

August 2000

The club's AGM draws near and with it, a change in management. This can mean either a refreshing change or a loss of momentum (along with most of the corporate memory.) Most of the executive positions are coming vacant, some because the incumbents have served for sufficient time to have made a meaningful contribution, started to strain their family relationships or because they are obliged to step down under the constitution. The main reason why folks join flying clubs is to fly and this includes the current committee members. It is time they had a break. DDSC has just about doubled its activity in the past two years and we are all seeing the benefits of increased income, better fleet utilisation, the arrival of the second Puchacz, the second towplane, the flexibility of being able to operate at two sites simultaneously, the website, the on-line weather station, the Scouts, aerotow retrieves and soon, the enlarged and resurfaced airfield. All of this amounts to an incredible achievement in a relatively short space of time and in the face of an "industry" downturn. We need "new" people to take over the reins. "They" (bad word) are already in the club and we need them to volunteer for a year or two. Apart from the traditional executive positions, institutionalized by the Memorandum and Articles of Association, there is a need (and opportunity) to expand and devolve the management of the club in order to spread the workload, reduce individual commitments and to increase productivity. Examples of this already exist with the Canteen Officer, Webmaster and the Marketing Officer. Southern Cross Gliding Club at Camden are older and bigger than we are and they have long ago embraced this concept, as shown in the accompanying position and management summary for Southern Cross. Nomination forms are enclosed. They must be submitted to the Secretary no later than 7 days from the AGM.

Club AGM

Saturday 16th September at the Officers' Mess, Army Aviation Centre, Oakey. \$25 per head for the meal. RSVP to Kevin Senz. The bar will be open from 1900 to 1930. Buffet will be served at 1930. It comprises hot carvery – seasoned roast beef with horseradish sauce, roast pork loin with applesauce. Apricot chicken in filo pastry, herbed chicken drumsticks, Mongolian lamb, and lasagne. Idaho potatoes, selection of baked vegetables. Butterscotch pudding, cinnamon baked apples, fruit strudel. !!

Anniversary

The club is 40 this year and we shall be celebrating at the forthcoming annual general meeting. If you can lend any memorabilia, photographs, articles, etc. please get them to Murray (Brisbane) or Trevor (Toowoomba) so we can reproduce them and/or display them at the AGM.

Aero Club

Trevor Bange, Tony Barker, Peter Bell, Shane Andersen and Kevin Senz all visited DDAC on Friday 7th July and were treated to a generous lunch, morning and afternoon teas. Some had the good fortune to sample a flight in a Piper Tomahawk. Thanks the Graham King and his committee and staff for their gracious hospitality.

DDSC Air Tours

VH-CMN has already been to Lake Eyre once this year and there have been two more trips planned. We asked veteran air-tourist, Captain Stow Kentish, of MDK Airlines to give us some tips. He says: "Here are a few suggestions for CMN trips, I've done them all and can fill in further for anyone interested. Fuel is not a problem, especially with CMN's 6-hour endurance. Our longest leg going to WA next month is only 3 hours. All times are approximate and starts and finishes are Jondaryan.

