

September Crammed With HG/PG Events!

Beach Party! Dahlsten Cup! Big Sur!

Event Madness Fills SHGA Calendar

Special Points of Interest

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By Richard Seymour

The month of September, 2007 will see a jam-packed Events calendar, with fun and frivolity happening every weekend.

Starting off is a decidedly-unofficial non-Club event, Rob Burgis' annual pool party on Saturday, September 1. This party has become known for its good vibrations and bon homie, as well as aquatic delights, great food and good music. Rob plans on having his BudLite only beer tasting event, which is very enlightening as far as the human palate is concerned. Rob says that he may or may not use his neighbor's lot for additional parking, because he's not sure if he wants to lug VW vans out of the ditch again.

Only one week later the 2nd Annual SHGA Dockweiler Beach Party blasts off, this time with a new, improved (safer) Sextathlon organized by Surfer Bob Wyler and the aforesaid Rob Burgis (see page 3 for event details). A new, different BATSO is scheduled to appear, and Joe Greblo has come up with some new Windsports games as well. This year the discounted "family" lessons will not be offered, but Joe promises fun for the beach goers anyway. There will be the Distance Flight contest (unassisted this time!), as well as other vintage gliders to fly. Food will be presented, organized and served by Freddy Wagner's Kitchen Crew.

Then after only 2 weeks to recover, the 27th Annual Dahlsten Cup event will be held.



Joe Greblo helping Ken Andrews fly the Batso last year

Photo by Jeff Carlisle

"Since the weather has proved so iffy the last few years in October," says Ken Andrews, "the Board decided to move it up into September."

The Dahlsten Cup, as you all know, is the Club premier event, honoring Mary Dahlsten for all the support she has give the Hang Gliding/paragliding community the last 30 years. This event will be the major competition between pilots, and the comp part will be organized, judged, and steered by Jeff Chipman and others. Lynn McLaughlin will be doing a lot of the organization, helped by Chris Wolters, (Continued on page 5)

Notes From the Editor



Caitlin Benti ready to lead the Kanaraville parade
Photo by Jeff Carlisle

I Want YOU To be the next NEWSLETTER EDITOR!

The best use of a journal is to print the largest practical amount of important truth, — truth that tends to make mankind wiser, and thus happier.

— Horace Greeley

Burke said that there were Three Estates in Parliament, but in the Reporter's gallery yonder, there sat a Fourth Estate, more important far than they all.

— Carlyle. Heroes and Hero-Worship

I fear three newspapers more than a hundred thousand bayonets

— Napoleon Bonaparte

Every newspaper editor owes tribute to the devil.

— La Fontaine.



SYLMAR HANG GLIDING ASSOCIATION HIGH TIMES is published to chronicle the events and progress in development of the Sylmar Hang Gliding Association and is published as a service to the members of this association. Neither the Editor nor the SHGA make any warranties or representations nor assume any liability concerning the validity of any advice, opinions, or recommendations expressed in this publication. Individuals relying upon the published material do so at their own risk. Subscriptions are available free only with full or associate memberships in the SHGA.

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Or e-mail electronic files to: editor@shga.org
Or e-mail to editor : SeymourNme@aol.com

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Meeting Calendar 2007

Board Meetings (held at 7 p.m., the second Thursday of the month, at the Windsports House): Sept. 13, Oct. 11, Nov. 8, Dec. 13.

Saturday Club Meetings (held in the LZ): Sept. 8, Nov. 11.

Membership

One-time \$100 initiation fee, \$60 yearly dues. Contact Jay Devorak for additional membership information.

KEN'S BRAIN TEASERS

Wind Words

All of the following words are closely associated with the movement of air. Alphabetize them, match each to its definition(s), and explain the significance of each to a glider pilot.

Words:

1. Anemometer
2. Anemone
3. Anabatic
4. Adiabatic
5. Advection

Definitions:

- A. Occurring without a transfer of heat to the surroundings
- B. The transport of air, and its properties, from one place to another
- C. Moving upward
- D. An instrument that measures airspeed
- E. A flowering plant in the buttercup family
- F. An ocean-dwelling animal

(Answers on page 7)



Paul Thornbury in action 2006

Photo by Jeff Carlisle



Ken Andrews and his Wills Wing U2 flying about 30 MPH at Dunlap. Photo by Rob Burgis

SHGA/WINDSPORTS BEACH PARTY SEXTATHLON

By Bob "Surfer Bob" Wylar

The Sextathlon is open to all willing participants. Two Divisions – Male and Female. There are 6 events, points are scored by finishing places; first place gets one point, second gets two, etc. Lowest point total for 6 events wins. If a participant chooses to forgo an event, they will receive last place points for the event.

