



SOARING SOCIETY OF AMERICA

THE OFFICIAL SITE OF THE SOARING SOCIETY OF AMERICA, INC.

USA SOARING  
TEAMS

- SSA Home
- Home
- About
- News
- Reports
- Open
- 18-Meter
- 15-Meter
- Standard
- Club
- World
- Junior
- Feminine
- Camps
- Press
- Gallery
- Committee
- Financials
- Calendar
- Funding
- Selection
- Organization
- Links
- Archive
- History
- Champions
- Site Updates
- Contest Results

## 2004 USA Soaring Team News



## World Soaring Championships &amp; Team News

► Club Team	► Feminine Team	► Junior Team	NEWS
3rd Championships Elverum, Norway June 12-27, 2004	3rd Championships Klix, Germany July 30-August 13, 2005	4th Championships Husbands Bosworth, UK August 6-20, 2005	<a href="#">2006</a>
			<a href="#">2005</a>
			<a href="#">2004</a>
			<a href="#">2003</a>
			<a href="#">2002</a>
			<a href="#">2001</a>
			<a href="#">Calendar</a>
► Multi Class Team*	► World Team	► Club Team	
29th Championships Uppsala, Sweden June 5-17, 2006	5th Championships Vinson sur Verdon, France June 30-July 15, 2006	4th Championships Vinson sur Verdon, France June 30-July 15, 2006	

\* Multi-Class = Open, 15-Meter, Standard, 18-Meter    Some images can be expanded by clicking

## 2004 U.S. Soaring Team News

**12/30/04 - TEAM eBULLETIN 17 ON THE WAY**

The new US Team eBulletin 17 will be on its way in a few days. The new look of the team's eBulletins include new functionality that meet the email requirements including unsubscribe and account management features. Team management hopes you will enjoy the new format of the teams eBulletins. **You are invited to sign up today...** [Click here](#) for the sign up page.

**12/30/04 - SEATS AVAILABLE, 2005 US TEAM RIDE PROGRAM**

The 2005 season will see more team ride along opportunities. The program offers dual competition and cross country soaring to those interested in improving their contest and cross country skills, or are simply interested in riding along on contests tasks. The minimum contribution is \$200 per day and goes to help fund the US teams. This is your opportunity to fly with sixteen time national champion Karl Striedieck in his Duo at one or more contests. Still available are the regional Perry, SC (April 18-23), Mifflin, PA (May 15-21), and Elmira, NY (July 9-16) plus the Parowan Sports Nationals, UT (June 14-23). Contact Karl to sign up for a once in a life time opportunity. E-mail Karl [here](#)...

**12/28/04 - TEAM BOOTH AT SSA**



## CONVENTION

This year the SSA Convention will be in sunny and warm Southern California. Conventions are a great place to see old friends, find out what's new in soaring and start building enthusiasm for the coming season. With past, present and future team members working the booth, this year will feature a drawing for great soaring prizes plus a presentation featuring the rich history of U.S. Teams, a recap of the 2004 season and a look at what is ahead for 2005/06. See the team booth page [here...](#)



## 12/20/04 - NEW TEAM CAMP WEB PAGE STARTED

The US Team sponsors several training and performance camps for all pilots including the Juniors. Now all the team camp information can be found in one place. See the new team page [here...](#)

## 12/20/04 - IMPROVED TEAM ACCOUNTING

With the advice and help of the staff, and SSA CFO Alan Gleason in Hobbs, and Team Treasurer Doug Jacobs, the US Team has established separate financial accounts for the purpose of managing US Team funds. The prior approach involved co-mingling of Team funds with SSA funds, which could have led to confusion among contributors as to the utilization of their gifts. Separate accounts, with all funds designated for the Team being segregated, and all expenses paid under the authority of the US Team Treasurer, should address this perception. The SSA staff will continue to assist the US Team Committee with accounting and transaction support.

## 12/17/04 - TEAM ESTABLISHES NEW CONTRIBUTION CATEGORY

In 2004 the US team sponsored two training and performance camps all pilots including the Juniors. More of these camps in the planning stages for the 2005 season. To facilitate these camps the Team Committee recently started a tax deductible "US Team Junior Camp Fund" contribution category. Tax deductible contributions to this fund will be used to help offset the costs of sponsoring the teams junior camps. All contributions need to be specifically dedicated to this fund by marking the check, "US Team Junior Camp Fund" and sent to, "Soaring Society of America, US Team Junior Camp Fund, C/O Kara Dionne, P.O. Box 2100, Hobbs, NM 88241-2100". See the team sponsored 2005 Junior Camp information for Harris Hill [here...](#) and watch this space for additional announcements. See the 2004 Junior camp [here...](#)

## 12/14/04 - SANCTION FEES AND TEAM NAA CHARGES RESOLVED

In late October the US Team Committee published an open letter to the soaring community to inform you of the controversy surrounding NAA fees which have been charged to the US Team finances. More on the Team Committee News page [here](#).

