



BASS NEWS

The Baltimore Area Soaring Society Newsletter

Year XXIII, Vol.III, No. 3 11

"Information Provider to the Glider Guider"

April 2003

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Bernie Sovitsky

The next meeting will be held on April 3rd, 7:30 PM, at Ridgley Middle School.

Please renew your BASS membership. A 2003 renewal is on the inside back page.

MINUTES FROM THE MARCH, 2003 MEETING

Gary Sober, Secretary

On a slippery icy evening, the March club meeting was convened on March 6, 2003 at St. James Academy at 7:30 with 13 members present as Don Vetter brought the meeting to order. With us tonight was new member Scott Myers who braved the weather to drive up from the Annapolis area. Scott said he is re-entering the hobby after a long absence. Welcome to BASS!

The February minutes as printed in the newsletter were approved without reading them at the meeting.

Treasurer's Report

Tony Guide's treasurer's report indicated that there is currently \$1,172.19 in the Rec. Council account. Twenty one members are paid up on their dues to date. Additional dues have been turned in tonight which will be credited to next months figures.

Old Business

ECHLC The website information and registration form has been updated for the new fees as discussed last month. The exclusive use permit has been obtained

are in hand. A notice of the contest will be in the next AMA Model Aviation magazine. John Appling reported that last year's spot-o-pot obtained from the county is still on site (whew!!!). A 'fresher' one will need to be obtained for the weekend of the contest. So far there are 9 pilots registered, 4 from North Carolina, 2 from Pennsylvania and 3 from BASS. Time to get signed up to fly or volunteer to help out. Erich Schlitzkus passed around a list of tasks for discussion. This will be posted on the website. Any comments should be sent to Erich. Some tasks may be dependent on weather conditions on the day of the contest.

BASS MEMORIAL OPEN

The contest held in the past at Walkersville is still on the ESL schedule. We need to notify the ESL of our plans not to have the contest this season for lack of a new location.

NEWSLETTER

As you all know last months newsletter was the last to be distributed by mail to all members of BASS. Starting in March the newsletter will be posted on the BASS

BASS NEWS is a membership newsletter published 11 times each year by the Baltimore Area Soaring Society, a Gold Leader chartered club (#492) of the Academy of Model Aeronautics. Subscriptions are available via first class mail to non-members. Newsletter editors are welcome to reprint any article or portion of this newsletter provided that credit is given the author and BASS News. Article submissions are encouraged and should be submitted no later than the 15th of the month. We prefer submissions in either ASCII or Microsoft Word format, however other formats including printed or typed material are welcome. We reserve the right to edit any submission.

MINUTES FROM THE FEBRUARY 2003 MEETING - *Continued***Old Business - *continued***

internet based distribution of the newsletter seem to be working for most members who have tried to view them. It was suggested that an e-mail be sent out to let us know when the newsletter has been posted. Most agreed this was a good idea.

SOVEREIGN ONE DESIGN

The consensus is that we should hold the Sovereign events again this season. They were well attended and enjoyed by those who did participate. Bill Cavanaugh agreed to run them again with Joe Allulis. The dates need to be scheduled to avoid conflicts with the club open contests. Bill said he would coordinate the schedule with Erich. They most likely would begin in June.

New Business

Bill Cavanaugh announced that he has 10 Butterflies for indoor flying which he picked up at the WRAMS show. Eight of them are spoken for and 2 are still available at this time for \$16.00 each. If you are interested touch base with Bill.

Al DeRenzis announced that there will be an aerotow event in Kutztown, PA in June (22 & 23). Kutztown is near Reading, about 2 1/2 hour drive from Baltimore. Sounds like a cool reason for a roadtrip!

Al also said he will go pick up the new deep cycle batteries for the winches. Erich brought the old ones to be traded in.

Gordon Cotrill has decided not to rejoin the club this year as the trip up from St. Mary's County is just too far. Bernie Sovitsky has assumed the title

We were glad to hear Gordon is feeling better.

A 50 / 50 raffle drawing was held tonight, but due to a mental lapse I did not write down the winner. (It might have Kevin Sharbonda?)