Registration 11am-12 noon.

Events

1. **12 noon-1:15pm. Glide for distance.** Just like last year. We will fly one of two Windsports' provided single surface gliders. Each person gets 2 flights to establish their best effort. Unlike last year, there will be no assisted takeoffs.
2. **1:15. Closest to the pin.** Each person gets 3 golf shots towards the "hole." Clubs; balls provided.
3. **1:45. Mountain Bike Beach Ride.** Using provided bike, contestants ride off plywood into sand. Distance event.
4. **2:30. Beach Flags.** Contestants lie on sand behind a line. "Flags" are randomly placed in sand. Like musical chairs, contestants are eliminated.

(Continued on page 6)

Chili Contest!

That's right, its time for the 4th Annual Dahlsten Cup Chili Contest!

Saturday, September 22,
2007.

C'mon, you know you want to enter! You KNOW your chili is the best! Don't let that Cabbagehead guy win again!

Here are the rules!

- 1) Contest is open to pilots, family members, or anyone else!
- 2) Bring enough chili for 20 people to sample 4 oz., about 1/2-3/4 gallon. More is better!
- 3) Two entries per person max.
- 4) You will need your own electric crockpot(s) to keep your entry(s) warm.
- 5) You will need your own serving spoon(s).
- 6) You must declare your chili meat or vegetarian, spicy or mild.
- 7) Bring your HOT, not COLD chili in it's crockpot to the LZ by 12 noon. Serving will begin at 1pm.

That's all! You don't even have to stick around and serve it! The Chili Servers will do that. You can go fly, and win the Dahlsten Cup while your chili is winning the chili contest! The club will provide tables, power cords, terminal strips, bowls, plates, napkins, spoons, chips, cheese, onions,

(Continued on page 5)

Expired Memberships

NAME	SHGA EXP. DATE
Boswell, George	6/30/07
Briant, Walt	5/31/07
Burgis, Rob	7/31/07
DeMars, David	7/31/07
Georgiou, Phil	5/31/07
Kelley, Melinda	6/30/07
Leone, John	5/31/07
Lopez, Jose	7/31/07
Muramatsu, Norichika	5/31/07
Neisser, Mark	7/31/07
Pruett, Richard	5/31/07
Rider, Jason	6/30/07
Thompson, Cheryl	6/30/07
Thompson, Don	6/30/07
Thornbury, Paul	7/31/07
Waugh, Fred	6/30/07
Williams, Christian	6/30/07
Winter, Foster	7/31/07



Another Kanaraville parade float

Photo by Jeff Carlisle

(Events continued from page 1)

Cabbagehead and the usual suspects.

As in the past, the comp will be divided into Sport and Open class. The winner of the Open class will be awarded the actual Cup, which has passed from hand to hand since Rick Rawlings first one it in 1985. Last year's winner, Andy Pryciak, will hand it off to the new winner, unless, of course, he wins it again!

In addition to the flying portion of the day, the 4th Annual Chili Contest will be held (see page 4 for Chili Rules). This promises to be a big turnout, because nothing gets people more riled up then the fact that their favorite chili that they have been making for years might not get recognized as the BEST.

Finally, rounding off the month on the last weekend is the annual Windsports Big Sur expedition. Held on September 28-30, this yearly trip always gathers a lot of interest, and many new pilots have their first flying camping experience there. The campsite at Plankett canyon has been used by SHGA members and their families now for nearly 20 years. Flying over the Big Sur coast is one of the most beautiful and memorable experiences to be found in our sport. Just beware of the poison oak that grows everywhere away from the campsite! Also avoid getting whited out!

— RS

(Chili Contest continued from page 4)
hot peppers and oyster crackers.

The chili entries will be numbered, and people will fill out ballots giving their favorites 1st, 2nd or 3rd place ratings. Impartial Chili judges will arbitrate any disputes, count ballots, and award prizes. Contest will open at noon, and close at 5pm. Prizes will be awarded before Dahlsten Cup results announced!

For further info, contact Richard Seymour at (818) 244-2245, or e-mail him @ SeymourNme@aol.com

Then I commended mirth, because a man hath no better thing under the sun, than to eat, and to drink, and to be merry.

— ECCLESIASTES. VIII.15

Let us have wine and woman, mirth and laughter. Sermons and soda-water the day after.

— BYRON, *Don Juan*

Upcoming Events

Rob Burgis Party September 1! Call Rob at (818) 362-1629.

Flying Circus trip to Owens Valley September 1-3. Contact Hungary Joe at (661) 799-7349.

