



Oakland Cloud Dusters Newsletter March, 2015

This document describes what was going on with the Oakland Cloud Dusters membership during the month of February, 2015.

It was a very busy month, especially since we were in the planning stages in January for the annual Awards Banquet to be held at Scott's Seafood Restaurant in Walnut Creek. We were also hoping to re-establish the Super Bowl Sunday morning contest at Stanford's "Lagunita" basin if the water run-off from several late storms in December would evaporate sufficiently.

As it turns out, Sunday, February 1st was a perfect day for flying, and we had around ten participants plus observers who seemed to enjoy the flying and socializing. This was Dick Douglas' first trip to the basin, and he was impressed with the layout, although arriving a little late from getting lost on the Stanford campus. He took over the contest table just before noon so that Truman could be released from his event director's duties and attending another appointment.

Ben Tarcher held up his part of the bargain by being the "magnet" for whatever pools of water would attract models as they descended back to earth. I believe everyone else was able to avoid landing in the ponds.

Bill McConachie brought out a Cloud Tramp, which he promptly lost into the surrounding trees in a rather spectacular flight. Those in attendance were:

Emile Carles-Manuel Cisneros-Truman Cross-Harold Davidson-Dick Douglas-Tom Faith
Ates Gurcan-Bill McConachie-Alan Peterson-Ben Tarcher-Fred Terzian-Ken Walters
Haoyang Wang

Tom also had his friend Joyce and her son in attendance, and were seen flying small rubber powered and catapult gliders, to their delight

Contest results can be found on the OCD website (OaklandCloudDusters.org)

The month of February was also host to a number of contests held over eleven days at Lost Hills. The "Fabulous February" slate of contests hosted three FAI World Cup events that brought contestants from at least 22 countries! The first weekend was the Isaacson Winter Classic contest which included not only the Kiwi World Cup contest but also AMA Gas, Rubber and Glider events and the E-36 electric world challenge sponsored by Don DeLoach. Some rain on Saturday muddied the field, and then on Sunday and Monday the wind picked up creating problems for some of the more delicate AMA rubber classes.

By mid week the weather improved dramatically, with the Canadians hosting the North American World Cup, which was followed on Friday by the Max Men International World Cup.

Looking at the overall results shows that the Cloud Dusters had a pretty good presence throughout the week:

Andy Bandy-Tim Batiuk-Hal Cover-Ates Gurcan-Paul Masterman-Henning Nyhegn
John Pratt-Ralph Ray-Aimee Raymond (and Marty Schroedter)-Glenn Schneider
Ben Tarcher-Fred Terzian-Ken Walters

Our Annual Awards banquet was held on Saturday, February 21st with 44 in attendance, including guests. Most had arrived by 12 noon although a few had difficulty finding the parking garage. We decided to upgrade to a larger room, which proved to be a good choice as we were almost out of room to maneuver while socializing!

We were also honored to have long distance club member Henning Nyhegn (Denmark) join us with the assistance of Glenn Schneider. Previous club member Dan Asmus joined us by way of Neal Dawson. Dan had not been active with the club for almost thirty years! He and Neal's other guest, Rich Radigonda joined the club by providing their dues for 2015.

Our 70-year old David Lloyd Perpetual Trophy was almost lost forever! We learned by way of Rocco Ferrario (2013 Recipient) that the trophy was being displayed at the school in Napa where he teaches. Then, along came the 2014 Napa earthquake. The result was that the school was in shambles, and major cleanup was required by school custodians and volunteers. The trophy was assumed destroyed and of no use and was put into the garbage containers. Fortunately, Rocco realized the importance and value of this trophy and scoured through the rubbish to hopefully salvage it. He found it basically intact but with one of the winged ladies broken off. Bill Vanderbeek felt that he would be able to repair it and at least restore it to some dignity that it certainly deserved.

This year, the recipient(s) formed a "trifecta". The winners for 2014 are Truman Cross, Dick Douglas and Fred Terzian. They will each retain the trophy for three months.

At the SGMA Spring Bash contest held at Waegell Field on February 28th (Saturday), we had a substantial number of OCD members flying various events. Surprisingly, the weather was flyable even though we were surrounded by storm cells throughout the Central Valley. Drift initially was headed northwest towards Sunrise Blvd. so at around 11 am, contest director Walt Ghio felt it was time to move the flight line further east. By one o'clock, the weather turned calm and flying was enjoyable with most flights going straight up and with very little drift. Members present:

Tim Batiuk-Nicolas Cristiani (junior)-Giancarlo Cristiani (junior)-Ates Gurcan
Frannie Masterman-Paul Masterman-Jim Muther-John and Diane Pratt-Lynn Price
Glenn Schneider-Ben Tarcher-Fred Terzian-Ken Walters-Ding Zarate

If you haven't done so, check out the OCD website for the latest updates for contests, contest results meetings, photos and videos, including additional resources.

You can find it at: <http://www.oaklandclouddusters.org/>

Respectfully, Fred Terzian Unofficial OCD Scribe