## 12/07/04 - TEAM COMMITTEE ELECTION CLOSES

No nominations were received by the deadline for the 2004 open seat on the U.S. Team Committee now filled by Tim Welles. Since Tim was running for a second term he will continue in his capacity on the Team Committee. All SSA members are eligible and encouraged to apply for nomination with their SSA Regional Director. The U.S. Team Committee oversees the affairs of the Soaring Society of America with respect to its representation at Federation Aéronautique International (FAI) approved World Gliding Championships. The six-member committee includes the Contest Committee Chairman, the U.S. Team Chairman, the SSA Executive Director, plus three members elected by the members of the Soaring Society of America (SSA) each serving a three year term. See the team committee news page [here...](#)



## 12/06/04 - US JUNIOR TEAM PILOT RIDING HIGH IN AUSTRALIA

The Gliding Federation of Australia has endorsed the setting up of the first ever dedicated

Junior Nationals. Although the FAI national championships have been held for many decades, very few of them have contained a junior prize (and none since 1994) and never has there been a separate tournament until now. Joeyglide 2004 is now under way and as of Day 3 US Junior Team pilot Garret Willat is well placed. See the Joeyglide web site and follow the action [here](#)...

### 12/02/04 - ORGANIZERS OF 29th WGC POSTS BULLETIN 1

The organizers of the 2006b 29th World Gliding Championships in Sweden have updated their web site and issued Bulletin 1 with news for the Viking Glide Pre-Worlds in 2005. See this link for more <http://www.wgc2006.se/index.php>

### 11/15/04 - NEW TEAM eBULLETIN NUMBER 16

After three years and fifteen editions US Team eBulletins have a new look and added functionality. Created to bring members of the soaring community the latest news on US soaring teams and international championships, eBulletins go out to nearly two hundred subscribers on an occasional basis. The original team eBulletins were sent out via e-mail to subscribers who had opted onto a list maintained by the Soaring Society of America. Over the last few years sending e-mail to lists has grown more complex with new laws intended to curtail the torrent of spam and other unsolicited email we all receive. Recently the team committee took over the management of the eBulletins to help comply with the new e-mail requirements. The result has been a new look to the team's eBulletins with new functionality that meet the email requirements including unsubscribe and account management features. Team management hopes you will enjoy the new format of the teams eBulletins. **You are invited to sign up today...** [Click here](#)



### 11/15/04 - JUNIOR SUCCESS DOWN UNDER

Junior pilot Mike Riley (20) reports "moderate" conditions for his 520km flight at 85mph during his successful stay at George Lee's Junior Camp in Australia last week. Riley, who was able to attend with the financial assistance of several members of the US Team Committee, will enjoy the country's antipodal summer conditions for several weeks of great soaring under the tutelage of one of the world's great masters of soaring three time world champion George Lee. Lee has hosted several US Juniors in previous years, including Liz Schwenkler and Garret Willat. Also along for this year's event is the USA's Kathy Fosha (21). We thank George enormously for this outstanding opportunity for our young pilots.

### 11/09/04 - JUNIOR SOARING CAMP IN 2005

Harris Hill Soaring Corporation and the US Soaring Team Announce a Junior Cross Country Soaring Development Camp The Harris Hill Soaring Corporation (HHSC) will host a Junior Cross Country Development Camp July 6 – 9, 2005 at Harris Hill, Elmira, NY.

Ground and flying cross-country instruction will be offered to Junior soaring pilots who are ready to begin, or in the initial stages of, cross country soaring.

Instruction will be available both in two seater gliders, and in single seat gliders (lead and follow). Camp instructors have extensive experience in cross country soaring and competition at the regional and national level. Applicants must be age 25 or less and have completed their glider solo flight. Preference will be given to those holding the Private Glider license and the Silver Duration and Altitude Badges. See the full details [here](#)...



### 10/27/04 - SITE CHANGE FOR 2006 WGC SWEDEN

The 29th World Gliding Championships originally slated for Uppsala Sweden have been moved to Eskilstuna Sweden. This site was where the 1993 Team had a week of practice before Borlange (site of 1993 WGC). The two sites share very similar terrain. See the

[Multi-class web page](#) for more...

### 10/25/04 - NAA FEES TAKE CENTER STAGE

As many of you may know, the SSA is represented to the FAI/IGC only through our "national aero club", the NAA in Washington, which represents all US air sports. Unfortunately, the NAA plays no active role to assist us in any way, and requires substantial annual dues payments while providing no added value. This has been a long-standing issue of contention at the SSA Board. The Team Committee and SSA Board members are working to address these fees. See an open letter explaining the NAA situation from Team Committee Chairman Doug Jacobs [here](#)...

### 10/23/04 - KS OFFERS COMPETITION EXPERIENCE, SCORES FUNDRAISING SUCCESS

For the last two years sixteen time national champion, record setter and frequent team member Karl Striedieck has been providing one-on-one competition and performance cross-country flights in his Duo Discus, while contributing the proceeds to US soaring team funding. This years poor weather curtailed the number of flying days but Karl was able to raise \$4,100 for the team. Karl very generously covers many of the costs of the program. Over the last two years upwards of 35 lucky pilots have had an unparalleled experience in competition and performance soaring while generating \$11,000 in team contributions. Karl's effort and dedication exemplifies the best in the sport and the team. Thank you Karl!



### 10/23/04 - 2005 US TEAM RIDE PROGRAM IN PLANNING STAGES

The 2005 season will see more team ride along opportunities. The program offers dual competition and cross country soaring to those interested in improving their contest and cross country skills, or are simply interested in riding along on contests tasks. The minimum contribution is \$200 per day and goes to help fund the US teams. Its a good example of team members fundraising while helping to develop the sport. While the 2005 program is still being developed there will be opportunities to fly with Karl in his Duo at one or more contests or to fly with perennial Nationals winner and World Champion Doug Jacobs at the 2005 Senior Championships in a DG-1000.

