANZA

I don't know about the rest of you, but I got this "thing" for modeling tools and building accessories. I guess it qualifies as a "fetish" because I'm obsessed with collecting them and always find reasons why I need more. Well, if any of you share similar feelings, you are going to love this month's Gulls Nestraffle. I have assembled all kinds of tools and accessories for all the builders and "wanna be" builders out there. Here is the scoop on the prizes:

16" Variable Speed Scroll Saw — Dremel Direct-driven by powerful, ball bearing induction motors, the Dremel Scroll Saw features a die-cast aluminum frame and cast iron base for quiet, low vibration operation. Also included is a round aluminum saw table with 45 degree tilt feature, plus 2-position blade holders, tension control and pin or plane blade use, a large 16" throat, 12" work table, blade guards and sawdust blower. The Dremel 16" Variable Speed Scroll Saw offers 200-2000 rpm range with digital LED control and a dust trap outlet for use with shop vacuums. This is a real nice piece of machinery that would look great on any workbench!

Mini-mite Cordless Rotary Tool — Dremel This compact lightweight cordless rotary tool is perfect for going anywhere and is ideally suited for those hard to reach places. The two speed motor offers versatile performance for a wide range of hobby needs and the LED equipped wall mount charger renews the 4.8V NiCad pack in just three hours. Everybody needs one of these for their field box!

Cirrus C -30 BB Mini Servos — Hobby Shack These are a "3002" type servo with two ball bearings. The specs on this servo are: size 1.22 x 1.21 x 0.63 in., weight .85 oz., speed .23 sec/60 degrees, torque 44.44 oz-in. You can never have enough servos!

Panavise Jr. — Hobby Shack The Panavise Jr. is a mini vise that tilts, turns, rotates and holds all your work exactly where you want it. Features

include vertical and horizontal jaws opening to 2 7/8", grooves to help hold work and fine/course adjusting knobs. Hundreds of uses. Like having a third hand!

Xacto Tool Chest - Hobby Shack

This tool chest contains the #1, #2 and #5 knives with a 12 blade assortment, 4 gouges, 2 routers, plus a block plane, block sander, spokeshave and a balsa stripper. Everything is neatly organized in a fitted wooden chest. All the "tools of the trade" in on place!

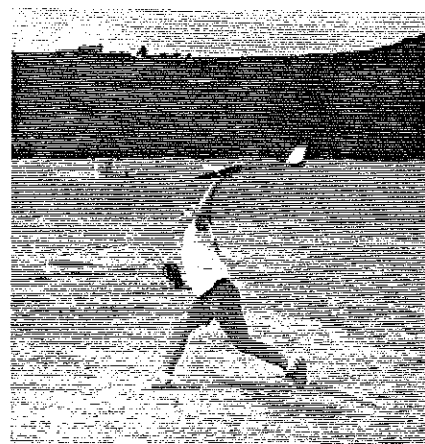
Prizes for July

- Dremel 16" Variable Speed Scroll Saw
- Dremel Mini-mite Cordless Rotary Tool
- Cirrus CS -30 BB Mini Servos
- Panavise Jr.
- Exacto Tool Chest
- Z Poxyl/Zap CA
- Fiberglass Cloth
- SkyShine/SkySheen
- "World Famous" Wire Strippers (Everybody needs a pair of these!)

Z Poxyl Quick Set /Zap A Gap CA — Pacer Technology Z Poxyl is a clear formula that sets in 5 minutes. It forms a tough, permanent bond that is both gap filling and shock resistant. Works on fiberglass, wood, metals and plastic. Zap A Gap CA+ is a gap filling formula that bonds virtually anything to anything! If you don't have these in your shop you can't be building, or in my case repairing!

Fiberglass Cloth - Aerospace Composite Products Great for adding strength and stiffness with very little weight gain. Also great for repair jobs (trust me on this one!). One of those "staples" that every modeler needs a supply of. This package contains 2 yds of 2oz plain weave cloth.

