

THE CLANKING ARMOR

February, 2004
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PO Box 83605
Lincoln, Nebraska
68501-3605



NEWS AND ACTIVITIES OF THE LINCOLN SKY KNIGHTS R/C CLUB

Christmas in Peru

TW & DB

This year on December 5th, Sky Knights members celebrated the Holiday in accustomed luxury at the historic Valentino's on 33rd Street. As special guest speaker for this year's Christmas get-together, we enjoyed the presence of Clyde and Eleanor Peter. Actually, it's not clear who enjoyed whose company the most: Clyde and Eleanor are both wonderfully genuine 'good guys' and they seemed as pleased to be in a roomful of aviation buffs as we were to have someone with their distinguished aviation background accept our invitation.

After everyone had eaten all they possibly could, Ron Miller gave a very nice introduction to Clyde, and for the next hour, he kept everyone spellbound. Fascinated by flying since he was a young boy growing up on the plains of a northern Kansas farm, he trained in several different Piper 'Super Cubs,' finally soloing in an Aeronca Champ and receiving his pilot's license at age 16.

Perhaps the earliest of Clyde's challenges was to find a way to earn a living driving an airplane instead of a farm tractor. One early flying job he took was ferrying skydivers. Not at all upset by the fact that the majority of his passengers elected to jump from his airplane rather than experience his landings, it wasn't long before Clyde took up skydiving himself (*presumably with someone else piloting—Editor*). He went on to earn his commercial pilot's license, with certification in multi-engine, rotary wing, and jet aircraft.

Many would consider this a full life, but, a man of deep faith, Clyde elected to put his skills to use as a



missionary flying over the jungles of Peru, actually living there for over 10 years with frequent return trips each year. He narrated while showing a video taken on one of his recent trips. Flying doctors and medical personnel and supplies into the remote villages on the Peruvian headwaters of the Amazon River, Clyde became quite a skilled health care person in his own right, by his estimate pulling over 30,000 teeth in his time in Peru. Flying a six-passenger Lake Amphibian seaplane and a Cessna 182 fitted with oversize 'bush' tires to ferry in the volunteer medics and supplies, he spent hundreds of days each year living in the jungle villages amongst some of the most isolated citizens in the New World. After seeing the conditions that many Peruvian citizens consider 'normal', it really makes you appreciate the many things we take for granted.

Many of the items Clyde brought to show were handmade by the Peruvians and included a drum, assorted wooden tools, a mounted piranha fish and a *very* large snakeskin from a Boa Constrictor. I asked him how they captured the snake, and his answer revealed that life in the rain forest isn't *constantly* harrowing, however. "Well, one night, the snake crawled into a chicken house and ate his fill of chicken. By the time he wasn't

hungry anymore, the hole that he came in through wasn't big enough anymore either."

If you would like to read more about Clyde and his family's experiences, pick up a copy of the book "The Man Who Jumped Off Clouds" by Wellesley Muir.

LSK MEETING MINUTES

January 2, 2004

President Wilson Hardy called the January Lincoln Sky Knights Club Meeting to order at 7:30 PM. The meeting was held at the Waverly flying site at 134th and Waverly Road. Wilson congratulated last year's club officers for doing a splendid job and asked for a round of applause for the services they had provided.

Last month's minutes as published in the Clanking Armor were approved by the membership.

CD/VP Mike Yearly commented that the Jan. 1st Fun Fly was very successful. Many fliers attended and there was plenty of good food. With the temperature being in the upper forties it was a pretty good day for January in Nebraska. Mike reminded us that the Sky Knight auction is coming up Feb. 7 and that after the meeting Friday Feb. 6th we need to go over and start setting up. Breakfast and lunch will be served and we will need a lot of helpers. Contact Neil Rohrke if you are interested in helping. We are going to try to have the June Fun Fly the first week in June. Tom Wild is planning a Regional Combat Sept. 18th and 19th. Dave Reiber is having the Night Fly after the Sept. meeting and is planning to have the Mall Show in April, get those hanger queens ready. Don Svoboda announced the Jet Rally would be August 6th 7th and 8th. He also heard that Omaha is planning a Scale Masters Meet but no word on a tentative date. Tom Hefley reminded the club that indoor flying is going on at Calvert Recreation Center if anyone's interested stop on out

NEW MEMBERS: Alan Zinnecker from Hickman was voted in by the membership. He is a former member but will need some help from us getting started again. He has a trainer and is ready to go. Welcome back to the club.