Show and Tell

I brought in my new FMA M5 receiver, which I purchased with the gift certificate I won in the raffle at last year's ECHLC. This is a highly regarded 5 channel dual conversion receiver that only weighs 1/3 ounce. While this may be a fine piece of new technology, that is not the interesting part of the story. When I won the gift certificate last spring I put it in my field box having never taken it out of the envelope. This past January 2003 as I cleaned out my field box I found the envelope and realized upon opening it that the \$50.00 certificate had expired on October 10 2002. With nothing to loose I called FMA to see if they would still honor. I was told that initially by a customer service person that they would not in fact honor the certificate since it had expired. I sent off an e-mail to Fred Marks in which I assumed all responsibility for losing track of the thing and letting it expire, but questioning the business strategy of not honoring it. I reasoned that the receiver and crystal would cost nearly double the value of the certificate and if satisfied with my purchase, I would likely make future orders. That not allowing me to use it was a missed opportunity for both parties involved. I promptly received a reply from Jaime Marks stating that yes they would honor the certificate, and I placed my order.

Speaking of FMA, Russ Bennett informed us that there has been a recall of the FMA MAHA 737 charger used for li-poly cells. They will replace it with a Kokam charger in trade. Contact FMA if you have one of these chargers.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:25 and we proceeded to

MINUTES OF BOARD MEETING FEBRUARY 20, 2003**Gary Sober, Secretary**

A meeting of the BASS board of directors was held at 6:20 at the St. James Academy in Monkton. In attendance were Don Vetter, Al Derenzis, Gary Sober, Tony Guide, and Kevin Sharbonda.

A discussion of the payment of the insurance premiums for the BASS fields was first on the agenda. Only the Polo Field and Villa Maria will be covered this year. No insurance will be obtained for Walkersville. Cost is \$60.00 per field.

In addition the club charter needs to be renewed at a cost of \$30.00 paid to the AMA by March 31, 2003.

The club needs to fill 2 positions, Safety Officer and Field Marshall. These are not elected positions but appointed by the club president.

We need to update the club brochure and print more copies. Don was to talk with Marv Tedrow about doing this.

It was decided to reimburse Lee Fritz \$70.00 for the starter motor he provided for the sport winch last season.

Al DeRenzis submitted a bill for \$170.00(+/-) for the 2 new 12 volt deep cycle batteries purchase for the winches. The batteries need to be charged prior to the first contest in March.

We need to notify the ESL that there will be no Open Contest in Walkersville this season.

ECHLC

There has been some concern expressed regarding the

contest this year. The idea of making some kind of button to give away does not seem as substantial to some. This decision was made based on economics as we do not have the funds for the hats or shirts at this time. Last year we purchased the club equipment trailer and a supply of award medals to last a few years which depleted the club treasury. Al said we need to keep the quality of the contest at as high a level as possible to compete with the west coast contest. And a discussion ensued on whether people come to the contests lured by the give-aways. The give aways do help attract people and does cast the contest in a positive light. It is also important to see our event as it's own entity and not a training ground or warm up for other contests.

The state of this year's depleted raffle also has some concerned. Many vendors have backed away from giving away free stuff due to the current economic climate. Ideas have been put forth to make the raffle self supporting so we can purchase items and raffle them off.

It was decided that the important aspects of the contest are (in order):

Staging a well run contest with well conceived tasks
Attracting the best competitors
Providing an enjoyable experience for all attendees
Extras – raffle, door prizes, give-aways, food etc.
Kevin and I volunteered to help with developing a graphic design for the button. The idea of making tee-shirt transfers that someone could iron on by themselves was brought up.

The time and date of the next board meeting will be announced.

Polo Field Reminder

BASS is very fortunate to have access to the Maryland Polo Field for contest and sport flying. The back field has a new set of goal posts. They are made in the old traditional way, with wooden slats. BASS members are reminded that the posts should not be moved. Also, be sure to keep the entrance gate locked.

CONTEST CORNER

Erich Schlitzkus

As I am writing this column, it's snowing but soon it will be Spring! That means warmer weather, thermals and the start of a new club contest season. As tradition dictates, the first contest will be at the end of March at Villa Maria. I will be the CD for the first contest but will ask other people in the club to CD. Hopefully this will allow others to learn and build confidence as CD's if called on someday. I hope to see old and new faces at the field this season.

Contest calendar

April 13 – Sunday at 10:00 am @ Cal Ripken Jr Field

May 10 – Saturday at 10:00 am @ Polo field

SOVEREIGN CONTEST SCHEDULE
Bill Cavanaugh

The Sovereign One-Design contest schedule for the 2003 flying season is as follows:

