



Parachutist

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DEAR MEMBER:

Let us start this issue out with a quote from one of our better jumpers and a newly appointed Area Safety Officer: "Please, let's have less concern about world competition and more concern about the future thousands of jumpers here in America."

With that in mind let's go to press.....late, we might add, but still here... ..and pitching.....! We apologize for being absent, but let us ask your indulgence because we're still suffering from growing pains, financial pains, organizational pains, an' such.

Meanwhile.....

CONGRATULATIONS: to first NAVY affiliated club: MACON PARACHUTE CLUB on the USS MACON; to Mrs. Hall, our administrative secretary for keeping up with most of the press of applications and licenses; to the many clubs sponsoring PCA affiliated meets throughout the country, particularly on Labor Day; to the clubs which are banding together locally and forming Parachute Councils dedicated to promoting safety and supporting the national group.....California leading in this move; to the many clubs which are pushing membership in the national club; and, finally, to you parachutists who are making a back loop without buffeting!!

SAFETY WARNING!!

Since last issue, five deaths! Summary: Of two women, both indicated "freezing," neither pulled the rip cord. Three men: two pulled too low, one didn't pull. One low-puller definitely was not trained, the other waited too long. One other man had a "pigtail" coil within his rip cord housing tube....poor safety check. Another jumper seriously injured by ejecting from harness too high above water during water jump. All these on the west coast....so we see why Parachute Councils and good safety officers are needed! Equipment report: One case of jumper tying on reserve with clothesline, no D rings! A recent jump record showed, "1 static line, two ten-second delays, 1 30-second delay", ...in that order! Another report indicates reserve "D" rings tacked on, not integrated into harness.

We are positive that all of the lives recently lost could have been prevented by good training, a steady training program, and safety checks and safe use of equipment. We can only say at this time: Know your jumpers and take it easy. Better your tenth static line jump today than your first and last free-fall forever!

SAFETY: The following report is reproduced for the benefit of all concerned:

"A matter has been brought to our attention that we feel should be passed on. We discovered a female jumper who did not have the strength to activate a reserve. Luckily, we learned on the ground. The reserve in question was one of our school chest packs which I am sure you are familiar with, and had not been repacked for 90 days. Since the chute was overdue we let the girl activate it for practice, and she couldn't. I tried, and I could Not. Finally using two hands, one of our men was able to release it. The conclusion we came to was that during use, etc., the cones had been pushed in, wedging the pins between the cone and the grommets. Needless to say, all reserves were immediately checked. The implications are enough to make a person wonder about the conditions of the reserves involved in the recent fatalities."

Mr. Joe Crane's REPORT TO F.A.I. GENERAL CONFERENCE at Barcelona, Spain, October 7, 1960: "We planned on a fifteen-minute report going into detail with regard to the unfavorable judging at Sofia. Upon submitting the report to Mr. Gillman, Director General of FAI before presenting it to the Session, he suggested that since all decisions by the International Jury were by vote and according to our own regulations, each country is allowed a Delegate to the Commission to do the voting, he was of the opinion that many countries would use such a report to claim that the US was a "poor loser".

He suggested that since the Parachuting Commission made their own regulations, we should abide by them and when something which arises which we do not think is in order, we should thrash it out at the Meeting of the Commission. We, therefore, did not make the report as expected, but made a general report as follows: My Report to the F.A.I. General Conference: At the last meeting of the FAI International Parachuting Commission held December 9-11, 1959, a Sub-Committee was appointed to re-write the Parachute Code, bringing it up-to-date and for the issuance of the advanced type of licenses. They accepted an invitation from the Austrian Delegate to hold the next Commission Meeting in Vienna. This meeting is now scheduled November 4-6 with a Sub-Committee Meeting on the Parachute Code and licenses on the 3rd.

They also accepted an invitation from the Governor of Massachusetts to hold the 1962 World Parachuting Competition at Orange, Massachusetts.

An election of officers was held and Joe Crane was re-elected President while Mr. Kuceravy of Czechoslovakia was elected Vice-President replacing Mr. Jornik of the USSR.

Details of the Fifth World Parachuting Championship were omitted, but we did give thanks to the doctor who was responsible for doing such a perfect job in setting Bobbie Gray's badly broken leg and to Madame Tobuvat who is Secretary to the Bulgarian Aero Club for the wonderful job she did of taking care of the many desires of the Delegates and the Teams.