OLD BUSINESS: Resurfacing the runway was discussed with some members having concerns about new houses being built closer and closer to the field. Concerns about our current field's future were discussed along with the floodway and flood plain issues. The Omahawks field being in the middle of a housing development in Omaha was brought up by Don Svoboda. The Omahawks field rules do not allow them to fly before 9:00 AM and we may have to compensate for our surroundings to keep the neighbors happy in the future. Alan Zinnecker said he was doing work in the new Waverly area housing developments and felt that they were more likely to expand to the south, east and west than to the north because of the flood way problem. He also commented that the city of Waverly probably has a comprehensive growth plan that we could look at to see what the city is planning in the future.

The lock on the gate will go on after the February meeting. You will receive the combination to the lock if your dues and runway fees are paid. Do not share this combination with others so we will not have non-paying individuals flying at our field. We also are concerned about non-insured people on our property for which we could be liable.

Dennis and Tyler Osborn volunteered to make a new LSK sign for the field, thanks guys. New no trespassing signs will be going up soon.

NEW BUSINESS: John Willman suggested we create a capital-spending plan both short term and long term along with a budget. Leonard Akert commented that the club officers created these in the late 90s and no one has paid any attention to them. Leonard commented it is a good idea and he will see if he can dig up a copy of it

Financial donations above and beyond the normal dues were received from Neal Rohrke, Bill Johnston, and Don Dickey. Thanks very much, guys, it's *donations*, both of time and money that keep the Sky Knights a first rate club.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE ELECTION: Ron Vogel, Rich Kuenning, and Ray Kiser were elected to the Executive Committee. Thank you guys.

SPECIAL TOPIC OF DISCUSSION: President Wilson Hardy asked if there was any interest in making a Sky Knight Directory with a picture of every member placed in the clubhouse to help us get to know one another. The membership seemed interested in having a directory. Wilson asked for volunteers with Digital Cameras to form a committee to look into accomplishing this task. Ron Vogel, Curley Roy, Bernie Smith, and Tom Wild volunteered to chair the committee. This will also aid us in determining if we have non-members flying at our field. Check the roster and check the pictures in the clubhouse. There must be a current AMA card and a current LSK card on the frequency pin for anyone to be flying including any visitors from other clubs from other cities.

MODEL OF THE MONTH: No entry this month.

ADJORNMENT: Meeting was adjourned.

Leonard Akert,
LSK Secretary

Vard Lawson

1923 ~ 2003

Born in Shenendoah, IA in August of 1923, Vard left us suddenly on Christmas day of 2003. He brought the enthusiasm of a teenager to his whole hobby, often displaying his latest aircraft creations and 'restorations' at club meetings and sharing his clever use of materials and innovations. Vard's other contributions include taking photographs at events and creating banners to welcome visitors to our club field. He never seemed bothered by trivial friction between club members but was more concerned with getting on with enjoying the hobby. Vard is survived by his wife Dorothy, a son, 3 daughters and 7 grandchildren. Our condolences go to his family; any Memorials may be sent to Faith Evangelical Lutheran Church. Our lives are richer for having known Vard and he will be missed.



It's a New Year!

