

Short *Towline*

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Newsletter of the Seattle Glider Council

January, 1998

Due to very heavy work commitments of Tom Kreyche, our Towline Editor, this issue of Towline is being produced as a brief, one-page update flyer. It was important that the news items in this flyer be published on time, so that's the reason we're putting out this format. The regular Towline will return in February, full of new feature articles and some exciting new columns that you'll enjoy.

• • • (Don't Miss This One) • • •

SGC General Membership Meeting

2 February, 1998 7:00PM

The February meeting will be the SGC's Annual Business Meeting, presented by **Jim Simmons**, SGC Treasurer. We'll try to keep the financial details to a minimum, but our By-Laws require that the SGC annually present it's financial status to the membership.

The main program is a real treat - **Baer Selen**, 2-time World Gliding Champion from The Netherlands will give us a presentation titled: *Flying A World Championships: It's Not All Fun and Glory!!*

The 1997 World Gliding Championships took place this past summer at St. Auban, in the Alps of Southern France. Baer Selen was a member of the Dutch team, flying an LS-8 in Standard Class.

Using St. Auban as the focal point, Baer has gathered a set of slides that show some of the preparation that is required to successfully take part in such a major event.

Baer's talk will center on a variety of subjects, such as:

- training required to safely and successfully participate in a competition flown in the mountains
- the choice and preparation of a competition sailplane
- team flying
- tasks in thermals, slope or wave
- GPS: possible errors and safety

The presentation aims at sharing some of the experiences Baer has met. There will only be minor information on tasks and results, as this information is readily available in magazine articles.

This will be a rare opportunity to hear about the experiences of flying in a World Championships from such an experienced

competition pilot as Baer Selen. Since 1978, Baer has flown in ten consecutive World Gliding Championships, starting with Chateauroux, France in 1978, becoming Standard Class World Champion at this very first WGC that he flew in. Following that, Baer clinched his second World Championship Title at Uvalde in 1993. Overall, Baer's standings in ten WGC include: two 1st Place Finishes; one 5th Place; two 7th Places; one 8th Place; one 9th Place; one 13th Place; one 19th Place, and one 27th Place. What a competition record!

When not flying sailplanes, Baer is a Senior Aerodynamics Engineer for DAF Trucks N.V., in Eindhoven, The Netherlands. He is visiting the Seattle area through May, sharing his aerodynamics research with colleagues from Paccar, the parent company of DAF. During his visit, Baer has graciously offered his off-hour time to work with our local soaring clubs, providing cross-country flying seminars, possibly a competition clinic, or serve in any other way that might be useful.

This is an SGC Monthly Meeting that you won't want to miss!

Join us at the Museum of Flight, 7:00PM, on 2 February. For directions, contact an SGC Board member, or telephone Ron Ferguson at 425-455-3589, or e-mail ronf@mainstar.com.

NW Aviation Conference

Don't forget to mark your calendar for the Northwest Aviation Conference in Puyallap, the weekend of 21-22 February. The

SSA, CAP, and SGC are co-sponsoring a booth, with the SGC contributing half of the \$450 booth fee. We're looking for SGC members to man the booth in 4-hour morning or afternoon shifts. Contact **Bob Chase** at (425) 823-6500 if you can help out.

We're also encouraging all soaring clubs in the area to provide club information or brochures for display in the booth. Towline's February issue will be a special edition, featuring articles of interest to prospective new SGC members. We'll print sufficient copies to hand out at.

SSA Convention

It's time to get your registration in for the 1998 SSA Annual Convention in Portland, Thursday-Saturday, 26-28 February. The Convention will be held at the Oregon Convention Center, and the convention hotel is the Double Tree Hotel at the Lloyd Center. To register, see this month's issue of Soaring, or you can download the form from the SSA web site.

1998 Region 8 Contest

And finally, make your plans for the 1998 Region 8 Championships at Ephrata this summer. It will be a 6-day contest this year, and the dates are 28 June - 3 July.

Practice Day is 27 June. The contest will be heavily promoted as a warm-up for the 15-Meter Nationals that immediately follow in Montague (CA), so we're hoping for a large turnout. **Ron Ferguson** will be Contest Manager; **Norm Dalke** is Competition Director; **Dennis Eckert** is Weatherman.

SGC Board Meeting Minutes, 16th December, 1997

Present:- Chairman Norman Ellison; Treasurer Jim Simmons; Directors Kapi Parks, Vince Miller, John Gilbert, Dale Hacker. Also present: Ron Ferguson, Tom Kreyche, Len Trautman, John Daly and Bob Chase.

The meeting was held at the MAINSTAR office of Kapi & Ron, and opened at 6.54 p.m.

The minutes of the Board meeting held on 10 November were approved as read.

The Board welcomed the 1998 directors - Ron Ferguson and Pierre Parent (not able to be present), and thanked the retiring board members, Kapi Parks and Vince Miller for their services on the Board.

The financial statements were reviewed and approved. Full reports from the CPA have now been received, and the IRS 990 forms for the years 1993 to 1996 have been signed and posted.

1997 towplane maintenance costs were \$19,888.00. The wing tip repair on 75B will be approximately \$1,500.00. A motion was made to send this cost to our insurance company, but there was no second. It was suggested that the repair should be done as a part of the annual inspection. It was decided to investigate the loan of the Pawnee fittings jig from Willamette Valley Soaring to do the AD on our Pawnee.

Ephrata lease negotiations are continuing. The WGC 2003 bid

is being finalized and must be at the SSA office by 12/24.

TOWLINE has been reformatted, and the next issue should be out at end of January. The production manager asked if there was a separate budget; the answer was negative. The editor asked that the input of all material should be electronic. Towline should ideally be 12 pages, but on lighter paper to avoid extra postage costs.

John Gilbert moved that we should have a single billing mechanism for the collection of tows and subscriptions, but this motion was not seconded.

After a lengthy discussion on costs, a motion was made by Vince Miller and seconded by Kapi Parks that the 1998 SGC membership fee should be US\$25.00. The motion passed 4 to 1. Family membership will remain at \$10.00, and a Towline-only subscription will be \$15.00.

Bob Chase reported on the status of the NW Aviation Conference, in Puyallup, 21-22 February. The SSA will provide their display booth. SGC Members are asked to help man the booth to help the CAP Volunteers. This will be the SGC's main recruiting effort for 1998. A motion was made by Dale Hacker and seconded by Jim Simmons that the SGC contribute \$225.00 to the SSA as half the cost of providing the booth. There was a unanimous approval.

Other business:-

Owing to high charges from Key Bank, a motion was made by Kapi and seconded by Dale

that the SGC General Account be moved to a more appropriately priced and convenient bank. Approved unanimously. The treasurer will investigate.

Ephrata RV area - it was suggested that there should be 6 electrical outlets, 15A minimum power available for the RV's. The chairman of the 1998 Ephrata Committee will investigate.

Monthly program plans:

- February: SGC Annual Business meeting, plus a presentation by Baer Selen on flying in a WGC.
- March: The Annual Wave Camp briefing, and review of the SSA Portland convention.
- April, trailer lottery, plus flying at Ephrata.
- May, talk by Dennis Eckert and Harry Higgins on Weather forecasting

1998 Region 8 Contest at Ephrata is scheduled for June 27th practice day, June 28 to July 3.

Next board meeting on 1/12/98.

At this point the Retiring Chairman Norm Ellison handed over the files to the 1998 Chairman Ron Ferguson, and the Board meeting adjourned at 9.05 p.m.

Submitted by Norm Ellison, retiring SGC Chairman.

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