Dockweiler Beach Party, Saturday, September 8. Contact Richard Seymour at (818) 244-2245.

Board of Directors Meeting! Thursday, September 13 @ 7pm at Windsports house.

Dahlsten Cup! September 22. Contact Lynn McLaughlin at (818) 421-3251.

Big Sur Windsports trip, September 29. Call Windsports at (818) 367-2430.



**GASP at the latest Hurricane stories!
SEE photos of the Fourth of July Hurricane parade!
READ about the George Stebbin's Owens attempt!
HATE Vrezh for getting that new glider!
ADMIRE Cutter's perseverance on trying to predict the unpredictable!
GET ALL WORKED UP about something!
COME UP with an entirely new discussion point!**

(Brain Teaser continued from page 3)

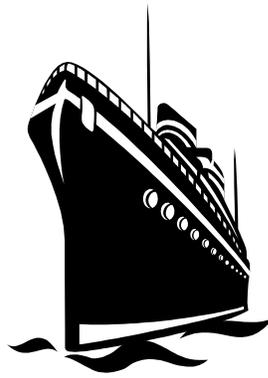
ANSWERS!

Adiabatic — *occurring without a transfer of heat to the surroundings.* Air doesn't conduct heat very well, so as a “chunk” of air rises or sinks, it does so adiabatically. For example, an “empty” water bottle at the top of Kagel mountain really contains a liter of air. When you take that liter of air down to the LZ, a couple interesting things happen. It gets compressed by about 6 percent due to the higher atmospheric pressure: the bottle gets a little squashed. It took energy (from the rest of the atmosphere) to squash that bottle, and some of this energy appears as heat: the air comes out about 12 degrees warmer. These same things happen in reverse when a thermal is released by the LZ and rises. The thermal will cool at about 5.5 degrees per thousand feet, and will be about 12 degrees cooler when it gets to the Kagel summit. This change in temperature is known as the “dry adiabatic lapse rate”. To complicate matters, the thermal will condense into fog when (and if) it reaches cloudbase. Condensation releases heat, so above that level the air will continue to cool, but more slowly at the “wet adiabatic lapse rate”.

Advection — *the transport of air, and its properties, from one place to another.* For example, when a south wind replaces the hot dry air in Sylmar with cool moist air from the ocean, those of us in the LZ observe changes to both the temperature and humidity due to advection.

Anabatic — *moving upward; the opposite of catabatic.* We always talk about the possible onset of catabatic wind that blows down from the mountains near sunset. We spend less time talking about the anabatic wind that usually blows uphill during the day, but this is what we fly in.

Anemometer — *an instrument that measures airspeed.* Some anemometers use propellers or rotating cups and report true airspeed; others such as the Hall airspeed indicator measure pressure differences, and report “indicated airspeed”. The indicated airspeed is lower than the true airspeed when the air is thin. Some folks use the word



Sick of the heat?
Tired of dust & smog?
Then you know what to do!
COME TO THE BEACH!

**Saturday,
September 8
11am till dark**

We had so much fun last year
that we decided to do it again!
Fly, Bike, Run, Swim, or just enjoy
the cool breeze!
-Compete in the Sextathlon!
-Fly vintage gliders
-Try the amazing Batso!
-Meet HG legends!
-Gorge on yummy B-B-Q!

**Second Annual
SHGA
Dockweiler
Beach Party!**


Sylmar Hang Gliding
Association

“anemometer” only for instruments that report true airspeed; others aren't so particular.

Anemone — *Definition 1: a flowering plant in the buttercup family. Definition 2: a sea anemone, an ocean-dwelling animal with the IQ of a plant.* The plants are also known as windflowers, and the sea creatures are so named because they move as if they were blowing in the wind. Neither kind has any significance to a glider pilot.

If you correctly alphabetized these words, give yourself a bonus point.

(Sextathlon continued from page 3)

5. Swim. Beach start. Swim to a bouy. Parallel the beach, around another buoy, finish on beach. Around 200 yards. Bathing suits mandatory.

6. Beach run. Mass start from south end of LZ. Triangular course run to the south around cones. About 1 kilometer

The Sextathlon will be done by 4pm, in time for food and the awarding of prizes. Contestants are urged to register early and listen to verbal instructions.

It's gonna be great!

