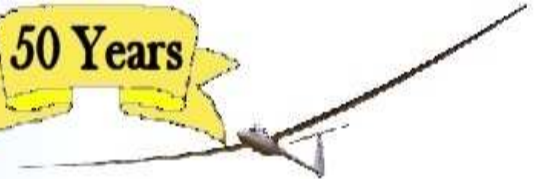




Orange County Soaring Association

50 Years



# Zero Sink

**The official newsletter of the Orange County Soaring Association First Quarter 2011**

The Orange County Soaring Association is a non-profit organization that was established in 1959 to promote and teach soaring and provide soaring activities for association members and their families.

Our general meetings are usually held on the third Saturday of each month. In addition to reviewing club business, our general meetings include social activities and programs covering a variety of topics related to the sport of soaring.

For more information about the club, email the Membership Chairman:  
mem\_officer@ocsoaring.org

Club operations are conducted at several Southern California gliderports. For information:  
<http://www.ocsoaring.org/ClubInfo/locations.htm>

Zero Sink is published quarterly. Please email contributions to [web\\_master@ocsoaring.org](mailto:web_master@ocsoaring.org). Contributions may be edited for content.

## General Mailing Address:

OCSA  
P.O. Box 5475  
Buena Park, CA 90622

## Hemet-Ryan: Favorable Ruling from FAA

The FAA has issued its long awaited ruling and it is entirely as hoped, in that it supports our soaring activities at Hemet-Ryan! The County has 30 days to put forward an acceptable plan. If they do not, they lose Federal funding. At this moment we do not know if the County will work with us "in good faith", so far they have not done so. Stay tuned...we now have the momentum!

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Days are getting longer and daylight savings time will begin on March 13th...you know what that means? The thermals will soon be popping!

Winch Operations at Crystal will continue every other week through the end of March; see the online OCSA calendar for details. If you have not given the winch a try you really need to...it really shakes off the rust and gets your landings tuned up and you inexpensively back the air. The Grob 103 has been upgraded with a CG hook. We have gotten 1600 ft winch tows with it and the PW-5. Most of the Flight Group has already taken advantage of this offer, so if you are a current (ie \$25/year) General Member, do come out as you will be first in line. Hear that ex-OCSA students in Elsinore? I'm talkin' to YOU!!!

At this time, the club is not emphasizing instruction but out at Crystal, both Russ Holtz and Dale Masters are available daily for a fee to help with OCSA instruction, just call Crystal to book their time. Rob Morgan and Pete Foley are available on "special occasions". A few FG members are enjoying a shorter drive to Crystal than to Hemet. I have shaved 45 minutes off my usual drive to Tehachapi. Unless we get back to operating at Hemet, I would expect this situation to continue thru 2011. Palm trees survive hurricanes by being flexible.

Club finances are stabilizing...losing the Blaniks also eliminated a big insurance payment. The winch has brought in a few bucks. The club has basically defaulted to a "winch and fiberglass" PPG club. If we settle into Crystal for the long term, we should pick up some new members there.

I'm glad to report many past members have either sent in their General dues (\$25) or "doubled down" on the General dues (\$50) or Reserve Dues (\$125) to help us thru this dry patch. Thank you!

That's all I've got,

*Larry Tushino*

OCSA President Until ???

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Russell Holtz (760) 831-0597  
 RusellHoltz@gmail.com

Dale Masters (661) 944-1090  
 (Crystalaire office)

**Flight Instruction**

**Please contact the Flight Instructors well in advance by phone or email so they know they are needed on their scheduled days. They are under no obligation to appear at the airport unless notified.**

**The preliminary instructor schedule is listed in the calendar in each issue of Zero Sink. Always check the OCSA web site for the latest schedule.**

**Minutes** from General and Board meetings can be found on the Members page of the OCSA web site.

<b>Flight Operations</b>	<b>Membership Fees</b>	<b>Dues</b>
Club operations are conducted with the following aircraft:	General Membership \$25.00	Monthly dues and any past-due amounts are payable on the first of each month. Send checks to:  OCSA C/O Steve Willems 3496 Wimbledon Way Costa Mesa, CA 92626
Grob 103 N158SS	Flight Group initiation \$300.00	
Blanik L-13 N82756	Student initiation \$150.00	
Blanik L-13 N25BS	Family initiation \$150.00	
PW-5 N982PD	Flight Group monthly \$55.00	
	Student Flight Group \$25.00	
	Family Flight Group \$25.00	
	Discount: Pay for 11 months up front, and get 1 month free.	

