

## Report from Region V Director Lane Bush

I apologize, a family wedding is preventing me from attending this Board meeting. I am sure it will be a productive day and one I hate to miss.

### Sailplane Tracking Committee Report:

The Sailplane Tracking Committee is pleased to announce we have added an additional member. Andy Blackburn has joined our working group. In addition to be technically savvy Andy will help us coordinate with the Rules Committee if the Tracking App begins to move in a direction that requires Rules Committee input.

Pedja is busily working on improvements for the 2015 season. We should have access to those improvements by the end of March. We are still scratching our heads as to how to gain a more universal acceptance of the cell phones apps. These apps are available for the iPhone and Android devices. The apps have proven to be robust and dependable. There have been some GPS altitude anomalies which should be sorted out for the 2015 version. The new phones have barometric sensors allowing us to utilize barometric altitude instead of GPS altitude.

### Airshow Bird Report:

The airshow bird is a go and I plan on devoting full attention to the refurbishment in 2015. It took longer than anticipated to consummate the donation. Final paperwork was completed in late January. Regrettably by the time the paperwork was completed we had entered the cold months which prevent me from painting in my unheated hangar. I have some concerns over the reduced budget. There was no fluff in the submitted proposal and as you are aware the labor is being donated. A 1/3 reduction

of materials budget will prove challenging as most refurbishment projects go over budget and not under! I am sure you guys have experienced such in your own restoration or building projects. I have been told that even if I find an Angel donor to help fund the full restoration I will not be able to utilize such funds. I would like the Directors to be thinking about that restriction and possibly giving me some relief if I do find someone willing to help with the restoration. I had quite a bit of supportive emails when the project was first announced.

I will do my best and we will see where that leaves us. The Growth and Development Committee really wants the bird at Sun N Fun in April but I give that timeline only a 50 percent chance of happening at this point.

To date the only SSA expenditure towards this project is the insurance coverage.

Those two reports are all I have. Here is to a great 2015 for the SSA and its members.

Sincerely,

Lane Bush

Region V Director