Thanks to all who have supported the Club by purchasing Gull's Nest tickets this year. We have a lot more prizes for you to win this year so get your Gull's Nest tickets and be ready to win. ✈



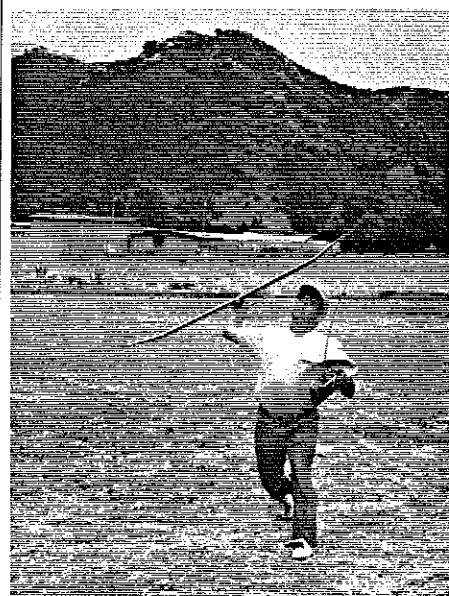
Classic Joe Wurts form

(IHLGF, from page 1)

have a practice day. It was great to just be out flying with and meeting all of the people. It was a gathering of great flyers and a great group of guys. Hard to imagine any more fun than spending a day flying and talking handlaunch with the worlds best. After the day of flying we had a great dinner at Tony's with about 30 of the pilots that would be flying in the contest.

I was at the field early on Saturday to get set up and felt better that I wasn't the only one that couldn't sleep judging by all the pilots at the field at 6 a.m.

(See IHLGF on page 14)



George Joy, known for his "gorilla" arm, is cocked and ready to put his Climmax PF into orbit, again.

TPG climbs to new heights with '97 IHLGF

By Steve Condon, IHLGF CD

The 1997 IHLGF was a resounding success thanks to the great TPG volunteers and some fine cooperation from Mother Nature. The members of the IHLGF Committee would like to personally thank all those volunteers who took time out of their weekend schedules, for some the entire weekend, to do all the things that must be done to put on a contest of this size. It was their hard work and efficient manner that made the 1997 IHLGF the most successful hand launch glider festival ever.

Without the help of the folks mentioned above, comments like this one from Tim Cone (in response to a post-contest e-mail from Ron Scharck) would not have been possible:

"I would like you to know that in my opinion the '97 IHLGF met or exceeded each and every goal as set forth in your E-mail. A better mission statement has probably never been expressed, nor so fully accomplished. I am profoundly grateful to you personally for convincing me to enter the contest. You may rest assured that I will be a regular contestant at all of your HLG contests. The contest was so

much fun, the people so friendly and helpful that there will probably be two Cones' at the next one."

Not only did Tim think enough of the contest to send this personal message, but he also copied it to all 8,000 Internet subscribers to the RC Soaring

The real heroes of the IHLGF, the volunteers who made it work flawlessly

| | |
|----------------------|--------------------|
| Dave Condon | Assistant CD |
| Jo Joy | Registrn / Scoring |
| Jairo "Hidel" Alzate | Raffle Committee |
| Michael Blott | Raffle Committee |
| Lee Burke | Impound |
| Rich Mazak | Impound |
| Jason Gibson | Impound |
| Steve Pack | Impound |
| Cathy Jennings | Scoring |
| Steve Neu | Field Judge |
| Ed Whyte | Field Judge |
| Joey Chess | Field Judge |
| Greg Cameron | Field Judge |
| Bob Hays | Field Judge |
| Laurie Condon | Registration |
| Walter Gorecki | Assistant |
| Emily Clarkson | Food and Beverage |

Exchange, throughout the world. So thanks again to everyone that came out to help.

Contest blessed with full spectrum of conditions

Mother nature was also a big help for the weekend. We had the true "mixed bag" of conditions that make for a very challenging and competitive HLG contest.

On Saturday morning, conditions were so "flat" that even some of the best pilots had the heartbreak of missing a target time by one second. The first round task of increasing flights had Joe Wurts missing the one minute flight by only hundredths of a second . . . twice!

As the day progressed, thermals were around but ever allusive. The bubbles were small in diameter and the bottom's closed-up quite quickly. You could circle your plane 10 feet below another one that was in lift and get nothing. On Saturday, nobody really "specked-out" because the lift just wasn't that strong. However, on occasion there would be lift good enough to allow a gaggle of planes to max out.