## OCSA Christmas party 2010

by Tim Guckes

This year's "end of year party" was a fun event as usual. I estimate that about 20 couples were able to attend. The meal this year was Kabobs with everyone bringing a side dish. Eggnog martinis were served to anybody who wanted to try them. Larry T. said, "You could power a radio controlled airplane with this stuff". There was a lot of standing around telling stories (or lies) about soaring over the past years. Unfortunately, the rainy weather kept everyone confined to the house but thanks to people bring extra tables and chairs, there was plenty of seating.

After dinner everyone congregated in the living room for awards, gift exchange and more stories. Fred Peters, an alumnus from the '60's gave an interesting talk about his long history in soaring. He talked about flying a wooden, side-by-side, open cockpit glider owned by the club. He went on to tell how he became the importer of the very first Blaniks in the U.S. Peter is also the one who cast those giant good looking eagles on top of the perpetual trophies handed out each year. Sue Muncey told a humorous story of how she ended up landing out at Hemet just after being soloed.

The annual OCSA party is a great way for everyone to come together in a casual environment. The party brings together members, new and old, giving a continuity through the generations to the sport of soaring.

### 2010 Club Soaring Awards

President's Award	Steve Willems
Outlanding of the Year	Chris Mannion and Rob Morgan
Multi-place Task	Chris Mannion and Rob Morgan

### Accomplishments!

Congratulations to the following members:

- Rick McCone soloed and received his "A" Badge at Lake Elsinore.
- Marc Forsyth, Chris Mannion and Roger Worden got area checkout flights at Crystallaire.
- Marc Forsyth, Tim Guckes, Chris Mannion, Larry Tuohino, Steve Willems, Nick Ounanian, and Roger Worden got checked out to winch launch the Grob 103 at Crystallaire.

#### Annual Club Checkrides

A reminder from your OCSA flight instructors: All members who fly club gliders must have complete a club checkride within the first quarter of each year, i.e. between January 1 and March 31. Schedule your checkride with Mary Rust, Peter Foley, or Russell Holtz. Complete the **OCSA Annual Checkride Sign Off** form and return it to Mary so she has your current information on file.

Thank you!

#### Latest Photos and Videos

Keep up with OCSA events by checking the Videos page and the Photo Gallery pages on the OCSA web site. Find them at:

<http://www.ocsoaring.org/photo.htm>

<http://www.ocsoaring.org/Gallery/videos.htm>

Please send pictures you'd like to share, or links to your soaring videos on YouTube, to [webmaster@ocsoaring.org](mailto:webmaster@ocsoaring.org).

## OCSA Student Pilots in 2010

Student pilots had some great flights with instructors Mary Rust and Peter Foley in OCSA's Blanik L13 gliders during the busy summer season at Lake Elsinore.



Jacqueline Orr



Tyson West



Kenny Kressin



Milan Gembicky with Mary Rust

Through an arrangement with Lake Elsinore Soaring Club, OCSA's students are able to continue training in Schweizer 2-33 gliders until the Blanik are returned to service.



## Getting Ready for XC

by Mike Muncey

Well, it is that time of year again: time to get started. Time to knock off the rust. Time to do some basic takeoffs and landings and time get club checkrides if you are operating OCSA equipment. But it also the time to start seriously planning if you are going to fly cross-country this season.