NAA AFFILIATION: At the June NAA-PCA Meeting it was voted to accept the Parachute Club of America as a division of the National Aeronautic Association. The PCA, now considered a division of NAA, is writing an agreement which, in effect, will establish us as a division. This is one of the biggest steps forward for several reasons. First, NAA is the official aero club of the United States and composed of some of the most prominent and most respected people in aviation as well as many of the earliest and most renowned flyers of the nation. In addition to this, it has the support of many of the largest aircraft manufacturers and aviation organizations and it is the ONLY organization which has authority to officiate for national and international records and has the responsibility of sanctioning all aviation sports. We, as a division of NAA, will continue to manage all parachute matters and PCA is the official parachute organization of the U.S., the same as when we were an affiliate, but we are now considered on an equal status with the well-known and respected individuals and corporations connected with NAA.

After this year, we will no longer make appeals for funds to cover the expenses of the US Parachuting Team to travel to the International competition. Our fund raising program will now be the responsibility of the NAA.

At a later date, it is planned that each of the divisions will submit their news items to NAA and they will be published in the "National Aeronautics" Magazine. This will save us a considerable amount of money for printing.

There are many other ways in which both NAA and PCA will be benefited by this new working arrangement, as it will permit all groups to work under one head. In this way, everyone will be working to help each other instead of several groups pulling in different directions.

NAA-PCA ANNUAL MEETING: The NAA National Convention is being held in Indio, California November 14-16, 1960.

This Convention is going to be the biggest NAA Convention ever held and it would be well worth anyone's time to set aside these dates and try to attend. The following is the schedule for the Convention:

- Sunday, Nov. 13: Arrival in Indio and registration at one of Coachella Valley's fabulous hotels.
- Monday, Nov. 14: 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. NAA business sessions and lunch in Coachella Valley Union High School.
- 5:30 p.m. Cocktails and pit barbecue at Cochran-Odlum ranch.
- 7:30 p.m. Fred Waring and his orchestra concert at Riverside National Date Festival Grounds.
- Tuesday, Nov. 15: 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. NAA business session and election of officers and directors. Lunch at Coachella Valley Union High School.
- 4:30 p.m. Parachute jump demonstration at Cochran-Odlum ranch Golf Course.
- 7:30 p.m. Dutch Treat reception and NAA buffet at El Dorado Golf Club.
- Wednesday, Nov. 16: 10:00 a.m. Busses depart for tour of Coachella Valley, with picnic lunch served at scenic spot on sightseeing tour.
- 4:00 p.m. Return to hotels.
- 6:30 p.m. NAA Banquet at Agricultural Building, Riverside County Fairgrounds. Speaker, Dr. Edward Teller, noted scientist from University of California. Music by Air Force Band.

There is a \$25 registration fee which includes bus transportation, pit barbeque, luncheons two days of the meetings and a dinner at the Country Club. I might say that anyone attending this Convention would certainly have something long to remember and we hope there will be a good size group of PCA members in attendance. Why not bring your wife and let the women have a little fun too. Registration fees for wives or any additional family member is \$15.00 each. Anyone desiring to make reservations should contact National Aeronautic Association Headquarters, Indio, California, as quickly as possible because when the available rooms are filled, it will be necessary to travel several miles to other hotels or motels.

The PCA Board Meeting will be held at Indio at the time of the NAA Convention, and the exact time and meeting room will be announced later. PCA members are invited to attend as well as Board Members, as we will have an open meeting for members to bring up any problems which they might have. This meeting will be in addition to the regular Board meeting which of course, is confined to Board Members. It is a pleasure to have a Board Meeting on the West Coast for a change because so many of these meetings have been held in the East in the past.

NATIONAL AVIATION CENTER expected to be in operation in approximately two years.

MILITARY CLUBS: Quite a few military clubs have indicated that they are not aware that they do not need 100% enrollment in the PCA to affiliate their clubs. A military club needs only to comply with the Safety Regulations and submit a request for affiliation forms as prescribed.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS: It is with deep regret that we have had to accept the resignations of General James M. Gavin from the Board of Directors and Mr. George Bosworth (Buffalo, N.Y.) as Executive Vice President. Due to the press of other business in both cases neither officer can afford the time that they feel so necessary to the activity. Needless to say we appreciate the assistance they have given us in the past and their valuable advice and service has always been most gratefully accepted.

SAFETY OFFICER STATUS: Confirmations of Area Safety Officers have been made and we are still assembling the necessary materials to send each ASO in order to start every-one out in the same manner. Each ASO will receive a kit and credentials as a point of departure. These officers should be fully briefed and functioning by January 1st providing no more printing obstacles occur.