Tangalooma (Moreton Island): economical resort, great scenery, day trips on the island available and an easy, short trip outside controlled airspace – 2 hours. Fraser Island/Hervey Bay – 70 minutes. Orchid Beach – good strip but tricky winds – 15 minutes from HBA. Heaps of attractions at HBA – day trips to Fraser Island, Kingfisher Resort and whale watching August to October. Fly into Orchid Beach, rent a house for a day or more, catch your meals off the beach – tailer are running July/October, fly down the 75 Mile Beach at 500 feet to Eurong Resort and airstrip – 3 hours. Go a bit further north to Great Keppel Island, Brampton Island, Lindeman Island, the Whitsundays. Carnarvon Gorge – take your tent and camp at the national park. Fly over some real tiger country and land at Ingelara Station – 4 hours (return) via Roma. Lightning Ridge – pay for the plane by digging some opals. A great couple of days – 4 hours. OK, you've had some fun, NOW for THE BIG ONES! Cooktown, Thursday Island (Horn Island,) New Guinea (you can do it) 30 hours. Longreach (Hall of Fame and the biggest steaks you've ever attempted to eat) – 4 hours. Then go on to Burketown Pub (if you're game) Escott Barramundi Lodge, the Morning Glory, Sweers Island (great fishing, with all gear and boat supplied.) – 4 hours from Longreach, 17 hours total. The Territory Tour: Mt Isa, Kakadu, Darwin, Alice Springs, Ayers Rock, Coober Pedy (more opals and underground accommodation) Lake Eyre (Muloorina Station – taxi up to the shearers' quarters,) Innaminka, Cunnamulla – 30 hours. Why not do the lot!? Go on from Tennant Creek to Broome, down to Perth; try the wines at Margaret River then home via The Bight and Broken Hill – 5 hours. Snowy Mountains: Porpunkah, Bright, and Dinner Plains – great scenery and lots of gliding close by – 10 hours. Tasmania: lots to see and do (Cradle Mountain airstrip and resort are a must) – 16 hours.

Marketing

We have registered DDSC at **clubinfo search** (Clubfind Info Pty Ltd) <http://www.clubinfo.com.au> – a free service. Alan Midwood has written to the Japan Travel Bureau (on the Gold Coast) proposing DDSC glider flights as part of a day trip to the Downs from the Gold Coast for Japanese tourists. A press release about the weather station has been sent to various aviation magazines and journals.

Website

Recent feedback: “This website is superb! Wonderful pics and the info and weather stuff is very nicely done. Was up flying a coupla weekends ago. Back soon I reckon!” (Paul Davies, Brisbane.) “I commend this initiative to all of you. The DDSC crew have done fantastic job. Regards, Dave.” (Dave Donald, QSA Secretary in broadcast e-mail to QSA members re our weather station.) The website continues to attract plenty of attention and fills an important role in our “marketing mix.” For example, Shane Andersen reported late last month, “Wed – up 230% (his/my e-mails to QSA/Aus-Soaring Newsgroup about the weather station) Thu – up 385% (“Toowoomba Chronicle”) Fri – up 305% until 10PM (combination of both.) Advertising *does* pay.

Club Charges

Latest price list enclosed.

Cost Savings

With the advent of the GST, plus high fuel prices, things have become more expensive. Three suggestions are – Brisbane and Toowoomba members to start using the on-line car pooling service, watch the weather on-line and (if you're game) release at 1500' agl if you are confident of a good thermal. (This could also be very counter-productive. Cheer up, your circuits will improve.)

Ops Management and Record Keeping

In recent weeks we have had many days without a Duty Pilot. (We are grateful to those stalwarts and volunteers who give their time and service.) This causes disorganization and discord on the field, places unnecessary and unwelcome stress on the duty instructors and generally delivers a less than optimal result at the end of the day's flying. The problem gets even worse when the inadequately filled-out time sheets reach the Treasurer and calculated guesses have to be made after far too much time has been spent poring over the paperwork. We are going to have to do something "creative" about a *Duty Pilot Roster*.

Weather Station

A great "hit" (pun intended.) The computer is struggling and is locking up (and has frozen once.) In spite of our having had to buy a new computer, this facility is proving very popular within and without the club. As a result we have joined the Australian Severe Weather Association and shall be able to view storm radar and take precautions based on observable facts during the thunderstorm season. ASWA requests that anyone report severe storms to their reporting line 3390 4218, or by going to their homepage at <http://www.severeweather.asn.au> .

Committee

Next meeting Saturday 19th August at 5.00PM – clubhouse.

Club General Meeting

Saturday 19th August at 7.00PM – clubhouse.

Club BBQ

Saturday 19th August (before the club meeting.)

QSA AGM

Will be held at Kingaroy Soaring Club at 10AM Saturday 19th August. Positions available for nomination are: President, Treasurer, Secretary, 2 X Councillors, Comps Committee, Sports Committee, and Airspace Officer. Nominations to Dave Donald, QSA Secretary, by PM 16th August.

