



February 2011
NEXT MEETING

Volume 10, Issue 2
10:30am, March 26 @ Alexandria



From the President

To the membership.

Our club has come a long way in the last 50 years. I have been lucky enough to be an active member off and on since 1976.

In the “lead, follow or get out of the way” management approach I guess I have mainly kept “out of the way”. My excuse has always been “all I really care about is the flying”.

I still care about flying, all types, but have come to realize how important the structure, politics, funding and all the behind the scenes stuff is to insure that the flying can actually happen.

My Long Term Goal

I believe we can be much more than just a glider club that owns an airport.

Our buying of the airport and keeping it for “public use” is by far the biggest decision our club has ever made and it is a HUGE commitment. The people in our club that got this done worked very hard and we all owe them big time.

Now comes the time to make it work.

I think if we consider ourselves glider people only and not airplane people we are missing the boat. We all share the love of flying and there is strength in numbers. We need to broaden our club/airport appeal to include other light airplane people.

Our opportunities are great, let us not screw it up.

(cont.)

My 3 goals for 2011

Communicate, Communicate, Communicate.

Increase all communications internal and external.

WHY? Many of us are confused about things and don't understand our responsibilities.

WHY? We are missing opportunities in growth and retention.

Why? Many people want to help but don't know how.

We have many ways we communicate, website, newsletter, blog, print, etc. Many people work very hard to keep these lines of communications open and yet we still fall short in many ways.

Some examples of how these goals will be realized are listed below. Some have been started and some are yet to come from the membership.

1. A "general" club calendar of events easy for all to access at any time via CISS website.
2. Better signage on door for when no one is at the airport. We are at the airport so rarely, 2 days a week for half the year?
3. When we are at the airport insuring someone greets the visitors and they have good handout type information, complimentary copies of soaring magazine, etc. to work with.
4. Leadership job descriptions, club rules, by-laws, manuals, etc. will be reviewed, some revised and all published. As will most meeting minutes.
5. Make sure everyone knows who "their" board members and committee chairs are so they can send their suggestions, complaints, etc. to the correct person. Probably a website listing.
6. I think the president should write the opening article in our newsletter every month and I will. The remainder is up to the membership.

Also In This Issue:

A tribute to Bob Gillian ...

Ron Clarke lets you know what you missed if you didn't attend this year's Winter Banquet

And some recent decisions made by the board we should all be aware of

Calender

March	3	7:00pm	Board Meeting	
	26	8:30am	Instructor Safety Meeting	1 99
		9:00am	Crew Chief Safety Meeting/Tow Pilot Safety Meeting	
		10:30am	Club Safety Meeting	
April	2		2011 Soaring Season Begins!	

What's the Board up to?

At its meeting on Thursday, Feb 10, the CISS board took the following actions:

1. Added the right to vote in board meetings to the Chief Instructor and the Chief Tow Pilot.
2. Altered crew duties to consist of having 12 crews with duty of serving once every 6 weeks.
3. Adopted guidelines for administering the Robert Gillan Youth Scholarship. (Guidelines are attached and we encourage each of you to seek out applicants for these scholarships.)
4. Authorized Lindsay and Mark Sorg to pursue information about having a CISS booth and glider display at the Mt. Comfort Airshow costing no more than \$800. CISS presence will advertise the club, advertise the upcoming Youth Camp, and advertise the Gillan Youth Scholarship.
5. Appointed a committee to work on assembling and organizing club documents in order to make this information readily available to club members. Committee to consist of Nyal Williams, Chair, Scot Ortman, and Mike Nichols.

Note: All members may attend board meetings. Ordinarily, according to our by-laws, only board members speak at these meetings. Members who wish to address the board must be sponsored by one of the board members. This is easily arranged and can be done during the meeting.