### 10/21/04 - US CLUB CLASS REPORT AND FINANCIALS ONLINE

Thanks to the persistence and hard work of 2004 Club Class Team Captain Susan MacAllister a full report and team financials have been posted online in Adobe PDF format. The 3rd Club Class World Gliding Championships (WGC) were held from June 13 to the 25th in Norway. See the US Team Committee page for the full report [here](#)...



### 10/07/04 - SECOND ISSUE OF JUNIOR NEWS ON THE WAY

United States Soaring Teams and the Team Committee have sponsored a mailing list of Junior pilots under age 26 interested in cross country and competition soaring. Over 130 junior pilots have signed up so far. Its time to get on the Team Juniors List to receive periodic updates and notice of special opportunities for Junior soaring pilots. The Team's Junior News keeps soaring pilots under age twenty six in the know on cross country, camp, competition and team related opportunities. Sign up to receive your free copy. [Click here to sign up and to find links to other Junior resources](#)...

### 09/30/04 - STANDARD CLASS SELECTION TO 2005

This years qualifying pilot in the Standard Class, Ray Gimmey, has decided to forgo participating in the 2005 Pre-World Championships held one year prior to the 2006 Multi-Class World Gliding Championships (WGC) in Sweden. Under current selection policy the Standard Class team position for the 2006 championships will be decided after next years 2005 Standard Nationals in Ohio. If WGC organizers allow for a six person team, which is unlikely, there is the possibility of a second pilot selected from the Standard Class. See



the current team selection policy [here](#)...

### 09/28/04 - US TEAM COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN POSTS 2004 REPORT

US Team Committee Chairman, Doug Jacobs, has posted the 2004 US Team Report and year-to-date financials on the Team Committee's web page. In addition the information was sent to US Competition Chairman Ken Sorenson for inclusion in the SSA Board of Directors "Blue Book" in preparation for the SSA Board meeting to be held in mid October. See the team committee page [here](#).

### 09/26/04 - US SRA COMPETITION PILOTS POLL

The annual opinion poll of US competition pilots is available to pilots who have competed in an SSA sanctioned contest within the previous three years. All competitors who meet this criteria are encouraged to participate as the results have a major impact on the future rules and direction of US contests rules. Take the poll by clicking [here](#)...

### 09/22/04 - US TEAM COMMITTEE TO MEET IN DENVER

The US Team Committee members Dianne Black-Nixon, Doug Jacobs, Tim Welles, Ken Sorenson, John Seaborn and SSA Executive Director Dennis Wright will be meeting in conjunction with the SSA Board of Directors meeting in Denver, Colorado the weekend of October 16, 2004. Agenda items include discussion of the 2005 Junior Team, financial review, fundraising for the 2006 campaigns (Multi-Class, Club, World), team selection, committee elections, 2005 SSA Convention and several other items.

### 09/05/04 - LEGENDARY SOARING PILOT AJ SMITH DIES AT AGE 80

The United States and the world soaring community lost a giant in the history of competition soaring on September 5th of 2004 with the passing of Andrew James Smith. AJ passed away with heart failure at age 80 in his home in Tecumseh, Michigan. He began soaring in the 1950s with fellow competitor and friend Dick Schreder in the Adrian, Michigan and Toledo, Ohio area. He quickly focused on competition soaring and preceded to modify each of his sailplanes for enhanced performance beginning with the LO-150 and continuing through the Sisu 1A, ASW12, and Glasflugel 604. He won the Open Class Nationals in each of these planes from the early 60's to 1980. AJ represented the USA on four international teams:

England "65," Poland "68," Marfa TX "70," and Yugoslavia "72." He was the second American to win a World Gliding Championship in Leszno, Poland, flying an Elfe S-3 in the Standard Class. In 1968, AJ was inducted into the Soaring Hall of Fame. AJ served as an SSA director for more than 15 years.

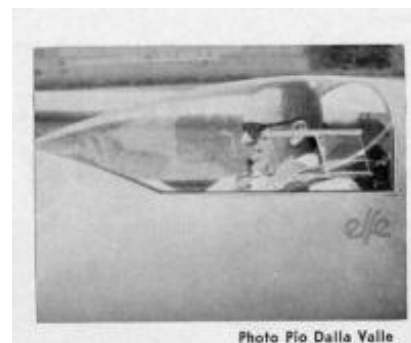


Photo Pio Dalla Valle



The Duke of Edinburgh in trench coat, accompanied by Peter Wiley and three World class sail for Rohn, A. J. Smith and two other members of the U.S. Soaring Team.

AJ was a very successful architect in the Detroit area, owning his own major firm (Smith and Gardner) that designed many award-winning structures from airport terminals to major office complexes across the US. AJ's artistic flare from his architecture background, combined with his engineering knowledge of sailplane aerodynamics, enabled him to design an extremely efficient racing airplane in the early 80's which rocked the racing world of the Experimental Aircraft Association. The plane - the AJ-2 - was designed to compete in a new efficiency race the Oshkosh 500

sponsored by the EAA. The plane dominated the race from its first entry in 1981 and each succeeding year for seven years. The sponsors of the race eventually changed the rules, rendering the plane no longer competitive - the plane is now headed to the Smithsonian Smithsonian's Air and Space Museum.