(*'97 IHLGF on page 7*)

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(*97 IHLGF, from page 5)

On one of those occasions, a spectator commented to me that he couldn't believe on a day so grey that anyone could catch a thermal, let alone twelve guys at the same time!

On Sunday, the conditions were more typical of the Poway field: calm in the morning with light lift graduating into windy conditions with strong thermals (and strong sink) in the afternoon. A few big 'dust devils' came through during heats which provided for some scary moments for pilots and a lot of laughs for the spectators.

Multiple planes desirable

The fact that pilots can use as many planes as they want during the contest made it desirable to have several different models on hand for the variety of weather conditions during the day. Other circumstances, such as midair collisions, fuselages or wings collapsing under the pressure of extremely hard throws or landings, require a back-up plane — quick!

The Top Five — How they finished and what they flew

One question you may be asking is: "What planes were the top five pilots flying?" I'm glad you asked.

And the winner is

The winner of this year's contest was Daryl Perkins. He was flying two differ-



IHLGF Champion, Daryl Perkins

ent versions of a new plane called the Maple Leaf designed and built by Don Peters of Northern California. The Poly version weighed a mere 9 ounces and the RG-15 aileron version weighed 11 oz.

These planes are unique in that they feature all-Kevlar construction in the bagged wings and molded fuselage. The tails are beautifully crafted from light balsa with a spruce trailing edge then bagged with a thin layer of fiberglass.

According to Daryl, "the poly model is so light and efficient, flying it is like cheating." The RG-15 can handle all kinds of wind either at 11 oz. or with up to two ounces of balast, which Daryl occasionally carried.

The airplanes certainly worked well for Daryl, but it was his world-class piloting skills and the ability to effectively read the air (and his opponents airplanes) and react accordingly that give him this win.

"Second Place Sucks!"

Or so were the words uttered by two-time IHLGF Champion, Joe Wurts as he was picking-up his second place award. He did have a smile on his face when he said it, but it's gotta hurt a little to be second place two years in a row to your good friend and number-one rival in the soaring community.

It is, however, this level of competitive spirit that pushes us all to develop our soaring skills to a higher level. I think it is safe to say that every participant in this year's contest learned something new — even Joe and Daryl.

Joe was flying the Epsilon designed by Fred Mallett of AirWorks in Corpus Christi, Texas. The Epsilon is a super-light all-bagged airplane with Fred's own proprietary airfoil. The Epsilon's generally weighs between 10.5 and 11.5 ounces for a four-servo aileron ship and can sense the lightest of lift and climb incredibly with its bagged cleanliness and light weight. Joe has always been known for his "gun" of an arm when it comes to HLG, and this year was no exception—his Epsilon was usually at the top of the stack right after launch!

Jennings takes third

Our third place finisher this year is no stranger to the top five at hand launch

contests. Gordon Jennings was out there grunting and sweating and generally flying his heart out for the whole contest.

Gordon's plane of choice was also the Epsilon. He had at least two or three of them, and on one particular flight that ended in an off-field landing (not too far away) he was heard to tell one of his assistants "leave it!" as he proceeded to grab another plane and launch within seconds of the other model landing. This is competition! This is preparation! Some might say "this is lunacy!" But, any way you slice it, "this is fun!!"

Larry Keeps Flingin'

Coming in fourth was yet another well known F3b pilot, Larry Jolly. Larry was flying models of his own design made-up of his Vagabond fuselage and tails with the wings from the Airtronics Gem. Larry had a poly version with the 4083 airfoil and an aileron version with the RG-15 section. The models worked very well for Larry and combined with his determination saw him to the fourth place finish.

Larry's 12 year old son Chris was also flying in the contest and managed to win the Junior (15 and under) Championship flying his own Vagabond. We better watch out for this kid! I timed for him once and I was very impressed with his skills and determination.

(See IHLGF '97 on page 20)



Tom Clarkson studies Fred Mallett's classic hand launch form

Score Board

(IHLGF '97, continued from page 7)

From deep in the heart of TX

In fifth place, all the way from Corpus Christi, Texas, was Fred Mallett. Not surprisingly, Fred was flying a couple of Epsilons. One was much like the "poly/flaperon" version that George Joy is flying with inboard flaperons and a few degrees of dihedral at the tips. Fred said that the handling of this plane made it ideal for low-level light lift. His other model was the standard aileron Epsilon at 11.3 ounces.