Parachutes

Chris Aniftos periodically arranges re-packing at Toogoolawah. Phone Chris on 3848 1409. Chris reported that the brand new National parachute (\$1750) had been misplaced for a time. It has been located but we need to take care of these life-saving devices. On the subject of which, please do not leave them exposed unnecessarily to the sun as the UV radiation degrades the fabric rather quickly.

Clubhouse e-mail

Now available on the weather station computer ddsc@australis.aunz.com . This is not ready to be used for essential operational messages, as it is not accessible continuously, etc.

Faxing the Clubhouse

Because we are sharing the fax line with ISP (internet service provider) dial-up for weather station uploads (to our website), it is best to avoid faxing anything to the clubhouse 6.30/.45, 9.30/.45, 12.30/.45 and 15.30/.45. (We may need an additional phone line.)

MSOP

The club's Manual of Standard Operating Procedures has been updated and is available in the members' secure area on the website. It is going out as an attachment by e-mail to the on-line members and will be delivered to the rest.

Scouts

11 Scouts flew on Saturday 29th, ably looked after by Denis Lambert and Shane Andersen.

Airworthiness

The Grob's Form 2 inspection was carried out in the last weekend of July. RI has suffered a broken nosewheel after many/years of being operated with little or no pressure in the tyre. These tyres have rather stiff walls and appear firm to the casual observer. Of course, it's a different story once the aircraft goes into operation. Tyres serve as the suspension as well as having other duties such as steering and braking. (Remember the Concorde.) Check all tyres with a pressure gauge regularly, please. Thanks to Robert Bradley for effecting temporary repairs.

Tugmaster

CMN now has a tie down kit (located in the luggage compartment.) A **Pro Nav100 GPS** has been installed (similar to Garmin.) This has not been programmed and needs waypoints entered from the ERSA and/or the GPS database (refer Mike Codling or the DDSC website.) The user manual for the GPS is in the aircraft glove box. Ops: Note, always tow clear of the glider circuit and circuit joining area, unless requested to do so for emergency training purposes. Upon release, descend wide of the circuit area. When flying CMN (C182), remember to hold full back stick when taxiing to reduce pressure on the nose wheel strut. Always land nose-high onto the main wheels first, with the horizon well below the instrument panel. Touching down on the nose wheel could prove very expensive! (Replacement of strut, damaged firewall - as well as skin panels.) We have already had to repair the strut oil seals twice. Hint: To close the door(s) – first open the window and pull the door closed by the window sill. Then lock the door handle and close the window. **Do not pull the door closed with the door handle.**

CFI

Remember to check your currency, annual flight check expiry date and medical. Alf Garrone will be standing down as tug pilot testing. The committee's recommendation for replacement is Robert Bradley. Thanks to Alf and best wishes to Robert. Midweek courses are being extended to 32 flights, from 25 flights.

Flying

Chris Aniftos 3.08, 2.57, 3.08 XOW, 2.35 AG, John Moore 2.24, 2.48 LR, Bob Ward 1.50, 3.40, 3.41 BW, Andrew Georgeson 4.00, 3.19 AG, Allan Latemore 2.33 WQR, Paul Owens 2.14 MV, Dudley Waters 2.10, 3.18, 4.00, 2.50, 4.17 XHC, Allan Latemore and Ian Hallt 2.30 IUR, Alf Garrone 2.25 WQX, Ron Brecknell 3.36 XOW, Owen Jones 3.06 EC, David McManus 3.30, 2.45 XOW, Michael Codling 2.17 XV, Richard Hoskings 2.09, 3.00 FQR, Roly Sundell 3.35 GZO, Alec Russell 0.47 IUR,

Peter Hastings 4.11 MV, Stephen Harris 3.52, 3.00 WQR, Jenny Thompson 2.00 GAW, Tony Lake 1.14 RI, Josh D'Arcy 2.41 RI. (Not bad for the middle of winter.)