AJ grew up in Tecumseh and graduated from Tecumseh High School in 1942. After high school, AJ began

U.S. Team pilots at opening ceremony: A. J. Smith, George Moffat, Ben Greene and Dick Johnson.



working for NACA (now NASA) as a model builder at Langley Field, Virginia. He then served in the Navy during WWII, flying Corsairs off aircraft carriers for two years in the Atlantic. From 1946-1951 he attended the University of Michigan acquiring an architectural engineering degree. Although AJ had not been active in soaring for several years, he always stayed abreast of the competition scene and the development of new-generation sailplanes. His heart was - and will always be - with the competition soaring pilot. - *By Dick Butler*



### 08/30/04 - DANSVILLE TEAM FUNDING SUCCESS

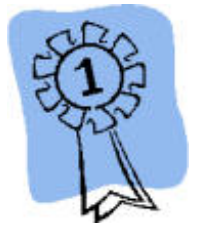
Although the weather did not live up to expectations for the forty five contestants, US soaring team barbequing was going hot and heavy at the recent Region 3 Contest in Danville, New York. Hank Nixon and his wife Dianne had the barbeques at the ready as well as providing salads, snacks, eating utensils and plates and all the fixings for dinner. The generosity of the contestants was not dampened by the weather as the team received over \$2,500 in contributions and merchandise sales. Day one (the only day!) winner and past team member Hank Nixon says, "this event was attended by more than a dozen US Team Pilots, crews, and supporters/coaches. It also featured presentations by Tim Hanke and Erik Nelson who spoke very well about their experiences as Junior Team pilots. I even got \$200 for the Junior team for fixing a set of gear doors for a guy!" Personal contributions as the only source of team funding make it possible for US Soaring Teams to compete internationally at World Gliding Championships.

### 08/30/04 TEAM E-NEWS BULLETIN 15

The 15th U.S. Soaring Team e-Bulletin is on its way to subscribers. Team Bulletins are provided by the U.S. Team Committee to bring you the latest team and international championship news. To receive future team E-News Bulletins for a free subscription contact John Seaborn [here](#). - *John Seaborn, Team Bulletin Editor*

### 08/20/04 US TEAM MEMBERS AND 2004 TEAM SELECTION

With the conclusion of the Open, 18-Meter and Standard Class Nationals this year's team selection has drawn to a close. According to revised team selection policy a selected pilot must participate in their respective pre-worlds or re-qualify for the team at next years nationals. **Dick Butler**, already selected for the 2006 Multi-Class Team (Sweden) in the 15-meter class and top ranked in the open class has opted to accept the 2006 Open Class team position. Dick intends to participate in the 2005 Pre-Worlds in Sweden. Subsequently there will be no 15-meter team selection in 2004 so two 15-meter pilots will be selected for a five pilot WGC 06 Multi-Class team at the 2005 nationals in Uvalde. **Ray Gimmey** was selected to the 2006 Multi-Class Team in the Standard Class based on the results of the Standard Class Nationals in Hobbs and his previous team standings. Ray has not yet decided if he will attend the 2006 Pre-Worlds in Sweden. There are a couple of standard class selection scenarios possible for 2005 depending on pre-world participation and the overall team size allowed by the Swedish organizers. Currently the organizers have approved a five pilot team and if Ray attends the Pre-Worlds in 2005 no additional Standard class selections will be done. If a larger six pilot team is permitted by the organizers one or two Standard Class team selections will be made in 2005. **Rick Walters** has been selected to the 2006 Multi-Class team in the 18-meter class and has opted to participate in the 2005 Pre-Worlds. Only one 18-meter pilot will be selected for the 2006 team. Junior pilot **Chris Saunders** was selected to participate on the 2005 Junior Team based on his scores at the national level. Chris has not yet decided to participate in this event with what would be his team mate **Garret Willat**. To round out this years team section as reported earlier US Team Committee Chairman Doug Jacobs has notified Club Class pilot **David Stevenson** and World Class pilot **Francois Pin** of



their qualifying status. Both of these pilots intend to participate in their 2004 Pre-Worlds in France. One or more pilots will be selected from these classes in 2005. See the following links for more on these pilots and teams. [Multi-Class](#), [Junior Class](#), [World Class](#) and [Club Class](#). Team selection criteria available on the Team Committee page [here](#).

#### 08/10/04 US 2005 JUNIOR TEAM CAPTAIN APPOINTED

Experienced team member Bob Leve has taken on the role of Junior Team Captain for the 2005 4th Junior World Gliding Championships and has been officially appointed by the U.S. Team Committee. Bob is highly qualified to be a Team Captain and brings a wide range of skills and experiences to the Junior Team. See more on Bob's background and the Junior Team (with one more member to be selected at the conclusion of US Nationals) that will be representing the United States at next years Junior World Gliding Championships [here](#).

#### 08/10/04 US TEAM WEB SITE UPDATED, PRESS ROOM ADDED

SSA U.S. Team's Web was updated to approximate the overall update of the SSA's web resources. During the update an online Press Room was added to the U. S. Team Web With the goals of making the sport and our soaring teams more accessible to the media while providing an online resource that can be used by the larger soaring community to promote the sport. See the new online Press Room [here](#).



