

# WINDSOCK

The Valley Soaring Association Journal

Editors: Jue & Farnsworth

VSA web site: <http://www.valleysoaring.net/>

October 2008

## JOIN US AT OKTOBERFEST

**RICK INDREBO**



**BOB IRELAND**



**LARRY ROBERTS**



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**JOIN VSA!**

**TWO WAYS TO PAY!**

**PAYPAL or US MAIL**

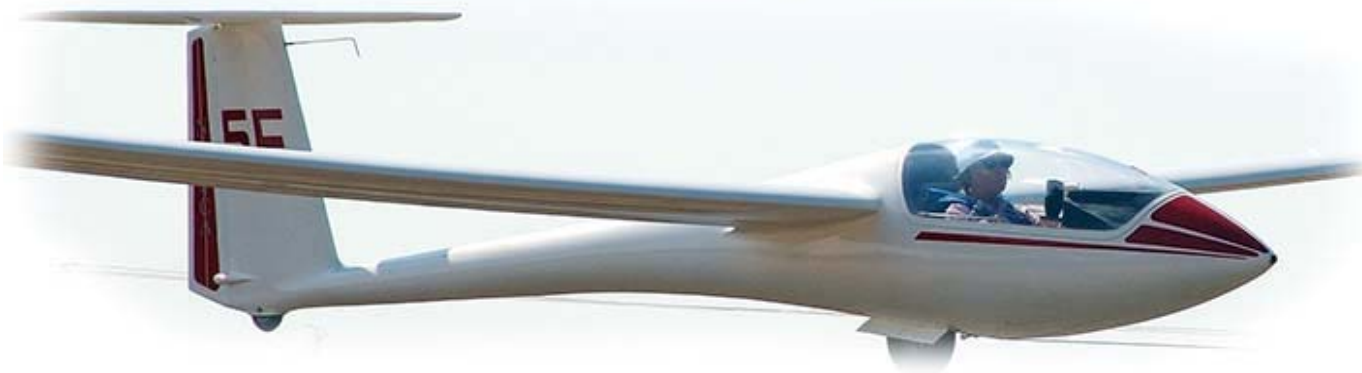
Either way, be sure to include your name, mailing address, phone number and email address.

**PAYPAL** eMail your \$20 to: [tkjesq-VSA@yahoo.com](mailto:tkjesq-VSA@yahoo.com)

**US MAIL** Write a check for \$20 Check payable to **VSA**.

Mail to: **VSA, c/o Williams Soaring, 2668 Husted Rd, Williams, CA 95987**

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



Greetings fellow pilots and soaring enthusiasts!

So much has happened on the field since my last message, that it is hard to know just where to start! Someone recently asked me "What is the Valley Soaring Association (VSA)", so I guess that's as good of a place as any to begin. **I quote Peter Kelly** from the VSA web page [www.valleysoaring.net](http://www.valleysoaring.net) with the following description of our club and our mission:

VSA is an association of glider pilots organized simply to foster enjoyment in the sport of Soaring..... The sport of operating a glider, flying freely through the air, using only rising air currents to remain aloft after being towed or self-launching into the sky.

#### VALLEY SOARING ASSOCIATION

The VSA provides a means for pilots to interact with each other, and the community in general. It's not enough for each of us to practice and demonstrate the refined skills that allow us to fly freely like an eagle, soaring for hours above the earth, and then returning confidently to the airport. As pilots, we enjoy talking to each other about our triumphs over nature, and sharing our recent discoveries in this infinitely variable, and endlessly challenging sport. **We learn from each other, and enjoy hearing about flights by other pilots.** The Valley Soaring Association (VSA) is composed of pilots, and friends of pilots, who enjoy sharing this wonderful sport.

**The Association is hosted by William's Soaring Center (WSC)**, located in William's, California, about 45 miles north of Sacramento, along Interstate Highway 5. Although many pilots of the association fly from various gliderports throughout California and Nevada. We all have a common interest in the William's Soaring Center.