May 24

June 7

July 26

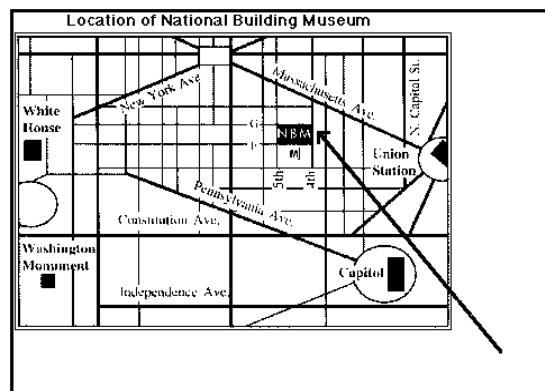
August 9

Contests will be held at Villa Maria and rules will be the same as last year. Last year's contests were relaxed and fun. There are a lot more Sovereign kits in the hands of BASS members than contestants last year. So if you haven't yet finished building your Sovereign, you still have time before the first contest to do so. If you have any questions, contact Bill Cavanaugh at 443-535-0220 or Joe Allulis at 410-465-4853.

Come join BASS and D.C. Maxecuter flyers for the last flying session of the season. April 6th We will be flying free flight and RC electric, rubber and CO2 powered airplanes at the 100 foot high site.

The map at the right shows the location, about 50 minutes south of Baltimore and just north of the Judiciary Square Metro stop. General admission is at 12 Noon. Flying begins at 10:00 AM however you must be on an admission list.

Contact Randy Kleinert for details. (410) 931-0094 or



MARCH CONTEST RESULTS

The first club contest of the 2003 season was held on March 23rd. Results are shown below. There was a moment of controversy when a car attempted to hook up to the winch and join the fun. The car was disqualified because its wing loading exceeded of FAI limits. Otherwise, it might have been an exciting flight. Would have loved to see the spot landing. As a friend of mine from our power club says, "I hate to see a crash, but on the other hand, I hate to miss it."

At any rate, the first contest is behind us. We were joined by new member, Scott Meyers, welcome Scott. The first three places were just 12 points apart.

BASS Open Contest			3/23/03 Contest Director E. Schlitzkus											
Name of Contestant	Freq	Class	Round 1		Round 2		Round 3		Round 4		Total Raw Score	Total Norm. Score	PLC	
			Time	Lnd	Time	Lnd	Time	Lnd	Time	Lnd				
			Score		Score		Score		Score					
1 E. Schlitzkus	53	E	5:00	25	6:06	93	5:39	0	8:06	85	1670	912	4	
			325		447		339		559					
2 D. Vetter	57	E	5:00	25	5:57	0	4:17	1	8:03	81	1498	818	5	
			325		357		258		558					
3 G. Sober	45	S	3:17	0	4:20	0	3:34	0	3:13	0	864	472	6	
			197		260		214		193					
4 P. Schlitzkus	38	E	5:00	25	6:01	73	7:03	95	8:03	63	1809	988	3	
			325		432		512		540					
5 S. Meyers	22	S	1:21	0	2:00	0	1:50	0	0	0	311	169	7	
			81		120		110		0					
6 J. Appling	15	E	2:12	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	132	72	8	
			132		0		0		0					
7 R. Bennett	35	E	5:00	25	6:01	98	7:02	85	8:02	74	1830	1000	1	
			325		457		483		565					
8 A. DeRenzi	22	E	5:00	0	6:01	97	7:02	85	8:02	74	1811	989	2	
			300		456		503		552					

ANOTHER GOLD LEADER YEAR

John Appling has just advised that the AMA has conferred the honor of Gold Leader Club status on BASS for another year. Thanks to all who have contributed their time and effort to ensure that BASS has retained it membership in this elite group. Congraulations to all.

SCHOOLBOY UPDATE

In the Jan-Feb newsletter, Al Flesher reported on his restoration and electrification of the Ken Willard Schoolboy. A 27" span ship which Al had flown as a small gas RC in the early 1960's.

On March 15th, Al came to Villa Maria to try out his completed ship. Skys were sunny and winds ranged from 2 - 10 MPHs in gusts. Several BASS folks were flying hand launch glider throughout the morning, and were not troubled by the variable winds. Then, as if on cue, the winds died down for Al's flight. After a glide test which looked very good, Al was ready to go. Your editor did the honors on launch with Al at the sticks.

It was incredible. Flying around the field at varying heights and perhaps half throttle, the ship stayed aloft for almost 8 minutes - just as predicted by Electri-calc. It flew just like an old time rc, except that the radio actually worked and the ship remained in control during the entire flight. I say that for the benefit of those who remember what RC flying was like in the late '50's and early 60's. You launched and prayed that your radio would work enough that you could keep your ship in the air and land it in the same field from which you launched it. Early RC ships looked very much like free flight models, and that was by necessity because of the unreliability of early RC equipment. Fortunately all that is behind us now. If you remember to charge your batteries and do routine maintenance on your equipment, you will have control of your ship.