A Good Time Was Had By All - In Other Words, An EXCELLENT Club Banquet

Despite the usual grim January weather, the 22nd was like a bright summers day, at least in the evening. Everyone I spoke to after the event volunteered that this years Club Banquet was the best for many years. The venue, the speakers, the food and the company all added up to a delightful evening .

Dick Hutch did his usual great job of displaying a photographic record of gliding over the past many years both in the club and around the US.

Recognizing members of the club is of course a challenge at such events as no one was wearing their usual club uniform of shorts, sunglasses or one of those strange hats . More to the point most glider pilots attending were greatly enhanced by the value of a fine spouse . We really need more of them at club events. How about it spouses this year at club Bar-b-ques and the Fly-in breakfast ?

What **was** recognized however, were club member achievements which were announced and those who went solo, gained badges and ratings, did well in the club cross country contest were all applauded. The new club board members were introduced and the old board recognized for their contributions.

Several guests of note attended including Bob Gillan's nephew John, who had helped process the funds Bob left us in his will last year. As most know, this has resulted in the purchase of a Schweizer 1-34 glider named BOB for the members use, and as well the establishment of a scholarship fund for juniors.

Jim Ross one of the founding fathers of the club has also become a regular attendee at many club events and older members got to check in with him that evening.



The last of the guests was of course our banquet speaker and what a job Dr Connie, aka the "White House Doctor", did. Rising to the fine introduction by Nyal she made some intriguing comparisons to being successful at doctoring - at the White House and piloting. If the quantity of interesting questions to her afterwards was any indication of the quality of her presentation I need say no more - the audience was wowed!

Thanks obviously go to the dedicated few club members who made the arrangements for this event. I for one am now looking forward to the next one - with a good soaring season between now and then of course.



ZA.

Bob Gillian



CISS paid tribute to Bob Gillan at its 2011 annual banquet, held at The Mansion at Oak Hill in Carmel.

Bob's nephew John Gillan, executor of Bob's estate was a guest of honor at the banquet.

Bob was a long-time member of CISS, and served many years as an instructor; most of us flew with Bob while he was with us, but not everyone knew of his many other activities. Here is a list of some of them.

- Navy instructor in WWII. Bob taught carrier pilots, he was held back from combat because he was a teacher in civilian life and was turned into a flight instructor and not allowed to go into combat even though he wanted to do that.



- Musician; Bob played the violin.

- Artist; Bob painted still life pictures;. He established an art center in Thorntown and donated a building so that the program could continue to survive.

- Poet; Bob wrote lots of poems throughout his life. We will reproduce one here that expressed his view of life.



- School Teacher and Band Director in the Indianapolis School District. Children were drawn to Bob and were always gathered round him. He asked for "problem kids" and was assigned full classes of these children. He took personal interest in each one, invited them to his farm, where he had them work with animals, plant crops, cultivate, and harvest as lessons in life. He was most proud that these children turned their lives around, finished school successfully, went on to college, and a couple of them became medical doctors.

- Puppeteer; Bob taught himself puppetry to communicate with children reluctant to talk. He earned a Doctor's Degree in Education with a dissertation on the history of puppetry and the use of puppets in school.

- Farmer: throughout all of his life Bob farmed. He shared his produce with club members; every summer he would show up with baskets of corn, apples, and other things he had grown and set them under the tent for anyone who wanted to partake.

Bob started a movement to help re-introduce the bluebird back into Indiana after a late winter storm wiped them out, and disrupted their migratory patterns. He traveled to areas where a few bluebirds were to be found and

spoke to organizations about his plan for enticing them northward. He built bluebird houses and passed them out to people in these areas who would put them up as encouragement for the birds. Slowly his program worked and the birds have returned in large measure at least to the central part of the state. .

In addition to contributing significantly to our drive for funds to buy the airport, Bob made two other significant gifts in his will.

He left money for us to buy specifically a Schweizer glider

He left money for us to establish a student scholarship to draw young people into soaring.

Bob Gillan lived a life of generous service; he was the best expression of being a Hoosier imaginable.



