

Junior News

Sponsored by United States Soaring Teams



Bulletin 2, October 10, 2004

Second Issue of the Junior News

Developed by the U.S. Team Committee, the Junior News is intended to keep soaring pilots under age twenty six informed about cross country, camp, competition and team related soaring opportunities.

Junior pilots invited to sign up now!

If you have received this issue of the Junior News it means that you are on the Team's Junior List. This is good. If your address needs to be corrected (check your envelope) then use the sign-up and change of address form online at the link below.



http://www.ssa.org/UsTeam/ust_jrsignup.htm

1st U.S. Team sponsored Junior Camp Big Success

The 2004 U.S. Team-sponsored Junior Camp was the first attempt by the team organization to provide a venue to encourage interest in and train junior pilots for cross country and competition soaring with the ultimate goal of building the Junior Team. This camp grew out of the hard work and influence of Garret Willat (22), Orion



Kingman (23) and Mitchell Hudson (28). In addition, camp organization was accomplished by Junior Team Program Coordinator Tim Welles, with funding from the U.S. Team and Team Committee.

Camp Highlights

Moriarty, New Mexico is a nearly perfect place to host a camp of this type. The airport is low traffic, there are good off field landing options, a very supportive local club (Albuquerque Soaring Club) and fixed base operator (Sundance Aviation). The weather cooperated with excellent soaring interspersed with thunderstorms on most days. Most of the nine participants had the opportunity to fly dual cross country flights with experienced contest pilots and to fly solo cross country in single place gliders.



The members of the Soaring Society of Boulder provided their new DG-505 for the event which

was flown by John Seaborn as did the Albuquerque Soaring Club with their Twin Astir flown by Billy Hill. On several days two cross country flights were



accomplished by the twins.

In addition, the Albuquerque Soaring Club provided their excellent club house and facilities that served as lodging and home base for the camp.

Chip Garner provided excellent lead and follow training to the more advanced pilots with glass gliders and flew a 1000 km flight on the last day of the camp accompanied by Garret Willat.

There were approximately 70 tows accomplished by camp participants through Sundance Aviation, plus many firsts at this camp including several first cross country flights, silver and gold badges, longest flights, first off-field landing, fastest flights and most fun flights. The longest cross country dual training flight was just less than 300 miles taking in Santa Fe and points south.



The day started at the 10:00 am pilots meeting in which we had a short weather briefing, talked about the previous days' achievements, reviewed any house keeping issues, planned tasks and typically discussed short weather, performance and contest topics. After flying the day's flight, logs would be downloaded and analyzed using SeeYou and a laptop projector. In addition short video and longer PowerPoint presentations were given. Dinner was barbequed at the field normally by Garret and friends.

Financials

Team member Garret Willat (22) raised just over \$1,700 in the form of direct contributions for the U.S. Team-sponsored 2004 Junior Camp. The U.S. teams supplied another approximately \$800 bringing the total camp funding to approximately \$2,500.

These funds were used to pay for direct flight costs only (tows and rentals). The camp finished up right on budget.

Special Thanks

First and foremost Garret Willat (22) deserves the lion's share of thanks for doing much of the organization and raising most of the funding for the camp. Mitchell Hudson (28) and the Albuquerque Soaring Club (ASC) deserve very big thanks as the local sponsoring club, and in addition loaning his personal Discus for use by camp participants. Mark Mocho of the ASC provided a good deal of help as well. The ASC allowed the juniors to use their club house for meetings, bunk house and dinner location.

In addition ASC allowed several of the camp participants to use their Astir and Libelle.



Sundance Aviation supplied the towing and was helpful in their support. Billy Hill and Chip Garner volunteered their time and considerable expertise as camp mentors. The members of the Soaring Society of Boulder provided their DG-505 as a high performance cross country trainer.

See full camp report on the US team web http://www.ssa.org/UsTeam/ust_04jrcamp.htm

Junior Team Set for 4th FAI Junior World Soaring Championships

The USA has not missed a chance to compete in Junior World Gliding Championships since 1989 and the next event in 2005 will not break this chain of success. Two additional pilots will be selected in 2004 to



represent the United States at the 4th FAI Junior World Soaring Championships to be held at Husbands Bosworth in the United Kingdom from July 31 to August 8 in 2005.