Strictly volunteer, the Association is composed of annual average membership **of 50 to 100 pilots**. Members of this nonprofit association contribute their time and energy to maintaining the organization, newsletters and web pages.

We organize and promote various soaring events at William's, and the Officers of the Board of the VSA administer a Scholarship Fund, which has been awarded over a half-dozen times to High School Students in Northern California.

You are invited to visit the other pages of this web site to learn more about the Valley Soaring Association, and more about the sport of Soaring. If you share our love of Soaring and also have an interest in the operations at William's Soaring Center you are sincerely invited to join our Association. All new comers are welcome - experienced or not!

#### WHAT'S HAPPENING at WSC?

Lots of pilots have achieved personal bests this summer, despite the forest fires, the smoke, the TFR's, etc. **Erik Knight, Jim Rollison, Jan Sciacca, and Ben Mayes** all soloed in gliders this summer.

Hmmm, it seems **Nick Mayes** has been spotted flying in the super cub (under instruction) on several occasions. WSC pilots have achieved second place on the OLC (On Line Contest) as of this writing – an occurrence despite many flights not being submitted!

There is a link from the VSA web page [www.valleysoaring.net](http://www.valleysoaring.net) to the OLC, courtesy of **Peter Kelly**, and an icon on the desktop on the pilots computer, courtesy of **Larry Roberts**. Thanks for your work Peter and Larry!

**Rich Parker** – 7HV - is smoking with several 500KM + flights posted to OLC in recent months.

As for the local race, **Peter Kelly** – PK - is leading the VSA Race Series as of this writing, with 11,271 points. The winner, 2nd and 3rd place holders will be announced at the Oktoberfest!

Then there's **Jerry Annoni**, who quietly flew the "Big Bird" – his ASW 22 – a few weeks ago, and it's still the talk of the field! Photos posted on the WSC forum, courtesy of **Luke Ashcraft**, who takes some pretty fine photos when he's not soaring the skies. **Frank Peale** – 9Q – earned his Silver Badge and has been out accumulating miles in the Mendo's. **Tom Jue** has returned to the field and has been chalking up the hours in the ASK 23. Lots more good flying going on, too much to mention here.....

### REGION 11 at MONTAGUE

**Rex and Noelle** hosted the Sports Class Nationals and the Region 11 Championships in **Montague** this summer. It was an event that will be long remembered! Rex and Noelle fielded questions, situations, phone calls, landouts, the FAA temporary tower, and more, multitasking from dawn till after dark daily. What a team! Thanks for putting on a very professional and wonderfully fun contest!

Team leaders included **Gary Kemp**, leading the contest as CD. **Peter Kelly** served as weather guru and meeting chairperson. **Bob Ireland** was in charge of operations, keeping things running exceptionally smoothly with a first class, energetic and attentive team of line and ground crew. **Pete King** served as Chief Tow Pilot with a team of efficient tow pilots, getting us airborne without incident and in record time every day. **Ben Mayes**, in charge of contest scoring, was phenomenal (a more patient and persistent score person could not be asked for). **Hal Chouinard** kept us supplied with donuts every AM. Regional contestants received a briefing from **Rick Walters** and **Garret Willat** on conditions and suggested flying techniques daily. From my perspective as a new contestant participant, this was an invaluable part of the contest and a great learning opportunity. A very big THANKS to all who worked so very hard to make this contest happen.

**Rick Walters**, 88, **Peter Deane**, 2T, and **David Greenhill**, 16, took 1st, 2nd and 3rd place respectively, in the Sports Class Nationals. **Pete Alexander**, 98, **Peter Kelly**, PK, and **Rich Parker**, 7HV took 1st, 2nd and 3rd place respectively, in

the Region 11 Championships. Congratulations, guys, nice flying!

### LET'S TALK TOW PILOTS and WSC STAFF at WILLIAMS

Back on the field at WSC, **Scott**, **Casey** and **Angel Veal** have moved on to Alaska, where Scott will be flying and the family will be settling. Thanks for all the good tows, Scott! We wish you guys the best!