MORE ON FAA TSO: In regard to many questions concerning TSO - first, a Mullen test is generally not approved for testing material in a chute already made, but to test material to be used in making a chute, as it breaks holes in the fabric. It is alright on a scrap, but not on the actual canopy as it will necessitate a patch.

No one can stamp the TSO unless they have filed a Certificate of Compliance with FAA. When filing a Certificate of Compliance, a print of the modification to be used must be submitted and all chutes must be modified by that print.

No military chute has the TSO on it, but any standard approved military type chute such as a 24' or 28' bias constructed canopy is usable without the stamp. If modifications are made - blank gores, etc. - by anyone other than those who have filed a Certificate of Compliance, it is actually an illegal chute, and anyone who does modify the parachute must then stamp TSO which means for the modification. (Providing a Certificate is held.)

PENDING INSURANCE CLAIMS: Some delay is being encountered due to the resignation of our Claims Officer. All pending claims which were on hand at this time have been reviewed and sent direct to the Insurance Company representative for processing as recommended on by PCA.

For the present, please send all claims to the PCA address in New York until we can again establish the reviewing authority.

NEWS COVERAGE: We'd like to keep everyone abreast of what's going on all over the country and since this poopsheet comes out every month (usually) - and there are twelve months in each year - we'll devote a part to one Conference area each month as follows: (based on climate)

South Pacific	Jan
Hawaii	Feb
Southwest	Mar
Central	Apr
East	May
Northeast	June
Alaska & Overseas	July
North Central	Aug
Northwest	Sep
North Pacific	Oct

Southeast

Nov

South Central

Dec

This means that you'll have to give us your reports no later than the 15th of the preceding month. You write it, we'll print it. (Put this on your bulletin boards.)

EDITORIAL: You know, we're having a difficult time in the PCA! Our directors are spread throughout the whole country. All of us do the PCA work and travel in our spare time, and at our own expense..(not a gripe!) Our leadership, except for Mr. Crane, keeps changing for various reasons. People didn't join before because we didn't have insurance.. ..now they don't because we do. Before they didn't join because there weren't any safety rules.....now they don't because we're too restrictive. In the Northwest they don't join because they dislike "the east coast money-makers"....(HA!). In the northeast they don't join because "the military get all the breaks." In the military they don't join because the dues are too high and they don't need insurance. In the south they don't join because "PCA hasn't done anything for them personally." In Los Angeles they don't join because they don't like Fred who's a PCA member. In New York they don't join because John Doe's a PCA Safety Officer who won't let them open at 500 feet. And in Kansas they don't join because PCA wouldn't let a guy they knew, who had 35 uncontrolled free falls, compete in the Tryouts.....!!!!

Man, we could go on all day....but we just don't have the money to spend for it so let us get to the issue. Granted, we have organizational problems....like the Parachutist being late, mail not being answered on time, licenses taking too long to be issued, the Safety Regulations needing revision, the Safety Officer program taking too long to implement, the test for instructors not being ready yet, working with FAA to get TSO C-23 changed to fit our needs, distributing the FAI Parachuting Rules, getting FAA to honor FAI licenses, getting enough favorable publicity, coordinating the insurance claims, revising the Constitution, helping new clubs to get started right. For sure, we must get organized.

Now let's face it. There's a lot of good people in PCA. As a matter of fact, it's been proven many times that the best parachute jumpers are PCA members. No organization springs up overnight without any growing pains and that's just what we have now. But....no organization that wasn't united ever accomplished a thing. It takes unity of effort to get anything done....."one ox cain't balance a double yoke."

So what can you do? First....you can talk to people who are not PCA members and endeavor to get them to use the basic safety regulations. This will help safety, and, in turn, parachuting, which in turn, will bring in more enthusiasts. More enthusiasts and members will give the PCA the backing to create better conditions for parachuting throughout the country, money to pay for more services to the parachutists at a cheaper price, and influence to put sport parachuting on the same sports footing as other national sports. How simple can it get.

You've got to back the national body if you want the national body to back you!

What will we do? A proposal is being made at the November meeting to cut down the Board of Directors, streamline the working force, put in a full time, paid director or secretary, place all the working files in one central location, and better apportion the workload. This will be the start. After this will come an improvement all around.

If you want to have a voice in this write to Russ Gunby, 916 Via Verde, Monterey, California now or come to the meeting at Indio in November.

UNOFFICIAL REPORT

Fifth World Parachute Jumping Championship

Sofia, Bulgaria - August 7-14
1960

The report given herewith is incomplete as official results have not yet been received. When they are received, they will be forwarded to all concerned at that time.