1st Junior Nationals in Australia

Juniors from around the world are invited to take part in the first ever Australian Junior Nationals which will to be held at Temora from the 5th Dec for a week!



contact with Adam Woolley for further details and assistance with gliders and crew. His e-mail address is: get_soaring@hotmail.com

Check it out! www.joeyglide.com





Garret Willat

**Team Member
Garret Willat**

Garret Willat really soared into gliders, on his 14th birthday by soloing 18 different sailplanes. He was

the 1996 Kolstad winner and has his A, B, C, Bronze, Silver, and Century I & II. He is ranked 156 out of 621 US competition pilots. On his 16th birthday he not only got his private glider license he also soloed all of the tow planes. On his 18th he earned his commercial glider and CFIG. Within a week of turning 14, he went on a soaring safari flying a Grob 102 over 430 miles. While Garret was not born on an airport, his first soaring flight was before he was 2 weeks old. Garret lived his first 8 years on Sky Sailing Airport in Fremont California and then moving to Sky Sailing in Warner Springs California when his parents relocated the business. Garret is going to school and is a full time glider flight instructor with a total flight time of over 2000 hours. He has been featured in a few TV shows, rebuilt a 1947 Cessna 140, and has even been known to fly to town to go to college. Garret was introduced into the world of airshows at the age of three. Garrets' interests have extended into his community with being a volunteer fire fighter and a citizen volunteer for the San Diego Sheriffs Aero Squadron. His consuming interest has been in soaring which has taken him around the United States crewing for the likes of Bill Bartell, Dan Ladd, Eric Larson and former Junior team members and fellow Kolstad scholarship winners Sean Franke and Gordon Boettger, and then competing in contests himself in Region 9 and 9 West, Sports Class Nationals, and last year the Standard and 15 meter Nationals. Garret went to France to crew for Danny Sorenson in the 2001 WJG and has participated in three time world champion George Lee's XC training course in Australia, flown the 2003 Junior World Gliding Championships, and won the 2004 Region Nine Championships in Standard Class. You can normally find Garret around the airport unless the Cu's are popping.



Junior's host Barbeque at recent Standard class nationals and score Junior Team fundraising success.

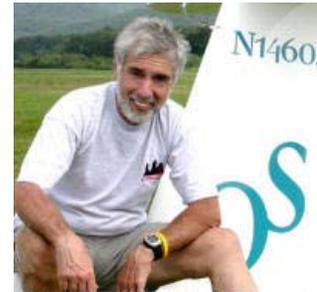
Chris Saunders has also qualified for the 2005 Junior Team and will be featured in a future issue of the Junior News.

2005 Junior Team Captain – Bob Leve

Bob Leve's flying career began after college when he flew cargo and transport helicopters as a military pilot. He presently he holds a commercial license in helicopters, power, and gliders and is a CFIG. Before entering soaring,

was a competitive offshore sailboat racer and in addition to other long distance yacht races has participated in five Newport to Bermuda races as navigator using celestial navigation. Bob

began competitive cycling in 1983 and won the US National Senior Cycling Championship in 1985. He has represented the United States as



Bob Leve - 2005 Junior Team

a member of the United States National Cycling Team racing in Europe and South America. Bob had his first glider ride during a bike trip in Calistoga, California and a year later began taking lessons. He soloed a Schweizer 2-33 in 1996 at age 60 and then began flying a club Grob 103 and Blanik 1-23. He completed his first cross country flights in Spain with the German Oerlinghausen club and last year was able to spend a week each learning mountain flying in the French and New Zealand Alps.

He bought his first sailplane, an ASW-20 in 1999 and now flies a Ventus 2a at the Wurtsboro New York airport. He, his wife Linda and three cats live in Canton, Connecticut in the home he built 12 years ago. Bob tries to compete in two or three contests each year because he believes that he learns more about cross country flying in one contest than he would have in an entire season of soaring. As a Ph.D. psychologist, he is on the faculty of the Graduate Institute of Professional Psychology at the University of Hartford where he specializes in Clinical and Sport psychology. His research and clinical consultation focuses on an adolescents and young adult population. His work in sport psychology has included lecturing at the Lake Placid Olympic Training Center and helping Olympic level ice skaters and nationally ranked cyclists. Bob was the team psychologist for the US World Soaring team in St. Auban, France in 1997 and Bayreuth, Germany in 1999.

Kolstad Award – Scholarship!

How would you like to win a prestigious award and some cash for college? The Kolstad College Scholarship is your ticket. All US citizen SSA member soaring pilots 14 to 21 years of age are urged to qualify and then apply for the Kolstad Junior Soaring Awards. Annually one or two outstanding young pilots are selected for the Kolstad College Scholarship Grant of \$1,250. The purpose of the Kolstad Awards is to honor young soaring pilots who have been outstanding in soaring, in their soaring club or site, and in their school activities. See more on the Kolstad Award at:

<http://home.att.net/~midlk/klsthmpg.htm>

Applications for the annual Grant are due by October 1 to the SSA office. Start now for 2005!

Junior Contest Grant Winners!

