

PRESIDENT'S ANNUAL REPORT 2010



It has been quite a busy year for the OSC Committee. I wish to thank my fellow members, Karen Morgan (VP), Jenny Wilkinson (Secretary), Kevin Bethwaite, John Robinson, Jerry O'Neill and Alain Bertucchi, and our Treasurer Laurie Kirkham for their considerable efforts.

1. Good **progress on campground improvements** was achieved prior to last year's soaring season – the patio areas around the barbecues were concreted and the amenity block was repainted. Additional wind-breaks are planned. The cracks in the shower cubicle floors have been fixed and the whole area resurfaced – unfortunately, at around \$5k it was not cheap because of the special process involved. We are also considering whether to re-establish the children's play area, and would welcome any input as to whether members actually want such an area. If so, we would welcome ideas as to where it should be located and how its re-establishment might be supported physically and/or financially.
2. Committee members, led by Jenny Wilkinson, have installed a **tie-down cable in the trailer park**. In order to mitigate the risks from future "whirlwinds" like the one that caused havoc last season, we expect this cable to be used.
3. **Camp fees have been revised** to introduce a \$2 increase for non-gliding members - those with no GNZ number will pay \$16 per night, which is in line with other camps. The fee is being marketed and advertised as \$16 per night but with a \$2 discount for GNZ members and families. The existing \$2 discount for site owners will remain as well.
4. Tom & Rose shields are looking after **campground management** again this season. Feedback received suggests that campers were happy with the cleaning last season. However, two areas signalled for improvement are rubbish removal, which lapsed at times, and collection of fees.
5. **Chalet building** is steadily drawing to completion at last. The remaining four sites are currently being built on, and we had been promised by the builder that all would be completed externally to lock-up stage before next soaring season got fully under way. Unfortunately, the builder has not met the deadline, meaning that we will have to put up with the ugliness and dust of a construction zone for another season. Shad Bushes were planted last spring in the western end of the camp ground where trees had to be felled to make way for the two rear chalets.

6. Unfortunately, there were quite severe airfield **irrigation problems** last summer, due to low river levels that limited watering initially to a half allocation and then a full restriction meaning no watering at all. OAL rightly took the view that it was more important to water the runway than non-operational grass. This restriction, coupled with the extensive watering undertaken by some hangar owners, has meant that OAL received a large bill for town water through the water meter for the hangars. Some of this cost has been passed onto the hangar owners. Chalet owners also received a small bill for excess water use. Both OAL and OSC are therefore very keen to see a more responsible attitude towards water use from some hangar and chalet owners. To that end, we request that all sprinklers have a timer limiting use to no more than a few minutes per day. If the grass is green and lush, it is probably being overwatered, or there is a leak nearby. Leaving a hose on for hours is just not acceptable. Everyone is requested to be vigilant for such signs and to advise OAL or OSC personnel accordingly. In short – if you want to water, get a timer!

7. The **2010-11 season** promises to be a very busy; starting with Jerry O'Neil's cross-country course, followed immediately by the Regionals during 13-20 November (again organised by Canterbury), the Junior Development Squad camp 12-20 December and the Multi-Class Nationals, 2-14 January.

8. **Incoming Committee.** Alain Bertucchi has decided to step down with effect from this AGM. We wish to thank Alain for his general contributions and wise counsel to the committee. It has proven very useful to have a member living locally.

With other sitting members prepared to stand again, there is a vacancy for one committee member.

Happy soaring!

Max Stevens
OSC President

13 November 2010