#### 08/03/04 JUNIOR PRE-WORLDS UNDERWAY

The Junior WGC Pre-Worlds is now underway in the United Kingdom. Flying out of Husbands Bosworth, the contest is being reported on the web. See all the details at the [official web site here](#).

#### 08/01/04 NEW TEAM MEMBERS SELECTED - STEVENSON, PIN

With the conclusion of the Club, Standard and World Class nationals several new U.S. Soaring Team members have been selected to represent the United States in future World Gliding Championships using the current Team Selection criteria. Team Committee Chairman Doug Jacobs has notified Club Class pilot David Stevenson and World Class pilot Francois Pin of their qualifying status. According to the selection procedures pilots must compete in the pre-worlds or re-qualify for the team at U.S. Nationals in 2005. Congratulations to all these pilots. Click the following links for more on these pilots and on the [Club](#) and [World Class](#). Team selection procedures are posted on the Team Committee page [here](#). Current team rankings for all contest pilots are available courtesy of John Leibacher [here](#).

#### 07/26/04



#### SSA MEMBERS ENCOURAGED TO RUN FOR TEAM COMMITTEE

Nominations for an open seat on the U.S. Team Committee are now being solicited. All SSA members are eligible and encouraged to apply for nomination with their SSA Regional Director. The U.S. Team Committee oversees the affairs of the Soaring Society of America with respect to its representation at Federation Aéronautique Internationale (FAI) approved World Gliding Championships. The six-member committee includes the Contest Committee Chairman, the U.S. Team Chairman, the SSA Executive Director, plus three members elected by the members of the Soaring Society of America (SSA). [See more on this election and how to be nominated.](#)

## 07/20/04 NATIONAL SOARING FOUNDATION (NSF) MATCHES JUNIORS AT STANDARD NATIONALS IN HOBBS

Hot off a successful team sponsored camp, members of the junior soaring community pitched in with a fundraising barbeque 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.



07/18/04



## U.S. Team Sponsored Junior Development and Training Camp Success

The U.S. Team sponsored 2004 Junior Camp held in Moriarty, New Mexico from Sunday, July 11 to Friday, July 16 was a big success. The team sponsored Camp was the first attempt 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 U.S. 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. 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. Visit the [Junior Camp \(click here\)](#) page for a full description and many photos of this successful event.

## 07/15/04 2004 Sugarbush Cross Country and Racing Experience Camp PROVIDES AN OPPORTUNITY TO LEARN FROM THE BEST

One thing that is a near constant with glider pilots is that we all want to improve our flying skills. Unfortunately when we solo there is not much support in this country for teaching the next phase of a glider pilots training namely cross country and competition flying. These skills are normally self taught and can take years to master. Sure you can read the books, analysis the flights, and make timid attempts at departing the airport but how about a week on intensive hands on training and flying dual with the masters of the sport? All in a safe and fun environment? That is what the 2004 Sugarbush Cross Country and Contest Camp was all about. Organized by Doug Jacobs and members of the U.S. soaring team and others this camp was a big success this year. See all the [details on this camp by clicking here...](#)





**06/01/04 CLUB CLASS DAY REPORTS ONLINE**

United States Club Class Team Captain Susan MacAllister has begun publishing Day Reports from Norway. The 3rd Club Class World Gliding Championships will be under way from June 13 to the 25th in Elverum/Starmoen Norway. Located at 60 degrees north latitude, the Norwegian summer brings long hours of daylight, allowing gliding under the "midnight sun". The thermals start early in the morning, and often last until 20:00 hrs. See the U.S. Team web site for up to the minute reports directly from Norway and the World Gliding Championships. See the [Day Reports here...](#)

**05/27/04 DICK BUTLER SELECTED TO 2006 US SOARING TEAM**

Long time sailplane pilot and four time Open Class National Champion Dick Butler has been selected as a team member for the 2006 World Gliding Championships to be held in Sweden. As many know the recent 15-meter Nationals in Mifflin, PA did not have enough days to make it a valid contest. According to the team selection procedures, the prior 15-meter results from Hobbs (03), Tonopah (02) and Uvalde (01) are used to select the 2004 15-meter team member. This is to be done prior to the Pre-Worlds (2005) for the 2006 World Gliding Championships to be held in Sweden. Dick intends to participate in the 05 Pre-World contest gaining invaluable experience and bringing back information for the team. Under the recent selection amendment, if the pilot selected prior to the Pre-Worlds chooses not to attend the Pre-Worlds then two team members would be selected at the next years nationals. Of interest, Dick is also the top rated Open Class pilot and with the Open nationals coming up in August, Dick could potentially qualify for the U.S. Team in two classes. See the Multi-Class web page for [more...](#) To see the official team selection policy [here...](#)

**05/12/04 TEAM E-NEWS BULLETIN 14**

The 14th U.S. Soaring Team e-Bulletin is on its way to subscribers. Team Bulletins are provided by the U.S. Team Committee to bring you the latest team and international championship news. To receive future team E-News Bulletins for a free subscription [click here](#). - *John Seaborn, Team Bulletin Editor*

**05/07/04 U.S. Club Class Pilot to Participate in Norwegian National Championships**

In preparation for the 3rd Club Class World Championships (June 6 - 26), Tim McAllister will travel to Norway early to participate in the Norwegian National Championships in Elverum, May 23 - 31. He will be flying as a guest in club class. "This will be a great opportunity to explore the task area and to adjust to the flying conditions in Norway," said McAllister. The two other Club Class Team Pilots, Bob Barber and Manfred Franke, will join McAllister in Norway a few days before the World Championships begin. Watch the U.S. Team web site for Team Manager/Captain Susan McAllister's reports on the competition, and visit the official WGC site at [www.wgc2004.com](http://www.wgc2004.com) for more background and updates on the contest. Meet the club class team [here](#).

