



Las Vegas Valley Soaring Association

P.O. Box 19902, Jean, NV 89019-1902 Phone (702) 874-1420 www.LVVSA.org

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February 2004

Weekend Reports:

27 Dec 03: Weak ridge lift, changing to thermal later in the day. It was a blustery day in the city, but a warm great day at Jean. *Never plan your soaring day based on the weather in the city.* Check out this link for current conditions at Jean, http://www.met.utah.edu/cgi-bin/roman/meso_base.cgi?stn=LV20 it is "MESOWEST STATION INTERFACE FOR LV20" Jean NV, the weather reporting station on the southeast corner of the airport.

1 Jan 2004: Wave Day... 19 tows were taken, most flying for an hour. All 4 club aircraft in the air plus a couple of private aircraft right up to sunset. Light winds on the ground, ridge was weak early in the day, but the Lennie's were all over Mt Charleston. The first to tow west towards Good Springs was Jim Archer in the LS-4; he reported 3-4 knots up over the new pumping station. So that's where everyone went. Late in the day, the local ridge started working and shorter tows were made.

10 Jan: Meeting Day. Glide Day, inversion aloft, no thermals, great winter training day.

17 Jan: CAP Orientation Flights, 12 cadet flights. Congratulations to 2Lt Miguel Romero, Private Pilot Glider add-on check ride. 30 tows today.

24 Jan: Ridge Soaring Day, SW winds, winds down the runway or close to it and hour plus flights. I should have captured the Skew-T for the day and posted it here. Check out <http://www-frd.fsl.noaa.gov/mab/soundings/java/>, put "las" in the RAOB-WMD-IB block and select "Java Based Plots".. a dynamic Skew-T is available from the NOAA Forecast Systems Laboratory. Move the mouse around the diagram and see what you get. For Jan 24th it predicted 20knt SW winds at ridge height and winds down the runway at ground level. Spot on.

25 Jan: Ridge Soaring, severe west cross winds on the runway and a west wind on the ridge, timing is everything, able to get two glider flights with a lull in the surface winds and then the cross wind increases to out of limits for the Pawnee. Wonder what the Skew-T forecast was. There were strong north winds in town, but not at Jean. Imagine that.

31 Jan: Frontal passage with showers before noon, calm winds become northerly with post frontal instability. North side of the ridge usable for ridge lift. Some evidence of shear line lift as the front passed through. 15 flights today.

SAVE THE DATE! MARCH 21

RESCO 2004 "BACK IN THE SADDLE" (B.I.T.S.)
PILOT/CREW REFRESHER LECTURE DAY AND LUNCHEON

FAA Wings Safety Program Credit Available!

Phoenix Club, Anaheim 9 am – 4:30 pm
Program and Details Announced Here in March Issue
and by Email to All Subscribers

Intersting Conversation heard on the radio

N271JH: 13.5 squawking 1200 (in four knots of wave lift)

McCarran TRACON: JH say type

N271JH: Glider

McCarran TRACON: Squawk 4546, Could you please move about five miles south, you are right in the way.

N271JH: Roger heading south. (Back into zero sink)

From Cindy Brickner, Caracole Soaring, Cal City California and SSA Region 12 Director.

LVVSA is invited to the annual Region 12 B.I.T.S (Back in the Saddle) Spring Soaring Seminar. It will be at the Phoenix Club, Anaheim CA, Sunday March 21st. Registration begins at 8:30am, Seminar is from 9:00am to 4:30pm and includes lunch. Anyone who wants to fly into Fullerton, we will shuttle over. \$40 includes lunch. Register early with Cindy via email info@caracolesoaring.com or by phone, Telephone 760-373-1019 - Fax 760-373-1019. Let her know if you will need a pick up at Fullerton Airport.

Can you read a Skew-T and know to predict your soaring day? Check out these web links:

Unisys Weather, Upper Air Sounding Details, http://weather.unisys.com/upper_air/skew/details.html

Michigan Tech Geological Engineering and Sciences

<http://www.geo.mtu.edu/departement/classes/ge406/cmriley/interpret.html>

We Need Volunteers!! (Contact Jay)

(Schedule may change, we are training a 4th Tow Pilot for Sat's)

| Day | Date | Tow | FOO | Notes |
|-----|--------|----------|----------------|--|
| | | | | |
| Sat | Feb 7 | Dvorchak | McDaniel, R | |
| Sun | Feb 8 | Ratzin | Volunteer | |
| | | | | |
| Sat | Feb 14 | Holden | Volunteer | Monthly Business Meeting 10 am |
| Sun | Feb 15 | Madson | Brewer | |
| | | | | |
| Sat | Feb 21 | Tisdale | Thistlethwaite | CAP Orientation rides 8 - 12:00 |
| Sun | Feb 22 | Gough | Volunteer | |
| | | | | |
| Sat | Feb 28 | Dvorchak | Burns | CAP Orientation rides 8 - 12:00 |
| Sun | Feb 29 | Felgar | Wynhoff | |
| | | | | |
| Sat | Mar 6 | Holden | McDaniel, R | |
| Sun | Mar 7 | Ratzin | Volunteer | |
| | | | | |
| Sat | Mar 13 | Tisdale | Volunteer | Spring Banquet (No monthly Business Meeting) |
| Sun | Mar 14 | Madson | Brewer | |
| | | | | |
| Sat | Mar 20 | Dvorchak | Thistlethwaite | CAP Orientation rides 8 - 12:00 |
| Sun | Mar 21 | Gough | Volunteer | |

We request Tow Pilots scheduled on CAP flight dates contact CAP Coordinator,
Paul Gunderson, if unable to support an 8am to Sunset tow day.
This will allow us to plan a second tow pilot for the early morning show.

CAP Orientation Rides are scheduled the 3rd and 4th Saturday of the month, 8-12am.
Club members have priority for use of club equipment at all times.

Tow Pilots...

*Please make sure your weekend is covered if you can't make it.
And for the rest of the club...*

*Please support your local tow pilot and FOO!!
Please get your RSVP for the Spring Banquet
to Bill Tisdale by the February Meeting.*

First Flight - First Landing... January 1, 2004



Spring Banquet, 13 March, Orleans, Details inside.



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