CISS has bought a Schweizer 1-34 with the money Bob Gillan left for that purpose. Note the after market canopy that allows taller pilots to fly it.

This glider was owned by the Colorado Soaring Association and you can see the initials CSA in the stripe just under the canopy. The logo on the tail is a stylized representation of Owl's Head Canyon in Colorado. The Colorado Soaring Association owns the Owl's Head Canyon Airport.

Imagine that the Owl's Head really looks like Bob, who always parted his hair in the middle; in earlier days his hair was tufted on the sides, much like the owl's ears.

Imagine that the lower part of this logo represent's Bob's spirit rising with this glider. Unofficially, we have named this glider "Bob" and a member has volunteered to remove the CSA initials you see in the red stripe under the cockpit and replace it with the name BOB.

CISS has a scholarship committee that has drafted a plan for using the Bob's scholarship money. The committee will present its plan to the Board at its meeting in February and the committee will also make some recommendations about making this a permanent fund.

When The Corn Has Turned To Brown

By Robert Lee Gillan

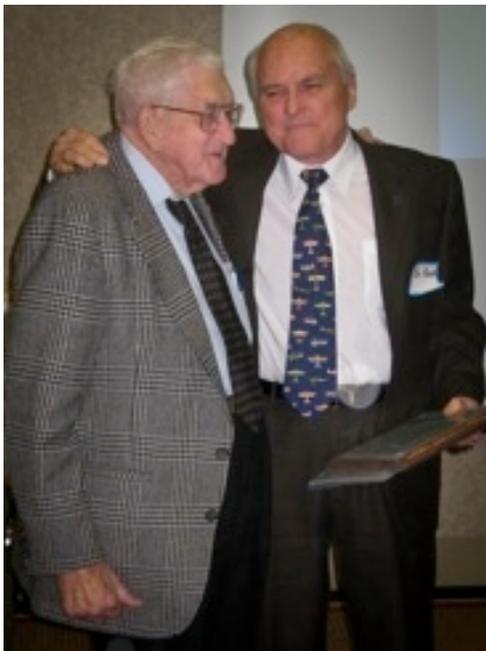
Across these fields so wide and long,
As on this knoll I stand,
I scan the soil with richness deep,
Whose strength will feed our land.

With furrows then the ground is turned,
And smoothed to take the seeds,
Then after summer sun and rain,
It's tilled to rid the weeds.

What magic then our earth unfolds,
From seed, to stalk, and ear,
Some mortals weep for bread and meat,
But we'll not have that fear.

The seasons roll – the crop is made,
It's frosted all around,
Then pumpkins sit 'round fodder shocks,
When the corn as turned to brown.

How nearly like that crop we are!
Our roots we send down deep.
There's time for sowing, and reaping too,
Then comes our time to sleep.



I hope my stalks grow tall and sweet,
In rows across life's field,
With golden ears all bending down,
To wait for frost and yield.

I'd look about me on that day,
And count the sun and rain.
I'd think of al the tender care,
That helped me grow this grain.

I'd lift my leafy arms up high,
And pray that every ear
Would strengthen some dear weakening soul,
That I'd found struggling near.

And then at last for me I'd ask,
His frost might have less sting,
And strength to stand up brave and proud,
For the end that harvests bring.

Mine eyes I'd fill with one last sweep,
With hues from Autumn's gown,
Then blend into the twilight haze,
When my corn has turned to brown.

(Found in his Ed. D dissertation titled Pupperty and Childhood Learning, 1980.)

And finally ...

February 12, 2011



Don't worry. Warmer weather is on its way.

Got an idea for a Wing Tips article? Send it in! Did you take a good photo at/above the field (like the ones above)? Show it off! Found an interesting soaring-related link while web-surfing? Share it with the rest of us! Send your submissions to our Wing Tips editor, Chris Hall at bestbrain@aol.com. Deadline for our March issue is March 8th.