**05/06/04 TEAM FINANCIALS UPDATED AND POSTED ON WEB**

Following the operating principles of accountability, transparency and sustainability, updated U.S. Team financials have been posted on the web for public review. The updated 2003 and year to date (YTD) team financials are available on the Committee page [here](#).

#### 04/29/04 TEAM COMMITTEE MAKES HEADWAY WITH JUNIOR PROGRAMS, JUNIOR NEWS, NEEDS HELP...

The Team Committee has outlined several action items necessary to build the Junior Team organization and help support Junior pilots interested in cross country and competition soaring in the USA. First the Team Committee, working with the SSA has developed a Junior Pilots mailing list and online signup capability. The first edition of the Team's Junior News will be in the mail soon so sign up now. See the Junior signup [here](#). The overall Junior program has been better defined largely through the leadership of committee member Tim Welles. See the details on the emerging [Junior Team Development Program](#) in Adobe PDF [here](#).

#### 04/25/04 CLUB CLASS TEAM READIES FOR NORWAY

With the 3rd FAI Club Class World Gliding Championships on June 12-27 this year in Norway the U.S. Club Class Team of Barber, Franke and McAllister are well into their preparations for the event. World Gliding Championships are unlike any other event in soaring, bringing together many nations (24 countries and 60 pilots are signed up so far for Norway) to determine a Champion of Champions. These events can be extremely difficult to prepare for especially if pilots have not attended previous WGC. To assist teams the Team Committee has created an in-depth Team Binder featuring an extensive "Best Practices" section and checklists drawn from the experience of past teams. Also updated this year is the Team Policy and Procedures Manual. To review the team manual see the Committee web page [here](#). To meet the U. S. Team Club Class and find links to the organizers web site in Norway click [here](#). To see the outline of the Team Binder, click [here](#).



#### 04/25/04 JUNIOR TEAM PILOT SCORES FUNDING SUCCESS

U.S. Junior Team member Garret Willat recently decided to take the team fundraising bull by the horns and set up and then auctioned off two contest days flying with him in a Stemme in Arizona. Of note he decided to use e-bay as the auction site. When the dust settled the winning bid was just over \$1700! Congratulation to Garret on this fundraising success. He is to be commended for organizing the innovative program and auction strategy.

#### 04/09/04 FLY A STEMME IN A CONTEST WITH GARRET - HELP THE JUNIOR TEAM

Glider pilots of the Arizona and Southern California region have decided to have a little race to see where exactly the better pilots come from. Maybe it's the Avocado's of Southern California or the continuous blazing heat of the Arizona sun. Either way someone will come out victorious. The first 2 days will be held at Turf in Arizona on April 24 and 25. The last 2 days will be held at Warner Springs in California August 21<sup>st</sup> and 22<sup>nd</sup>. George Klopfer of StemmeWest has donated the use of his Stemme S10VT to help the Junior Team. Garret Willat, a member of the US Junior Soaring Team, will have the S10VT at Turf to give instruction out on the course. The open seat for 2 days will be at Turf April 24<sup>th</sup> and 25<sup>th</sup> and will go to the highest bidder, who will donate their money directly to the US Junior Soaring Team. Please contact Garret for further information. Bidding will be done on Ebay, this way you can view how your bid is doing. Bidding ends **Apr-14-04**

**03/27/04****PERRY, REGION 5 - CRUISE THE RAMP IN STYLE**

Help the Team while cruising the flight line in style at the upcoming Region 5 contest. Keep your motor home in the camping area while you cruise the flight line in a speedy electric ramp cart while making a much needed contribution to the U.S. Soaring Team. Thanks to Al and Rhonda Tyler, Michelle Sorenson and the U.S. Soaring Team an electric ramp cart will be yours for the duration of the Perry contest if you are the high bidder. The bidding will be fast and furious, immediately following the mandatory pilot's meeting, with all proceeds going to help our international teams. The Region 5 North Championships will be held at the Perry International Airport in South Carolina from April 19 to 24.

**03/14/04 FUNDRAISING SUCCESS AT 04 SENIORS IN SEMINOLE**

The fast and furious competition in the air was only matched by the generosity of the contributors and the hard work of Team volunteers at this years Seniors held in Seminole Lake Florida. Just under \$7,000 was contributed in support of U.S. Soaring Teams, a new record for a team event. The flying was challenging with both Karl Striedieck and Doug Jacobs competing in beautiful DG-1000s provided free of charge by Seminole Gliderport, courtesy of Knut Kjenslie (thanks Knut!) and providing competition training for the lucky pilots riding along with them. New team merchandise was available and John Good showed a very interesting slide show from the recent World Gliding Championships held in Poland. The team will be sponsoring a number of these low-key fun get togethers at contests in 2004. This event was made possible through the dedication of team volunteers Doug and Martha Jacobs, Dick Butler, Karl Striedieck, Tom and Doris Knauff, John Good and Team Merchandise Manager Noreen Buchanan. Many thanks to those who contributed and purchased team merchandise. Go Team! [See 2004 Seniors photos here.](#)