**Rich Beardsley** has joined the WSC team and is instructing several days weekly. **Bill Farnsworth** moved into the apartment when Scott and Casey left us for Alaska. (that's right, my brother and fellow glider pilot from Tidewater Soaring in VA.) Bill is working in various capacities for Sage Vario and WSC, and getting some soaring in when he has time. **Pete King** acquired a Pawnee last spring – pretty bird – and **Todd Robinson** with his copilot **Masey** have acquired too many airplanes for me to keep track of with my limited knowledge of power planes.

### PASCO EGG

Sept 7 brought some great soaring conditions, and **Ramy Yanetz** swooped in from Truckee and stole the PASCO egg. A posse formed to recapture it, but the day did not develop as we anticipated, and the egg was not recaptured. Ramy posted an illustrated account of his adventure on the forum for all to enjoy. Good flying, guy!

### WSC TURNPOINTS

For those of you who are interested in becoming more familiar with **WSC turnpoints** and terrain, **Peter Kelly**, PK, has posted an illustrious link on the VSA website [www.valleysoaring.net](http://www.valleysoaring.net) that maps out locations both north and south of WSC on google earth. This is both educational and informative (and quite accurate despite the disclaimer) for anyone familiarizing themselves with the area. Thanks for your work on this, Peter!

### IN MEMORY of JACK HARKIN

It is with both sadness and respect that we remember our soaring friend, Jack Harkin, who passed from our world on June 13, 2008. Jack died from complications of a cardiac event, after spending a good weekend soaring and socializing at the gliderport.

Two shade trees are planted in front of the office at WSC as a memorial to Jack. Sit a moment in the presence of these trees and remember how precious Jack is to us all, and then look up, and you will see his ASW 27, JH, soaring the skies, just where he would want it to be! Our heartfelt sympathy goes to Cha, Jack's wife, and his family, whose loss is immeasurable. Soar with us Jack! You are at once a presence with us, and greatly missed.

### OKTOBERFEST

The Oktoberfest is upon us, and I'm looking forward to seeing both new and familiar faces. I anticipate it being a great event, fun soaring, feasting, and socializing, as always! Our friend, mentor and former instructor, **Kenny Price**, is rumored to be planning to spend the day at WSC! Good to have you back, Kenny, if only for the day. We'll want to hear about your new career, and all about the Warlock and the Reno Air Races. And hey - Kenny - don't be such a stranger!.

### WINTER SERIES PROGRAM

The Winter series will start November 15, with a first rate presentation by **Kempton Izuno**, a Smoked Turkey dinner (turkeys prepared by **Pete King** – back by popular demand) and a general membership meeting (yep, we'll keep that part short and sweet, but bring your input). Any and all volunteers will be put to work briefly with the preparations! See the Winter Program Schedule for a rundown of our talented speakers, interesting topics, presented in good company with tasty food. And all for a mere \$15.00 per evening!

### BRING YOUR CHECKBOOK

Just a reminder, it's time to renew your membership with the VSA. Your **\$20.00** dues will support the interactive, social events on the field and support the local soaring community. Thanks in advance for your support and renewal!

This past year, your dues have put See You on the pilots computer – a big Thanks to **Larry Roberts**, YE, for donating the computer and getting various programs up and running (bookmarks to OLC, RASP, SeeYou and more).

We also have a subscription to Sailplane and Gliding Magazine, thanks to the recommendation of **Kempton and Darryl**, available in the pilots lounge for your review.

And of course, there are copies of our 1st class newsletter, created several times yearly by our now infamous editor **Tom Jue**, on the counter in the WSC office. Thanks Tom, for your dedication and excellent work!

### ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

And last but not least, thanks to **Rex and Noelle** and all the WSC people, the VSA officers **Larry Roberts**, VP, **Tom Jue**, editor, **Cindy Donovan**, treasurer, and to all of you, the VSA members, for your time and commitment to our soaring community. We Rock!!

See you on the field – October 11 is the big day – The Annual Oktoberfest! And don't forget to make your reservation ASAP.