Well, hats off to Al Flesher for his efforts, and thanks for the trip down memory lane. Let's see, I still have the plans for my Midwest Esquire. Should I do it full size for a geared 05, or shrink it down to a 36" span, speed 400 ship? Decisions,

BUTTERFLY ONE DESIGN CONTESTS

Randy Kleinert

In the Jan-Feb newsletter, Bill Cavanaugh had proposed a "One design contest" for the Butterfly indoor free flight model. Several BASS members have been flying Butterflies, and Bill obtained a number of additional kits at the WRAMS show this year. I "volunteered" to CD the event and would suggest the following:

In the interest of fairness and consistency, we will follow most of the AMA Competition guidelines for Indoor Free Flight Stick models. These guidelines can be found on the AMA website under the indoor competition section, pages 21-22. The only significant variation we will use is in the scoring flights (section 10). For our contest, the time shall be the average of the two longest of an unlimited number of official flights.

Rather than schedule specific flying dates, the contest is open, meaning that when you can get in a flying session, you can record official scores. Scoring and timing must be done by another person (preferably a BASS member, but not required). Keep a written record of your flights including a sequential flight number (1 through your last fight number), time in seconds (truncate fractions of a second), date, location and name of timer.

One flying location that is available is the Bykota Senior Center, in Towson. We fly there almost every Friday evening from 6:00 PM until we get too tired to keep flying. Contact me for driving directions.

Randy's Arbitrary Design Rules: Pilots may add SMALL trim tabs which in my judgment do not significantly increase surface area. The loop which holds the propeller can be shimmed or sanded/filed to adjust the thrustline. Rubber motors are not restricted to the dimensions of the material supplied with the kit. These rules should keep the spirit of the Butterfly design, but also teach the trimming skills needed for control of indoor flight.

If you need additional rubber for motors, contact me. - Randy Kleinert hroncall@compuserve.com or (410) 931-0094.

BASS HAND LAUNCH CONTEST

There is still time to register for the ECHLC held at our home field at Villa Maria. If you will not be competing, come out and help with one of the many tasks needed to run the event.

East Coast HL Classic Registration Form

Please Note Price Increases

Please fill out the following form and mail it, with payment, to the registrar John Appling.

Registration deadline is April 30, 2003

There will be no on-field registration!

NAME: _____ AMA #: _____

ADDRESS: _____

CITY: _____ STATE: _____ ZIP: _____

PHONE: day _____ evening _____

E-MAIL: _____

FREQUENCY: FIRST CHOICE: _____ SECOND CHOICE: _____ Limited to 2 flyers per frequency!

CLASS (check one): EXPERT: _____ SPORTFLYER: _____

FEES: \$17.00 for one day \$28.00 for the weekend

Saturday 5/3 @ \$17.00 Sunday 5/4 @ \$17.00 weekend @ \$28.00

Amount enclosed: \$ _____ Make payable to BASS

REGISTRAR: John Appling, 2308 Albert Rill Rd., Hampstead, MD 21074 410/374-2463

TWO HINTS FROM THE AMA NEWSLETTER

Cleaning Covering Irons

Use wax paper to clean your covering iron when adhesive or colors from the covering film start to stick to the shoe of your iron. Rub the hot iron on the wax paper and then rub off the wax on a clean cloth.

Coloring Canopies

Cloth dyes (like RIT brand) will tint a clear plastic canopy. Mix the dye in luke warm water in a container large enough to emerge the canopy. Dip the canopy for a minute or two and remove to see the result. If not dark enough, dip it again. When satisfied, set by rinsing thoroughly in cold water and dry thoroughly. You can make a fixture to hold only part of the canopy in the dye for special effects.

INDOOR RC CHAMPIONSHIPS RELOCATED

The Jan-Feb Newsletter carried the announcement of the first Indoor RC Championships to be held at Lakehurst, New Jersey, about 3 hours north of Baltimore. John Worth's Cloud Nine column in a recent issue of RC MicroFlight states that the Championships had to be moved to Waterford, Michigan, because the New Jersey site was unavailable due to security reasons.

INDOOR FLYING

Towson: Friday evenings, 6:00 - 9:00 PM, The Bykota Center, on Joppa Road, just North of Bosley Avenue. For details contact Randy Kleinert (410) 931-0094.

Washington: The National Building Museum, 4th and F Streets, NW, April 6th. contact Randy Kleinert (410) 931-0094 for attendance requirements, your name must be submitted advance for entrance and parking permits. See page 4 for details.

