

## The 2010 Dust-Up

Fred Hermanspann 6/10/2010

Based on the success of last year's Dust-Up the SGC Safety Foundation – in cooperation with the SGC – sponsored again this unofficial fun contest in Ephrata over the Memorial Day weekend. This contest is not only meant to be an Introduction of newcomers to the competition sport of soaring, it also serves to bring the Northwest soaring community together and to enjoy the hospitality of the SGC. There were 17 gliders entered, with 19 pilots (the 2 DG-1000 had 2 pilots each). Evergreen Soaring was represented by Kevin Finke, Noel Wade, Travis Brown, Mark Nyberg and Heinz Gehlhaar, Lynn Weller and Stan Kasprzyk and helped out with a number of volunteers, including sending a Pawnee over (alas pretty late due to weather). Unfortunately the weather did not cooperate, with rain, thundershowers and strong winds thwarting the efforts of competition director Ron Bellamy to provide a full contest. Only the first day produced a valid contest day with a fairly short task (a turn area task – TAT – to the Hwy 2 intersection in the North and Odessa with 10 and 20 mile cylinders and a 1.5 hour minimum). Only 5 pilots made it around , another 5 landed at or near to Wilson Creek and the rest chose to come back to Ephrata.



coming home before the rain

The next days got progressively worse. On the second day the whole field waited for some 2 hours before the day was scrubbed because a total of 6 sniffers could not reliably get a sufficient starting altitude.



waiting in vain

The last day was cancelled at the pilots meeting and so the results of the first day were the final results.

And the winners were:

First     George O'Leary (OR)

Second   Dennis Vreeken (BC)

Third     Kevin Finke (ES)

Reviewing the various flights by presenting them with SeeYou on a large screen was a good way to see how the experts handled the conditions. And as usual, a catered dinner on the deck on Sunday evening was a great way to socialize and to catch up on all the developments in the wonderful world of soaring. For a more detailed description of this event look for the next Towline edition (the SGC news letter).

Big thanks to Bruce Bulloch and to all the helpers for organizing this event that may become an annual event to look forward to!