## CALENDAR

Sat Oct 11 Oktoberfest at WSC - traditional Oktoberfest Feast and Contest.

Pilots meeting at 10 AM, Dinner at about 6 PM.

Guest speaker is Pete Alexander "98". Pete will share his experiences soaring in New Zealand.

Dinner Menu: B-Q Chicken Quarters, Apple-Chicken Bratwurst, Hot German Potatoes Salad, Apple Sauce, Sauerkraut, Dinner Rolls & Butter, Apple Cake, After Dinner Mints, Pumpkin Bread, Beverages: Soda & Water, Adult Beverages, Coffee & Hot Apple Cider

Cost: \$10 if RSVP prior to Wednesday October 8th, \$15 after Wednesday

Please RSVP (530) 473-5600 or [noelle@williamssoaring.com](mailto:noelle@williamssoaring.com) or sign up in the office.

Sat Nov 1 PASCO Annual Safety Seminar and Awards Banquet

Seminars Free (donations welcome)

Dinner 15.00

RSVP Bruce Roberts PASCO Vice President

Contact: [pegase@sonic.net](mailto:pegase@sonic.net)

See Flyer for details.

## VSA SECOND ANNUAL WINTER SERIES

Sat November 15 VSA Winter Series Seminar # 1

Thanksgiving feast featuring Pete Kings famous smoked turkey with all the fixings

Seminar presented by Kempton Izuno, soaring pilot and producer of HD Video and Soaring

Kempton began soaring in 1974 with the Ames Club in Livermore, CA. His interest has always been in long cross country flights along with the associated logistics, piloting skills, weather forecasting and task setting. He currently flies an ASH-25 (partnership) and will soon have his longtime Libelle on the flightline.

**Topic: Goose Lake Flight.**

A Big Zig-Zag Across Northern California. On June 1, 2008, Kempton Izuno and Stefan Leutenegger attempted a 1000K flight to the north from Williams in the ASH-25, FNX. It was not the flight they expected, instead they covered new ground, getting slightly into Nevada before turning around. Kempton will review the flight with images and video, explain the basis for in-flight decisions and review the weather forecast vs. actual.

VSA Annual meeting will precede Kempton's presentation (short and sweet annual meeting)

Cost is \$15.00 per attendee

**RSVP [noelle@williamssoaring.net](mailto:noelle@williamssoaring.net) or (530) 473-5600**

Saturday, January 17, VSA Winter Series Seminar # 2

Seminar presented by Rex Mayes, CFGI, AI, Owner/operator WSC, an FAA certified Repair Station.

**Topic: Glider and Trailer Maintenance**

This will be a "hands on walkabout" with self maintenance/professional maintenance focus and question and answer/discussion with Rex,

Dinner will be served, cost will be \$15.00 per attendee. Details to follow.

Saturday January 31, VSA Winter Series Seminar # 3

Seminar will be presented by Walt Cannon MD, glider pilot, contest pilot

**Topic: Physiological Factors Effecting Glider Pilots**

Learn how soaring effects your body, your performance (both physical and mental function), and how to plan to be at your best for flights in all weather conditions.

Dinner will be served, cost will be \$15.00 per attendee. Details to follow.

### Saturday February 28, VSA Winter Series Seminar # 4

Seminar will be presented by Darryl Ramm. Darryl currently flies an ASH 26E based at Williams and holds the FAI silver and gold badges with diamonds for goal and distance.

#### **Topic: Getting Your FAI Silver and Gold Badges and Diamonds**

The FAI Silver and Gold badges and diamonds are great stepping-stones and goals to help motivate pilots to improve their cross-country flying skills. Working towards obtaining the FAI badges also provides pilots with knowledge useful in contests and record flights. This talk will try to encourage pilots, both new pilots and experienced cross-country pilots to try for their FAI badges. Darryl will review and discuss the authoritative (and useful) official rules and guides. He will show us some possible badge flights out of Williams and talk about IGC approved loggers, task declarations, official observer duties, etc. The talk will try to demystify common points of confusion including the 1% altitude rule, using FAI sector or cylinder style turn-points, logger calibration requirements, submitting flights for multiple awards, etc. and we will discuss how to make work easy for your official observer etc. This talk will not address the SSA A, B, C and bronze badges, which are an excellent pre-cross-country program. Student or pre-cross-country pilots should discuss the SSA badge program with an SSA flight instructor who can help you work through the program.