Buy and Sell

STUFF REDUCTION SALE!

SR X440 electric sailplane with motor, prop, spinner, ESC (with BEC) and 2 servos. All installed. Two 7-cell batteries. Complete and undamaged. Plug in your receiver and fly.

New price for all above was \$439.95. Will sell all for \$200.

Precision power supply, B & K model 1601 Two meters on panel, volts and amps. Ranges .05, .2, .5, 2.0. Original list price was \$395. Your price \$100.

Regulated power supply, Radio Shack brand, 12 volt, 3 amps. \$20.

Amprobe Rotary Scale Snap-Around Model RS-3 multimeter, case and operating instructions \$50.

Variac, General Radio. Input 120 volts, output 0-140 volts. This is the real McCoy, perfect for foam cutting. \$75
Digipace, Ace, with trickle feature. \$15.

Delta Peak Charger, Kyoto model 1845. Needs repair. Free to whoever buys an item above.

Bill Cavanaugh 443-535-0220, BillCavan@aol.com

All new JR radios;

JR 378, 7 channel computer digital trims four 537 servos, complete set with slimline very small 7 channel R700 receiver, 8 model memory, many mixes capable, trim memory . great price \$295.

XP 652 airplane, comp radio set 6 channel 5 models \$230, XP 662 airplane, comp radio set 6 channel 6 models \$210

XP 631 airplane, comp radio 6 channel 3 models \$190, XP 631 airplane, comp radio set 6 channel 3 models \$190
8103 JR Radio, Channel 59. Sailplane version 2 JR 341 micro servos. Excellent Price.

Kestrel 2 Meter RES Sailplane, JR Servos, Hitec Receiver Nikon F70 autofocus with Nikon 28-80 zoom lens, excellent built in flash on camera.complete set \$280.

Bernie (410)-296-0321 Call for details

SHADOW, 2M fiberglass fuselage, wings balsa covered foam \$110 With 6 installed servos \$199. Mike Miecznikoski

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Baltimore Area Soaring Society

2003 Membership Application

Full memberships are \$30.00. Junior memberships are \$12.00, and associate memberships are \$18.00. If you would like to join BASS, or have not renewed, please take a moment today to write out a check and send it in along with a copy of this application. Please complete all information.

2003 promises to be another award-winning year for BASS. Be part of it!

Personal Information

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

CITY: _____ STATE: _____ ZIP: _____

PHONE (WORK): _____ PHONE (HOME): _____

AMA NUMBER: _____ (Valid 2003 AMA Membership is required)

LEAGUE OF SILENT FLIGHT & LEVEL (if _____)

PRIMARY RADIO FREQUENCIES USED: _____

PRIMARY PLANES FLOWN: _____

NAME OF SPOUSE OR SIGNIFICANT OTHER: _____

E-MAIL ADDRESS (IF AVAILABLE): _____

Signature: _____

In what areas of the club would you be interested in becoming involved? _____

How can BASS help you? _____

Please return this application with a check or money order payable to BASS.

SEND
To: 

Mr. Tony Guide
115 S. Shaffer Drive
New Freedom, PA 17349

BASS EVENTS

Apr 3 7:30 PM BASS Meeting, Ridgley Middle School
Apr 6 10:00 AM Indoor Flying, National Building Museum

SOARING SCENE

May 3-4 BASS HLG
May 17-18 SKSS 1 Newark, Delaware
May 31-June 1 LASS Lancaster, PA
June 14-15 BRASS Waynesboro, VA
June 21-22 BARCS HLG
June 27-28 LISF 1 Syosset, Long Island
July 12-13 DBSF Reading, PA
July 19-26 AMA / LSF NATS
Aug 2-3 SKSS 2 Newark, Delaware
Aug 9-10 CRRC Soar-In Sudbury, MA
Aug 16-17 South Jersey
Sep 6-7 CASA Open Warrenton, VA

BASS Meetings are being held at Ridgley Middle School from 695 North on York Road. Right on Ridgely Road (Lincoln/Mercury dealer on corner) At first light turn right on Charmouth Rd. Immediate left turn into parking lot. Ridgely Middle School,

BASS Contests start at 10:00 AM unless otherwise noted. All skill levels are encouraged to attend. Be at the field 1 hour early to help set up contest. Fun flying after events. Spectators and

*** Denotes Eastern Soaring League (ESL) sanctioned event.**

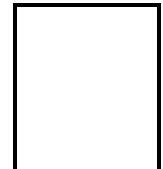


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**7982 Honeygo Blvd # 48
Baltimore, MD 21236**

APRIL 2003



First Class Mail