**03/06/04****TWO FUN TRAINING AND EXPERIENCE CROSS COUNTRY CAMPS SCHEDULED**

Two fun cross country and training camps have been scheduled for this summer. First is the **Cross Country & Racing Experience Camp**, to be held in Sugarbush, Vermont in conjunction with the Region 1 Championships. Dates are June 15-26. Junior pilots are welcome and can take advantage of the camp at greatly reduced costs. The second opportunity to learn from the best will be the first **Junior Soaring Development and Training Camp** scheduled for July 11-17, 2004 in Moriarty, NM. The Camp will be open to Junior Soaring pilots age 24 and under. Both camps will feature U.S. Team members giving presentations on cross country and performance soaring, participating in discussion groups, answering questions on contest flying, flying participants in two place gliders or doing lead-and-follow training. For more on the events click the links below:



**Sugarbush, VT**, June 15-26, [Cross Country & Racing Experience Camp \(PDF\)](#)

**Moriarty, NM**, July 11-17, [Junior Soaring Development and Training Camp \(PDF\)](#)

**3/06/04 US JUNIOR PILOTS TO ATTEND GEORGE LEE'S X-C SCHOOL**

Three time World Champion George Lee brings together junior pilots from around the globe to participate in advanced cross country training. Four 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 two weeks in Australia flying with Mr. Lee in his Nimbus 4DM. Past US participants include Garret Willat, Liz Schwenkler, Mike Robison, and Dillon Krapes. **Mike Riley**, age 20, is a member of the Mid-Atlantic Soaring Association with a Private Glider rating and is working on his CFG. He holds a gold badge and two diamonds. Mike has flown three contests and is the two time winner of Colorado Soaring Association (CSA) Gogos flight scholarship and the SSA Kolstad college scholarship. **Kathryn Fosha**, age 21, is a member Colorado Soaring Association, with a commercial glider license. Kathy holds a Silver badge with Gold distance. She has flown a Sports Class Regionals and the 15m Nationals. She has won the CSA Gogos flight scholarship, Women's Soaring Pilots Association Sky Ghost flight scholarship, the SSA Kolstad college scholarship and is currently on an engineering internship in Germany with BMW.

**03/06/04 FAI UPDATES SPORTING CODE INCLUDES NEW ANTI-DOPING SECTION**

On 1st April 2004, the new edition of the FAI Sporting Code, General Section, comes into force. This contains new rules on doping (paragraph > 3.11.2.). An entirely new document has also been produced entitled: FAI Anti-Doping Rules and Procedures. The FAI will be issuing a new edition of the FAI Sporting Code including new rules regarding Anti-Doping. These new rules are very strict. Penalties can include disqualification and sanction. Review of the material at the web links below is mandatory for current team members and recommended for potential team members. There are forms to be filled out, rules and procedures to know, lists of banned substances and other information on the subject. All those who intend to participate in FAI sporting events should consult the documents on this site. In particular, they must refrain from consuming the substances listed on the World Anti-Doping Agency's Prohibited List. See the FAI link below: <http://www.fai.org/medical/nodoping.asp> Thanks to USA IGC representative Eric Mozer for bringing this to the attention of the Team Committee.

**02/20/04 TEAM E-NEWS BULLETIN 13**

The 13th U.S. Soaring Team e-Bulletin is on its way to subscribers. Team Bulletins are provided by the U.S. Team Committee to bring you the latest team and international championship news. To receive future team E-News Bulletins for a free subscription [click here](#). - *John Seaborn, Team Bulletin Editor*

**02/19/04 DEVELOPING OPPORTUNITIES FOR JUNIOR PILOTS**

Taking a page out of the successful Junior pilot development program used by the British gliding community the U.S. Team Committee has begun discussing ways to develop cross country and competitive opportunities for Junior pilots with the ultimate goal of increasing participation in the Junior Team. Targeting pilots under the age of 24 who have achieved a Gold Badge, the Team Committee, under the guidance of Tim Welles, has begun defining a workable program to encourage and facilitate Junior pilots. Some possibilities include the addition of a Juniors page on the SSA Team Web Site, development of a comprehensive Junior pilot e-mail list, creating a Junior Team Representative on the Team Committee, recruiting a long term Junior Team Captain, developing a mentoring program, establishing regional training camps, developing opportunities to crew for top pilots both nationally and internationally. Funding and volunteer support is always a challenge.



## **JUNIOR CAMP PROPOSED**

Under proposal is a one week Junior Soaring Pilots Camp to be held at Moriarity NM from July 11 to 17 (between the Region 9 and Standard Nationals). If you can help with this effort (or know of a qualified Junior Pilot) contact. We need volunteers of all types including organizers, pilots, instructors and lecturers. If you would can lend a two place (to be flown by instructor pilots) or would like to participate please contact Tim. And, of course, the Junior Team is always short of funds. Consider making this event possible with a tax deductible contribution clearly marked for the Juniors.