Dinner will be served, cost will be \$15.00 per attendee. Details to follow.

### Saturday, March 14 - VSA Winter Series Seminar # 5

Seminar will be presented by Peter Kelly, Bob Ireland. Peter and Bob have both been champions of the VSA race series, and are familiar with the structure and goals involved in racing. Come find out what racing is about and how it can help you hone your soaring skills.

#### **Topic: Racing in the Mendos.**

Review of the 2008 race, discussion of racing techniques, how do these differ from XC soaring skills. Potentially Race Day 1.

Dinner will be served, cost will be \$15.00 per attendee. Details to follow.

### Saturday April 18 VSA Winter Series # 6 - TBD

Dinner will be served, cost will be \$15.00 per attendee. Details to follow.

## YOUR VALLEY SOARING ASSOCIATION

### VSA Officers



**President**  
Ginny Farnsworth  
ke6vgz@sbcglobal.net



**Vice President**  
Larry Roberts  
larry-ye@sbcglobal.net



**Treasurer**  
Cindy Donovan  
donovan\_c@sbcglobal.net



**Newsletter**  
Tom Jue  
tom.jue.usa@gmail.com

### Web Master



Peter Kelly

### Administrator



Noelle & Rex Mayes



**PASCO**

## Events

### Seminars:

**9:30 AM – 4:15 PM**

Held at the Alameda Free Library  
[see map pages]

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Events below will be held at the  
Oakland Aviation Museum  
[see map pages]

### Flying Boat and Museum Tour:

4:30 PM - 5:30 PM

**Cocktails:** 5:30 PM—6:30 PM

### Dinner & Awards Ceremony

(Speaker, Year Review, AGM, and  
Awards) **6:30 PM—10:00 PM**

## PLEASE RSVP

so we can plan the event

### Contact: Bruce Roberts

PASCO Vice President

408.219.6313

[pegase@sonic.net](mailto:pegase@sonic.net)

## LOCATIONS

See Map Pages

### Seminars:

Alameda Free Library  
1550 Oak Street,  
Alameda, CA

### Dinner, Cocktails, Flying Boat, and Museum Tour :

Oakland Aviation Museum  
8260 Boeing St.  
Oakland, CA 94621

# 2008 PASCO Annual Safety Seminar & Awards Banquet

**Saturday November 1st**



## Seminar Speakers

TIME	SPEAKERS	TOPICS
9:30-10:00 AM	Coffee & Pastries	Wake Up and Catch Up (with old friends)
10:00-11:00	Eric Rupp	Flight to Calexico
11:00-Noon	Marc Ramsey	Region 11 Winch Activities Update
Noon—1:15	Lunch Break	Many places to eat nearby
1:15-2:15 PM	Fred Lasor	Wave Window at Minden (Window Updates!)
2:15-3:15 PM	Mark Beadle	The Working Relationship - ATC and Glider Pilots
3:15-4:15 PM	Roman Wrosc	Roman Designs Winch Equipment (New technology)