If you have never flown cross-country, you should review and practice the Bronze Badge requirements. These provide a practical framework for knowledge and skills required for doing a real Silver distance cross-country. Below is my "approximate" summary of the required tasks:

- Complete the ABC Training Program with the C Badge awarded
- Log at least **15 solo glider hours**
- Log **30 solo glider flights**
- Log **10 single-place glider flights** (if possible)
- Log **2 flights of two hours** or more each
- Perform at least **3 solo precision spot landings**
- Log two simulated off-field landings without reference to the altimeter
- Pass a closed-book written examination

This is also the time to review your turnpoint database to see if it is accurate or needs to be updated. Use mapping tools like SeeYou to identify and "gaps" along your route. If you have gaps, use Google Earth to find some candidate landing spots and then plan a scouting trip to see them. You need to visit anything that is NOT an approved airport before planning to land there. There are a number of Silver options from Crystal. Apple Valley and Mojave are both options in completely different directions that you should research.

Although we like fancy GPS and computers, a laminated sectional map is a great tool. Circle the airports with a marker. Consider adding glide rings too. It can be amazingly difficult to read the details of a map while bouncing around, looking for other aircraft and running mental glide calculations. Those circles help you find the airports fast.

If you are going to draw glide-circles, you need to decide how big to draw them. Using the "Times 6" Rule, the glide ratio is 6 times the number of nautical miles per 1,000 feet. Sounds confusing, doesn't it? Actually it is much simpler to do than it is to describe. If you draw rings 3 nautical miles apart, then you need 18:1 (3 X 6) to fly that slope. 4 nautical miles is 24:1. 5 nautical miles is 30:1.

You need to review your equipment and practice using it--not just have it in working order. Running a GPS and setting turnpoints needs to be second nature. It is amazing how much harder it is to operate the GPS or radio in the air. Since you haven't used it all winter, you might want to break out the manual. If you acquired any new equipment (like a fancy glide computer) you need to start practicing with it on the ground now! One reason for that map is for that moment of technology overload in the air.

Next we move on to land-out equipment and survival packs. Start putting those together now. Replace your 5-year old batteries with fresh ones. Replace that water. Find some food bars that aren't past their expiration. Make a written list and inventory and keep it on your computer. Update the list as you find the need for new things. Delete items you find aren't useful. Use the list to ensure your pack is complete.

XC camp at Air Sailing is a great opportunity to learn cross-country skills and practice them. This camp is offered starting June 12th. Consider attending a camp like this to take some of the learning curve off this task. Hopefully, 2011 will be a better cross-country year than 2010 was. But even 2010 had some decent days. You don't need 100K weather to go 35 or 50 miles. Have fun and stay safe!

# March 2011

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1	2	3 Board meeting	4	5 <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px;">Winch @ Crystal</div>
6 <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px;">Winch @ Crystal</div>	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19 General mtg <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px;">BSA event G103 reserved</div>
20 <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px;">BSA event G103 reserved</div>	21	22	23	24	25	26 <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px;">Winch @ Crystal</div>
27 <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px;">Winch @ Crystal</div>	28	29	30	31		

# April 2011

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7 Board meeting	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16 General meeting
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30

# May 2011

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1	2	3	4	5 Board meeting	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21 General meeting
22	23	24	25	26	27	28 Memorial wknd
29	30	31				
Memorial Day weekend						

## June

2 Board meeting

6-10 Thermal Camp  
@ Air Sailing

12-17 XC Camp @ Air Sailing  
PW5 reserved

18 General meeting

## July

7 Board meeting  
16 General meeting

## August

4 Board meeting  
20 General meeting

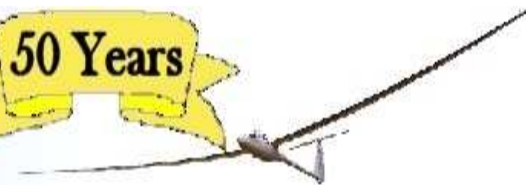
# Go Fly Zone





Orange County Soaring Association

50 Years



C/O Roger Worden  
3147 N. Hartman St.  
Orange, CA 92865

Dated material—please deliver promptly

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- 4- OCSA Student Pilots
- 5- Getting Ready for XC