—BW

Rome's Ramblings

- I think the club should do something special for Russ and Fernando. They beefed up the existing gazebo with 45 degree braces. Along with the wisteria, this should hold up to 70 mph winds. They also steel-strapped that one rotten post. Why don't we give them free life-memberships?
- Speaking of dumps, Hungary Joe, Robert Bustamente and I recently took a tour of the Lopez Canyon landfill. Just inside the gate is FREE mulch. It's really nice; low on wood chips. They are through dumping trash, and now only take topsoil. Did you know that this landfill started in 1975, was closed in 1996 to the public, and will finally be totally closed in 2010? Right now it is generating power from all the methane gas cooking away down there. They generate 3,100 cfm of methane as well as 6.5 megawatts of electricity per hour, enough for 9,000 homes. Combusting 1.46 billion BTUs per day, they are responsible for all those nice house thermals we get at locals, the volcano and launch.
- Barton's Yosemite trip was also a gas! George Anderson (Yosemite's Numero Uno pancake flipper) was taking videos of all the landings, and he's selling them as DVDs. The disc is for all of the 2007 season. He's charging 20 bucks per DVD. You can order one from him at YosemiteGeorge@onemain.com, or call him at (209) 372-4221.
- Our lawn is starting to look good! Well, green anyway. Now that we got the sprinklers fixed it's getting the water it needs. Any and all should bring gloves and pull the flat reddish weeds out. They are easy to pull! Oh, and by the way, when you turn off the faucet or mister don't try and twist the handle off. Just turn it till the water stops.
- We really had a nice cookout last Tuesday (August 28). Russ brought out his huge frying pan, and cooked veggies, home-made potato chips. Hungary Joe was there, Cabbagehead, Andy & Emily, Daryl, Janyce and the other evening flyers. I brought some nice, fresh yummy elk liver and hearts, which Russ then roasted to perfection. Everyone got plenty to eat, especially Cabbagehead's pet "goat" who ate so much elk liver that her little tummy looked like a volleyball. Phill Bloom was there and told us about some of his Texas comp adventures.
- We now have two porta-potties, so that should help out during the upcoming Dahlsten Cup if there is a big turnout. Everyone should do their best to keep these things clean. By the way, someone started a rumor that the right hand potty is reserved for paraglider pilots. Just because the urinal DOES look like a paragliding helmet doesn't make it so. Grow up you guys!
- —RD

Tidbits

- This past week (August 27-31) at Sylmar was a real teaser, what with those monsoon clouds towering up in the desert, tantalizingly near but not quite close enough. What everyone hoped would be a massive convergence didn't quite happen, at least anywhere close enough to Kagel launch to matter. Still, pilots broke through 5,000 asl consistently and occasionally got to 6 grand.
- Last week also was the occasion for the passing away of one of the aviation legends; **Paul MacCready**. Paul was an innovative aircraft designer who built the Gossamer Condor, that crazy flying pteradactyl dinosaur model, and other achievements too numerous to mention. He was also an early hang gliding enthusiast, and you can see his autograph on **Harry Martin's** poster on the previous page. Another scribble there is from the late **Richard Miller**, who shares the invention of the Bamboo Butterfly. Richard died a year after the 2000 Dockweiler reunion. **Lynn McLaughlin** spent some time getting to know Richard at that reunion, and later kept in touch with him. We'll miss you, Paul!
- Still no word on when the U.S. Forest Service will put up the Kagel gate(s). Now it seems that before they can build them there has to be a period of community input on the idea. Not sure what that means. Perhaps the Organization of Illegal Offroaders and Habitat Destroyers (OIOHD) has made some kind of official protest, and will be making a presentation to the USFS to preserve their access. Meanwhile the launch just gets shabbier and shabbier.
- **Phill Bloom** is back from the 2007 Worlds Comp held in Texas. He says that it was one of the best organized meets he's ever been in. **David Glover** was the Meet Director (again). This comp was virtually accident-free. The closest thing to an injury happened to **Jon Durrand Jr.**, who wiped out diving into the pool after hours. His neck hurt so bad that he almost didn't fly the next day.
- Speaking of flying Big Sur, be sure and check out **Paul Gazis'** incredibly scary story about being whited out there in this month's HG&PG magazine (September 2007). I couldn't put the article down. Speaking of running out of options! It's a two-part story, so after you get to read the first part, you have to wait a whole month for the ending!
- **Malury Silberman** and **Janyce Collins** are still racking up the hours almost every afternoon. Janyce is thinking of giving up teaching, and maybe becoming a waitress somewhere nearby so she can fly every day right through the winter!
- Still no word about **George Stebbin's** out & back world record being officially recognized. There seems to be some dispute over whether or not he will be disqualified because he exceeded 18,000 ft.asl. George sent in his flight computer to be re-calibrated, but the jury is still out. Whatever. We know you deserve it George!
- Is this the world's greatest sport or what?
- —CH