

CALIFORNIA PARACHUTE CLUB

P.O. Box 1065, Livermore, California 94551

September 18th BOD Meeting & Hat party. 6:00 P.M., at Ray and Concha's in the Sonora area. They have spare bedrooms, you can camp out, and they will obtain a list of motels. 925.686.0921

General Meeting: October 16th, 7:30 P.M. Airport Admin.Bldg, LVK. Changed due to bldg availability.

Las Vegas Trip: October 21st-24th. Details to be firmed up by Madalyn. 650.359.1227 (thank you).

Wind Tunnel Trip: 2005. Details to be firmed up by Charloa 925.447.1624 (thank you).

Leap day Shirts \$10 each. **Bruce Fitch** just put one on layaway (no deposit required). Speaking of **Bruce Fitch**, his new email address is brucefitch@msn.com

Rantoul 2004 Highlights

I thought I would give you some details on our WFFC trip. As usual, we had a great time. We did have a little more excitement than usual, though. You can use any or all of the highlights for the newsletter if you like. Here it is:

Theresa

The weather in Rantoul this year was very unusual. The first 3 days and the last 3 days were beautiful, like spring in California. It was not hot or humid at all. The middle 3 days were windy, very gusty, with low clouds and cold. Two days were pretty much hop and pops and one day we did not jump at all due to a weather hold. We were shivering on the ground and very cold at altitude (really!).

Bill blew out a cell in his Diablo 190 the first day. Luckily, he was able to use demo mains from Aerodyne and Theresa's Triathlon 190 for a day until his Triathlon 190 was FedExed from home. So, he didn't miss any jumping.

Theresa had her first rear riser landing - left toggle was unstowed upon opening and knotted with lines (case of beer). It was very exciting. No, she didn't pack it herself, but did from that point on.

Al Silver had a Cypress fire. We'll let him tell you the story.

Ed Barr got a couple of rips in his harness container, which snagged on the inside of the CASA. He ordered a new harness container and an Aerodyne Pilot 150.

Lee Wilcox celebrated his 3000th jump and also aged a few years at the WFFC. Two times at dinner a birthday prank was called. The first time, we were at a Mexican restaurant and he got to wear the special birthday sombrero, singing, and a free dessert. The special hymn was sung for him. We did not go back to that restaurant. The second birthday celebration was at an Italian restaurant. He also got a free birthday dessert, but no hat. The last night in Rantoul, one of the lead organizers had dinner with us. He really wanted to eat at the Outback Steakhouse. His birthday was celebrated that night. Apparently, no one checks ID's.

On one of the cold and cloudy hop and pop days, John King landed (without deploying his parachute) on the shoulders of an unknown skydiver and then slid off his shoulders a few feet off of the ground so the guy could flare. That was the first Mr. Bill dive we have seen where the second jumper landed with the first. Shortly afterwards, they announced that any skydiver exiting an aircraft must land with a deployed parachute.

We saw the demo jump of the 39 square foot canopy landed by Luigi.

We jumped the usual WFFC aircraft - CASA's, Skyvan, Otter, Sikorsky Helicopter. For the last

couple of days of the WFFC, the choppers were giving 3 for 2 and then 2 for 1 jumps for just a little less altitude. On the days of low clouds, the hop and pops were 2 for 1 tickets. Unfortunately, each year there are less specialty aircraft and people than the previous year. This year was not crowded with people as some previous years. Some of us jumped the Pack 750 and no one really liked it for multiple reasons. Apparently, there was an extremely long seatbelt hazard right near the door of the Pack. One of the lead organizers exited and was suspended outside the aircraft by the long seatbelt. Luckily, there was a cameraman behind him who released the seatbelt and also got the footage.

We all had a great time at WFFC and hope to see more of our friends at WFFC 2005.

Calendar: (Subject to change to accommodate boogies, meets, etc.)

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General Meeting: October 16th, 7:30 P.M. Airport Admin. Bldg, Livermore.

Las Vegas Trip: October 21st-24th

2005 Holiday Party: Saturday January 29th at Bill and Charloa's.

This unofficial publication is dated 8/24/04 (**El Capitan Jump anniversary**)