## Dinner Speaker

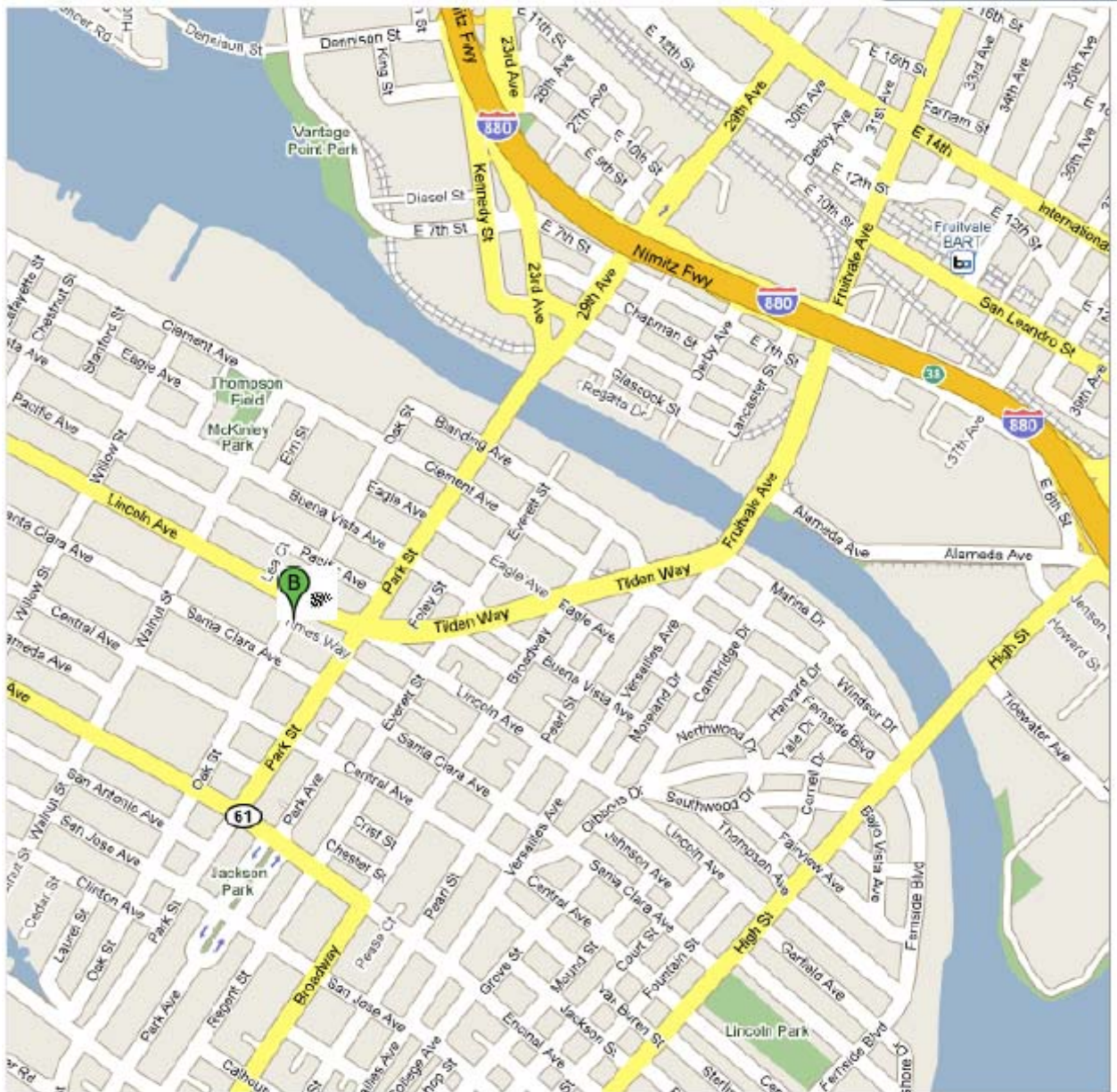
**Einar Enevoldson**

Perlan director and the late Steve Fosset's  
wave co-pilot

- **Seminar: Free** [Donations accepted]
- **Awards Banquet & Museum Tour: \$15**  
(PASCO membership encouraged but not required)
  - **Dinner Menu—Steak, Chicken, Seafood**
  - **Prefer Vegetarian?**  
Let us know so we can get a headcount.

RSVP to: Bruce Roberts—408.219.6313 [pegase@sonic.net](mailto:pegase@sonic.net)

## ALAMEDA FREE LIBRARY



**Alameda Free Library 1550 Oak St, Alameda,**

- Corner of Oak St. & Lincoln
- Garage parking corner of Oak St. & Central, pay with credit card or cash
- Street parking available, but limited
- Please use garage and not library parking (which is very limited)