The SSA Youth Committee Chairman John Campbell extends 2004 congratulations to Vit Hradecky (\$250), Kevin Christner (\$250), Mike Westbrook (\$100), and Mitch Bauer (\$100) for contest related support provided to qualifying Junior Pilots. Also, congratulations to their mentors Doug Jacobs, Tim Mara, Sam Fly, and Marvin Willis.

While the grants may not be large, combined with the guidance of the mentors, and encouragement to get over the hump into first contests. Vit and Kevin attended the Sugarbush contest training camp, Mike went to the Standard Class Nationals, and Mitch the 1-26 Championships. Junior Team members, such as Garret Willat and Mike Robison, have been past recipients of these grants. See more here... www.soarcsa.org/ssa/ssay/ycom.htm#Grants

More Junior Resources

SSA Youth Committee activities, including scholarships, are described in general at: www.ssa.org/society/youthships.asp www.soarcsa.org/ssa/ssay/ycom.htm

New Junior Trophy

US Team pilot Eric Mozer has completed the manufacture of the **Rudolf W. Mozer Junior National Champion trophy** and, presented it to Liz Schwenkler, the 2003 winner. It is also engraved with the names of previous winners to 2001, Danny Sorenson and Chris Saunders. As this is a fully endowed SSA trophy, which will be presented to Chris Saunders, the 2004 winner, at the SSA awards banquet.



The trophy is given to the Junior (25 and under) pilot with the highest fractional score at any SSA Nationals. The bronze art itself was designed and fabricated by US Team members Bob Barber and donated by Richard Hall.

The Mozer family, Eric, Peter, Norman, Richard and Elizabeth sponsored the award and provided a generous SSA endowment in honor of their Father Rudy.

National Soaring Foundation (NSF) Matches Junior Team Funds!

Hot off a successful team sponsored camp, members of the junior soaring community pitched in with a fundraising barbecue dinner held at the Standard Class Nationals in Hobbs, New Mexico. This was a successful fund raiser for the Junior Team. The big news is that Jo Ann Dittert of the NSF has informed the Juniors and Team Committee that the NSF will provide \$4,151 in matching funds. This generous contribution puts the Junior team well on their way to participating in the 2005 4th Junior World Gliding Championships to be held in the United Kingdom next August while helping to continue the successful Junior Camp program. A great THANK YOU to the NSF from the Team Committee and the Junior Team in particular.

Junior Hilton Cup Possible?

Guenther Jacobs of Parowan Soaring (gjacobs@infowest.com), together with the German Aero Club, hosted two German Juniors in Parowan for what amounted to a "Junior Hilton Cup" format. He said, "Robert Frase and Stefan Zimmel are coming this year-qualified by the longest flight in a club class and standard class ship owned by a soaring club. They are flying my ASW 24 or PIK20 D. I do some flights with them and give some advice. Achim Besser last August did 1,100 km" Guenther indicates that this opportunity could be open to US Junior Pilots. He would welcome financial sponsorship and offers of administrative support to set up a similar program for a couple of USA Juniors each summer. Guenther could likely provide the venue, and Youth Coordinator John Campbell is drafting US selection guidelines based on the Barron Hilton Cup literature.



US Juniors to Australia

As reported in the last Junior News Three time World Champion George Lee brings together junior pilots from around the globe to participate in advanced cross country training.

Two of his UK students have gone on to become World Champions. In the 2004/05 season two US junior pilots, Mike Riley and Kathy Fosha, will be spending 18 days in Australia flying dual with Mr. Lee in his Nimbus 4DM. Past US participants include Garret Willat, Liz Schwenkler, Mike Robison, and Dillon Krapes.

How to qualify for the Junior team?

The U.S. Junior Soaring Team is made up of pilots under age 26. Team candidates are selected based upon their performance in any US national competition over the previous three years. Selection is based on performance in any U.S. National championships. A 3-year Team Selection Ranking is posted here...

http://acro.harvard.edu/SOARING/JL/US_TEAM/jun.html

Junior Soaring Team Development Program

With the expansion in the number of FAI sanctioned classes and World Gliding Championships (WGC) comes opportunity and challenges. Nowhere is this more evident than in the Junior Class in which pilots under age 26 have the opportunity strive for soaring excellence and become a World Champion.

The idea is simple: build the Junior Team program and



develop opportunities for Junior pilots interested in cross country and competition. The Team Committee cannot do it alone and seeks qualified and engaged participants to fill the above positions and help keep the emerging Junior programs going.

If this is you, or someone you know, please contact Tim Welles, Junior Team Strategist via e-mail at timwelles@earthlink.com

Comments on the Junior Team news? Contact John Seaborn the Team's Junior List manager at planned@boulder.net

<http://www.ssa.org/UsTeam/>