As usual, there was the usual "helter skelter" before competition started with several meetings of a minor nature to straighten out the rules of the competition.

The first event that was held was the group jump by the teams. The United States had a team of four men and a team of two women. The average of the best three out of four jumps determined the winner of this event.

With regard to the women's team jumps, Bobbie Gray broke her ankle on her second jump and therefore the U.S. was eliminated from the women's team competition.

After three jumps had been made by the men's team, we were very near the top, and with an exceptionally good jump on the fourth jump, we would have attained first place, but due to an error in judgment on this particular jump, we scored "0". Thus, we were not able to win this event, but took fourth place instead.

The next event was the figure event and points for style. In this event, Henry Arender from the U.S. took first place while Richard Fortenberry, trailing 8 points behind Arender, was in sixth position.

The final event was precision jumping with the best three out of four jumps determining the winner. In this event, Dick Fortenberry who was sixth in the style event, after three jumps, ranked second in spot jumping but was high in the overall points for the individual events and on his third jump, he dislocated his elbow which curtailed him for the remainder of the competition. This meant that his three jumps made had to stand while other jumpers could use the best three out of the four jumps and this presented quite a handicap.

At this point, Dick was high enough that there were only three possibilities of his being beaten even with the others having four jumps on which they could score with their three best. I feel sure Dick would have bettered his score had he been able to make a fourth jump because his worst jump of the three he made before dislocating his elbow, was 4.54 metres and anyone who is familiar with his jumping, knows that his average is very much better than this. The score I am speaking of in this paragraph is for the overall championship which is a combination of the individual style jump and the individual precision jump.

The three jumpers who had a possibility of bettering their score on the last precision jump so that they might be the overall world's champion were Oleg Kazakov and Valeriy Raevsky of the USSR and Zdenek Kaplan of Czechoslovakia. After these three men made their fourth jump, Dick was still holding the highest number of points - -

BUT as Kaplan of Czechoslovakia was coming down, due to a wind shift the smoke from the smoke-pot on the ground drifted over the circle and the judges allowed him a re-jump because he claimed he could not see the cross (??).

The FAI Jury held a meeting following a protest on the judges' decision and they upheld this decision for a re-jump by a vote of 7 to 4 and the following delegates sat in at this meeting:

U.S.S.R.
Czechoslovakia
Bulgaria
Poland
Yugoslavia
Hungary
Rumania
U.S.A.
France
Austria
Switzerland

I have no comments at this time other than the fact that requests came to the judges for re-jumps by the U.S.A., Russia and Czechoslovakia. They did not allow a re-jump for the American, but did allow one for the Russian and Czech jumpers, and the FAI Jury upheld these decisions even after protests had been lodged. It is disheartening to have someone handicapped with an injury limiting him to three jumps instead of four, actually win the competition on the field only to lose the championship at the conference table, at which I presided and was unfortunately overruled.

When final and official results are received, they will be forwarded to all interested parties.

Respectfully submitted,

Joe Crane

Joe Crane
President
FAI Parachuting Jury

SUMMARY OF INJURIES
(Based only on claims submitted by PCA members to PCA)

JUNE 1959 - AUGUST 1960

	Frac Foot or Ankle	Frac Leg	Frac Back	Broken or Disloc Shoulder	Knee Injury	Frac wrist or Arm	Neck Inj	Frac Hip	Head Inj	Death	TOTAL
1959 -	3	7	1	1	2	0	2	1	1	2	26*
1960 -	5	4	5	4	2	3	1	0	0	3	27
TOTAL	8	11	6	5	4	3	3	1	1	5	53*

* - 6 unknown injuries

INJURY CAUSES

1. Landings - 31
2. Opening Entanglements - 6
3. Undetermined - 11

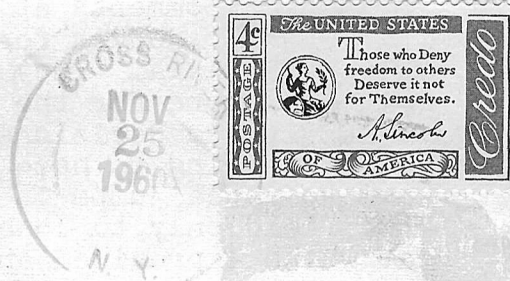
DEATH CAUSES

1. Drowning - 1
2. Fail to pull - 2
3. Pulled too late - 1
4. Unknown - 1

LIABILITY CLAIMS - 4

Parachutist

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