## **02/19/04 NEW JUNIOR TEAM BULLETIN FOR PRE-WORLDS**

From the organizers. Please see Bulletin 0.1 for the Junior Worlds Training Week, to be held at Husbands Bosworth, England, from 31st July to 8th August 2004. This bulletin contains some important changes regarding entries and classes of competition. The bulletin will shortly be posted on the Championships web site at [www.worldgliding2005.com](http://www.worldgliding2005.com)

## **02/17/04 U.S. CLUB CLASS TEAM MAKES HEADWAY**

The U.S. Club Class Team heading for the 3rd Club Class World Gliding Championships to be held in Elverum, Norway, June 12-27, 2004 has been making good progress under the leadership of Team Captain Susan McAllister. Bob Barber is in the process of finalizing the details of renting a Norwegian ASW-19 with tow vehicle. Tim McAllister has had a commitment for a German modified Libelle 201b for some time now. He will rent a van (with confirmed trailer hitch) in Germany and drive to Norway. Manfred Franke has just come to an agreement for a Norwegian LS-7. [Meet the team.](#)

## **02/10/04 TEAM POLICY AND PROCEDURES MANUAL DRAFT REVIEW**

The Team Committee (USTC) will be proposing to the SSA Board of Directors an updated and revised Team Policy & Procedures Manual as part of the Committee's resource development program. Building on the excellent original created in 1996 by then Team Committee Chairman Mark Huffstutler, the U.S. Team Policy and Procedures Manual is the authoritative manual for the governance of U.S. Soaring Teams. A link to a DRAFT copy is available on the [U.S. Team Committee Page](#) for review and comment by past and present team members as well as the soaring community generally.

## **02/10/04 TEAM RESOURCE AND DOCUMENT BINDER NOW AVAILABLE TO TEAMS**

One of the challenges faced by U.S. soaring teams is the transfer of organizational knowledge from one team to others and even from the same team from year-to-year. With more Championship events, new classes and Team Captains, facilitating this transfer of knowledge becomes even more critical to success. To address this challenge the Team Committee created a Team Resource and Document program drawing from the experience of the most successful Team Pilots, Crews and Captains. Major sections include Team Best Practices, Selection, Checklists, Policy & Procedures, Forms and Examples and Promotion. From team stationary through shipping gliders, rewiring a trailer hitch or presenting soaring to a group, the new U.S. Team Resource & Document program is designed to get our Pilots, Crews and Captains up to Championship speed quickly. All documents are in electronic format and available on CD as well. These resources are available to Team Captains, Pilots and Crew only at this point. See the listing of documents now available [here](#).

**02/10/04 DISCLOSURE PAGE UPDATED**

Living up to U.S. Soaring Team's commitment to operate in a transparent, accountable, sustainable and competitive manner the Team Committee Disclosure page has been updated with recent meeting minutes, additional 2003 financial reporting, and updated team selection policy. [Visit the U.S. Team Committee page](#) for the latest information from 2003/2004.

**02/10/04 UPDATED TEAM SELECTION POLICY GAINS SSA BOARD APPROVAL**

After a good deal of healthy discussion and a lively public comment period the changes to the team selection policy recommended by the U.S. Team Committee were approved by the SSA Board of Directors during their meeting in Atlanta. The new selection policy contains several minor updates but places additional importance on attending Pre-Worlds. All U.S. Soaring Team contenders and those interested should read the new selection policy Ver 2, Rev 10 now referred to as 2.0 Final. See the U.S. Team Committee disclosure page [here](#). Under long term development is Team Selection Ver. 3.0 which will incorporate additional changes to selection policy with the goal of preserving the intent of the current policy while simplifying the content and adapting to future changes proposed by the IGC.

**02/10/04 TEAM SUCCESS WITH BOOTH - 2004 SSA CONVENTION**

The team booth at the recent SSA convention in Atlanta was a success. With past and present team members working the booth, an hourly drawing for great soaring prizes plus a presentation featuring the rich history of U.S. Teams, a recap of 2003 and a look at what is ahead for 2004/05. Thanks to the generous support of the 2004 Convention Sponsors who contributed the hourly prizes for the team drawing, the booth effort generated almost \$2,500 in contributions. 2004 Convention Sponsors included Eastern Sailplane, M&H Soaring, Soaring Society of America, Robertson Trust, Bob Wander's Soaring Books & Supplies, Cumulus Soaring Supplies and the National Soaring Museum. Thanks to team members and supporters who worked the booth including Doug Jacobs, Karl Striedieck, Chip Garner, Hank and Dianne Nixon, John and Brenda Seaborn, Gary Ittner, François Pin, Garret Willat, Liz Schwenkler, Ken and Michelle Sorenson. [See more on the team booth.](#)

**01/14/04 U.S. TEAM BOOTH AT SSA CONVENTION**

The U.S. Team will host a booth at the SSA convention in Atlanta. The booth will be attended by past and present team members and include a historical look at past teams and a raffle with hourly prizes. Stop by, meet team members, enter to win great prizes. Special thanks to the drawing contributors including the Soaring Society of America, National Soaring Museum, Cumulus Soaring Supplies, Eastern Sailplane, Robertson Trust, M&H Soaring and Bob Wander's Soaring Books & Supplies.

**01/14/04 U.S. TEAM COMMITTEE TO MEET**

The U.S. Team Committee will hold its second meeting at the SSA Convention in Atlanta. Agenda items include proposed team selection rule changes, team financial review, 2004 Club Class WGC preparations, Junior Team management, 2004 fundraising, Rules Committee changes, revision of team policies and procedures, team resource and document program and team competitiveness.

[See 2003 U.S. Team News Here](#)

Copyright 1997-2004 Soaring Society of America