Mike Yearly

New Years Day 2004 saw over 60 Sky Knights flying and 'spectating' for a great start of the LSK flying season. There were many newly emerged airplanes from the basements and workshops, though some will need to go back for more work to repair their damaged airframes, yes there were a few crashes. With temperatures above 55 degrees, we even had some gliders finding good thermal activity for soaring and there were a few electric planes. Jeff and Bernie Smith showed up with a fast combat flying wing that could almost keep up with Tom

Wild's open gas powered flying wing. During the day, there were 5-7 airplanes in the air and luckily, there were no midairs or frequency conflicts, just a lot of flying and airplane fuel burned in the air. We also had a few treats like chili and chips and left over Christmas cookies to share with our flight bretheren. It feels kind of funny to be wishing for New Years Day weather in February, but with the current weather and record snow o the ground, it feels kind of funny but I think we'd all take it!

AUCTION REMINDER!

When: Saturday February 7th

**Where: Waverly Foundation
Center,**

1121 N. 141st Street

Breakfast served at 6:00 am

Registration starts at 7:00am

Auction starts at 10:00am

**Setup and pre-registration
Friday after club meeting and**

Saturday morning

Contact: Helen Rohrke

(402) 786-5477

Prez's Note:

Welcome to 2004 everyone. I just wanted to say that this year I hope to get a few things done that hopefully will make our time more enjoyable at the field. For the past few weeks I have been talking to several of the Skyknights and when the topic of new members came up I couldn't recall what most of the new members looked like. For that matter I couldn't put a name with the face either. Now I don't think my memory is that incredibly lacking, I just couldn't put them all together. That got me to thinking. If I couldn't match up a few names and faces, how could the new guys put all of our ugly mugs with a name that wasn't just a description of ... well you get the picture. This is were the idea of a Picture Directory for our club came up. Several of our members have digital cameras and have agreed to work on this together. Tom Wild will be heading this up and we hope to have the pictures collected before the April meeting for compilation. We are going to get a start on this at the Skyknights auction on the 7th of February. That's the big hint to be at the auction and support our club. Thanks to all who came to the January Fun Fly. If we have turn outs that good on all of our events this will be a great year. One more note of thanks to Dennis and Tyler Osborn for agreeing to finish the sign Vard Lawson started.

See y'all at the field, Wilson

Will It fly? Aircraft design contest

Rules:

Aircraft must be airworthy and *sucessfully* test flown before date of contest per AMA safety code general rule #1.

Aircraft should not be a stock – com-mercially available kit or A0.self designed or **radically** modified aircraft.

Categories:

Serious:

Design should display construction and or flight characteristics equal to or improved over current state of the art.

Tongue-in-Cheek:

Prop: Design should display only that it can *safely* fly. Use of non-standard construction techniques, configurations and materials encouraged.

Objectives:

Serious category: Promote design improvements in construction, use of materials and flight characteristics.

Tongue in cheek:

Provide a setting to express non-practical, eccentric designs, building materials or techniques. *The weirder the better...*

Awards:

This will be "for fun" event. Awards will be certificates of recognition of no monetary value. Award categories will be decided at the time of the contest. If you have any questions contact Tom Wild @ 489-7216

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Lincoln Sky Knights
PO Box 83605
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2003 LSK Officers
President: Wilson Hardy
VP/CD: Mike Yearley
Treasurer: Bob Schwab
Secretary: Leonard Akert



Dave Brazee, Editor 464-4830
dabrazee@juno.com

Tom Wild, Reporter 489-7216

John Willman, Webmaster
<http://www.acsmagnum.com/LSK>

Notice!! Due to Excessive Snow at the Flying Field, the Club Meeting will be Held at Waverly Foundaton Center (Same As the Auction)

WHO TO CALL FOR HELP!

Rich Kuenning	464-3256
Dave Reiber	483-5696
Shane Zikmund	489-4582
Joe Moritz	476-5922
Tom Hefley	423-8075
Ron Vogel	466-0031
Neal Rohrke	786-5477
Mike Yearley	475-1609
Dave Brazee	464-4830

PLEASE REMEMBER!! IF YOU ARE THE LAST PERSON AT THE FIELD IN THE EVENING, PLEASE BE SURE THAT THE CLUBHOUSE AND THE GATE ARE LOCKED!!!!

UPCOMING EVENTS

Feb 7 th 2004	Club Auction
Feb 14 th	Valentine's Day

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