Last year Fred got everyone's attention by having the guts to launch and fly back to the hill in the afternoon winds, make his time and then make the field. On one flight this year, he attempted the same thing and depth perception and some unkind wind shifts on Mother Nature's part got the better of him and he was suddenly parked on the face of the hill. As they say, "No guts -- No Glory!"

Rounding out the Top Ten

Making the top ten in this contest is quite an achievement. It didn't take many mistakes to keep one out of the top ten, and everyone that made it deserves to be acknowledged. Rounding out the "Top Ten", were -- in order of finish: George Joy; Paul Naton; Steve Cameron; Ben Clerx; and, Jim Pearson.

Another great aspect of this contest was the innovation that went into the models everyone was flying. All kinds of great stuff! One design that gained particular notoriety was the Tactical ERR flown by Phil and Jim Pearson from Washington State. If you were there, you were surprised to see someone casually holding his model by the wingtip and then flinging it up like a frisbee to an incredible height! I was told that these planes only weighed six ounces! The span was only in the low 40" range, but wow, six ounces--THAT'S LIGHT!

Having participated in all four of the International Hand Launch Glider Festivals, I have to say that I have noticed that every year the competition has gotten tougher and tougher.

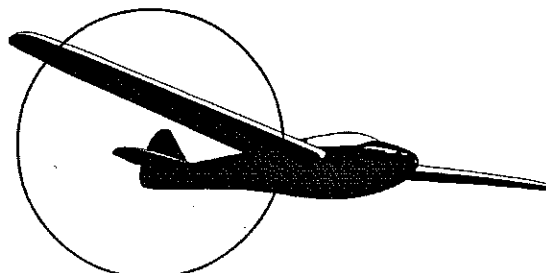
Again, I want to thank all the volunteers for helping make this event happen and I'd like to thank the other members of this year's committee: Don Richmond, Tom Clarkson, George Joy and especially Ron Scharck for all their hard work.

I hope you will join us next year on June 6-7 for IHLGF '98. ✨

IHLGF '97 Final Results

| Pilot | Score | Plane |
|------------------------|----------|------------------------|
| 1. Daryl Perkins | 12805.08 | Maple Leaf |
| 2. Joe Wurts | 12679.82 | Epsilon (Aileron) |
| 3. Gordon Jennings | 12181.68 | Epsilon (Aileron) |
| 4. Larry Jolly | 12174.30 | Flinger (Poly - OD) |
| 5. Fred Mallett | 12164.20 | Epsilon (Aileron) |
| 6. George Joy | 12074.08 | Epsilon / Climmax PF |
| 7. Paul Naton | 11994.65 | Climmax PF |
| 8. Steve Cameron | 11852.14 | Orbiter '95 (Mod.) |
| 9. Ben Clerx | 11596.49 | Russian FF Design |
| 10. Jim Pearson | 11072.28 | Sunspot (Poly - OD) |
| 11. Joe Hahn | 9089.66 | Wizard |
| 12. Steve Condon | 9084.04 | Gem (Aileron) |
| 13. Don Van Gundy | 9036.72 | Wizard |
| 14. Mark Navarre | 8996.21 | Own Design / Wizard |
| 15. Arthur Markiewicz | 8986.34 | Own Design |
| 16. Phil Pearson | 8957.40 | Sunspot / Tactical ERR |
| 17. John Roe | 8892.16 | Wizard / Epsilon |
| 18. Greg Norsworthy | 8765.40 | Epsilon |
| 19. Paul Siegel | 8593.86 | Wizard |
| 20. Charlie Richardson | 8585.28 | Climmax PF |
| 21. Tom Clarkson | 8580.82 | Climmax Poly / PF |
| 26. Patrick Dionisio | 8449.80 | Wizard |
| 27. Paul Anderson | 8311.38 | Own Design |
| 30. Bill West | 7963.65 | Climmax PF |

Note: The top ten scores reflect 13 rounds.



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