

Meeting Notes

Scribbled by Steve Scott, somewhat interpreted by Jerry Dalen:

Dan Schroeder called the meeting to order at 7:50.

New Faces: Mark Lake from Ohio was present.

Site Reports: Shaw Butte has been getting soarable. We are still trying to get approval from the Parks Dept. on whether we can apply some type of oil to the dustier sections of the road. Jerry Dalen is coordinating this effort with the Shaw Butte Users Association.

South Mountain: Someone commented on how much trash has accumulated on the towers launch and parking lot. We will get with the Parks Dept. and schedule another cleanup effort. Most likely this fall.

Oatman: The South launch has been mostly completed with the rock chucking. What is needed now is a concrete or possibly stabilized granite cap over the rocks. Again, since it's flying season we will probably set this up for next fall or winter. There is some plywood on top of the rocks that you can run on. Kinda noisy, but I hear it works fine.

Mingus: There was considerable discussion about the close proximity of a skydiver to a hang glider. We were informed that Dan Bachelor is very aware of us, and looks for hang gliders while climbing to altitude in the drop plane.

Consensus was to look hard for the plane and for skydivers before you head over towards the Cottonwood airport. The skydivers generally stay on the South end of the runway over their drop zone.

Mingus: Final designs for the campground have been received. Keith Evert is working up a cost proposal, and Hal Hayden and Joe Pettit have volunteered to try to secure grant monies for the project.

Eldon: Site insurance has been secured for this year by the AHGA. Hopefully we will get to use the site, as it's been a very dry winter with no prospects of precipitation in the near future. The Forest Service will most likely shut down Eldon and Mingus early this year.

Yarnell: See Prez article.

Superior Fly-in was to be the following weekend, but due to the landowner of the LZ forbidding us access. I don't think anyone showed.

Laura and Corey are going to El Gulfo! April 26th & 27th. Call them for details.

The proposed Fly-in/Swap Meet at Duck Park was cancelled due to the City of Phoenix's policy of no money changing at public parks. No one had a good substitute site, so the item was tabled.

Bill Holmes will be the guest speaker for April. Be sure and come to the meeting for details on his aerotowing operation.

Eagle Nominees: Rick from Globe for his great flight at Oatman North. Merle Louck for all of his contributions to the Oatman launches. Hildegard for working hard on the Oatman launches and flying a paraglider.

Turkey Nominees: Rick from Globe for crashing in the wash after his great flight. Joe Pettit for misjudging his turn and munching an upright at Oatman. Dan McManus for a super whack somewhere. Shawn for coming over the barbed wire fence at Oatman very low. >

I can't tell you who got the Eagle or Turkey cuz it's not in the notes. You decide, although Merle has my vote....

Gene Irwin showed us the jacket that Wills Wing gave him for winning the Falcon XC contest. Gene had the Wills Wing logo enhanced with a very colorful and patriotic design that he had modified from one seen in the magazine. It truly is beautiful. Talk to Gene if you would be interested in obtaining one for your favorite jacket.

The Mingus Relief Fund raffle garnered \$47.00 more dollars for the club. Thanks again to all who continue to contribute to this worthy endeavor.

Meeting adjourned at 9:16 p.m.

More from the Prez

Club business:

Joe P. and others have cleared out the "Pit" LZ at South Mountain and are using a cliff launch just to the West of Dobbins point on those North days. Joe wanted to get park permission to build a "small" sloped ramp for increased safety. The club needs to discuss this first, and come to an agreement as well as a plan, prior to doing it.

Meeting Agenda:

Bill Holmes will be our guest speaker at this month's meeting. He will be focusing on aero towing procedures and how they are utilizing them down East of Maricopa. I did a tandem with him last month and since I don't have that Much towing experience, I picked up on some helpful advice.

Yarnell:

Flying there recently has been good. Great mid day flights and glassoffs are just around the corner. If you haven't flown there before, you are missing out on one of the best sites we have. The great thing about the glassoffs is that they are not your typical conditions. Thermals can be worked high almost up until sunset. The next three months are the best for this, as well as easy mid day XC flights. If it blows over the back at Mingus, head to Yarnell. If it is blown out at Yarnell during the day, wait for what is almost always an incredible glass off flight. As for the LZ, the club should do everything in it's power to purchase land for a permanent landing area here. This area will be prime real estate in only a few more years. It has been looked into, but just how we could do it is still an unknown. As for the purchase, if it is possible, several club members have already offered to put alot of personal money toward this cause.