Apologies

To Peter Hemmings for mistaking his name. I won't repeat it, in case it sticks.

Operational Inspection

John Clayton, RTO-OPS, visited us on 9th July.

ATC Cadets

Ian Hallt, Daniel Hamel, Steve Gee and Jordan Walker had a weeks' flying early July. Ian soloed in the Grob, Daniel, Ian and Steven converted to the Hornet whilst Ian had some cross-country training in the Grob with Allan.

Welcome

Doug Brooks, Don Abel, Hardy Krueger, Tony Gordon who gave us his usual sparkling aerobatics display in the Pitts Special.

Congratulations

Libby Matuszczak who soloed, again, after a very long break from gliding. Libby works hard behind the scenes for the club, collating and mailing "CHAOTIC", as well as officiating at State Comps. She is a Hornet pilot from way back so watch out guys; the gals are coming (at last.)

Youth Soaring Scholarships

Congratulations to the following winners – John Ralph, Chezhan Hall, Toby Turner and Andrew Barker (from Chinchilla.) The Queensland Soaring Association, in conjunction with DDSC, sponsors these scholarships.

QSA State Comps

To be held at SDAandSC, Massie Airfield, Warwick 23-30 September. Contact Peter Bell if you are interested.

Snowy Mountains Safari

Smitten by a recent holiday in Canberra and the Snowys, Ken Stehbens is keen to tack onto the annual CGV migration to Khancoban in 3 or 4 months time. Ken is open to suggestions. Contact Ken if you are interested.

Coming Events

Event	August	September	October	Contact
Midweek flying	Thu 03 Fri 04	Thu 07 Fri 08	Thu 05 Fri 06	Peter Bell
Committee meeting	Sat 19	Sat 09	Sat 14	Kevin Senz
Instructors meeting	Fri 11	Fri 08	Fri 13	Peter Bell
Club general/BBQ	Sat 19	-	-	Kevin Senz
Scouts	Sat 12 Sat 26	Sat 16 Sat 30	Sat 14 Sat Sat 28	Tony Barker
Qld State Comps	-	Sat 23 – Sat 30	-	SDASC/Peter Bell
Pylon race	-	Sat 02	-	Denis Lambert

Bne show-day fly.	Wed 16	-	-	Peter Bell
TBA AD open day	-	Sun 24	-	Murray Knight
Club AGM	-	Sat 16	-	Kevin Senz
Ab-initio course	-	Mon 04 – Fri 08	Mon 02 – Fri 06	Peter Bell
YSS course	-	Sun 24 – Fri 29	SS14/15 21/22 28/29	Peter Bell
QSA AGM	Sat 19	-	-	Dave Donald QSA
AGM nominations	-	Sat 09	-	Kevin Senz
Rex Teakle trophy	Thu 31	-	-	Kevin Senz
Working bee/BBQ	-	Sat 09	-	Trevor Hamley
CGC XC visit to DDSC	-	Mon 11 - Fri 15	-	Peter Bell
Snowy Safari (TBC)	-	-	Sat 29- Sun Nov 12	Ken Stehbens

REX TEAKLE TROPHY

The Teakle family has very generously donated a prestigious trophy in memory of long time stalwart, Rex. It is a silver eagle, mounted and cased. By majority, the committee has agreed that it should be a “Logie” style award, given to the most popular/worthy/contributing member over the previous 12 months. There is nothing complicated about this and there are no conditions or eligibility criteria. It is to be “members’ choice” and not that of the committee (or any other sub-committees, etc.) The members’ decision will be final. Selection will be by nomination; you simply nominate the person of your choice, to Kevin Senz, Secretary, by 31st August. It would help if you gave your reason(s) for the selection. The winner will be the member who receives the most nominations. This is very important, please participate. The sooner you do so, the better. Kevin’s contact details are phone/fax 4630 1884, M/S 2010 Drayton, 4350. Entries will be treated as confidential.