

# GGG 2009 REPORT

The 39<sup>th</sup> edition of the Great Grape Gathering was held at the HAG 1941 airfield in Geneseo, NY, on September 18, 19, and 20, 2009.

Friday the 18<sup>th</sup> turned out to be cool, windy and with sporadic showers. A few brave souls managed some flights but by 1:00 pm the showers were becoming more-or-less continuous and it was decided that it would be wiser to cancel for the day and move all events to Saturday. Those who had already made flights were given the option of keeping their scores or of starting again. The forecast was for clear skies and calm conditions for the following two days.

As events were cancelled for the day a number of the contestants retired to the local Tim Horton's (well the GGG is a nominally Canadian event after all).



Photo: Roy Smith

From the left and proceeding clockwise around the table we see Joe and Heather Mollendorf, Pat Barlow, Sally Smith, Jim and Janet Moseley, Jean and Les Sayer, Richard Barlow, Lyle and Priscilla Whitford and Rod and Ruth Mogle.

Saturday morning dawned clear and calm, as prophesied. At 8:00 am there was a mist hanging over the Genesee Valley and rising from the HAG duck pond.



Photo: Roy Smith



Photo: Roy Smith



Photo: Sally Smith

The registration desk did a brisk business and Lyle and Priscilla Whitford did a fine job. Their help was greatly appreciated by all (but especially by the Contest Manager).



Photo: Richard Barlow

Don Myers and Jim Smith with their 1/2A Dixielanders.



Photo: Sally Smith

The Event Director and the Contest Manager watch as a flight rises rapidly into the clear blue!

The Ladies Mass Launch Cloud Tramp event attracted five entrants, down from previous years, but the level of competition was high.



Photo: Roy Smith



Photo: Richard Barlow

Pat Barlow with her winning Cloud Tramp.

The winning flight was a remarkable one, but Richard chased on his trusty trail bike and the winning aircraft was retrieved.

It is amazing to see the performance achieved by these simple little aircraft in the hands of expert builders and fliers.



Photo: Roy Smith

Margo Hunter expertly holds while Gary Hunter winds.



Photo: Roy Smith

Gary launches



Photo: Roy Smith

Lyle Whitford takes a break from the desk duties.

Saturday evening was the time for Lafy's Barbecue.



Photo: Pat Barlow

The 1941 Historic Aircraft Group graciously allowed us use of the Swanson Hall facility for the barbecue. Chicken, potato salad and fruit salad were enjoyed by all.

One of the group, Les Sayer, celebrated his 80<sup>th</sup> birthday just before the GGG – so a surprise cake was organised. Here is the birthday boy blowing out his candles.

Dessert was cake for everyone!



Photo: Pat Barlow

The following day, Sunday, dawned clear and calm again. How many times do you get two perfect days in a row at a contest – that's usually reserved for Tuesdays and Wednesdays!



Photo: Richard Barlow

Yours truly starts the Super Tigre G20/.19 in his Sorta Dixie prior to flying in the Bob Gordon Trophy event.



Photo: Roy Smith

Les Sayer retrieves his Senator after yet another successful sortie.



Photo: Pat Barlow

Richard Barlow tows his unlimited glider while RuthAnn Bane prepares to launch Brad's glider.



Photo: Roy Smith

Brad Bane launches his 1/4A Nostalgia as RuthAnn operates the watch.



Photo: Roy Smith

Dave Acton launches his Vic Smeed entry.



Photo: Roy Smith

Bob Langelius does likewise.



Photo: Richard Barlow

As has been usual at the Great Grape Gathering the prizes took the form of fermented grape juice (hence the name of the event, of course) with the alternative of Maple Syrup. Many of the prizes came from sponsors for individual events – for which the organizers are extremely grateful.



# RESULTS

## Friday, September 18<sup>th</sup>

Events postponed due to inclement weather.

## Saturday, September 19<sup>th</sup>

### **1/2A Nostalgia – 3 entries** **Sponsor – RESCO Engineering**

Brad Bane	339
Jim Smith	287
Don Myers	167

### **.020 Replica/1/4A Nostalgia – 2 entries**

Brad Bane	328
Bob Morris	152

### **P-30 – 4 entries** **Sponsor – Les Sayer**

Jim Moseley	320
Bob Clemens	284
Mark Rzacca	229
Ted Lewis	117

### **Cloud Tramp – 9 entries**

Richard Barlow	273
Les Sayer	238
Jim Moseley	163
Bob Clemens	67
Mike Burns	64
Vic Nippert	60
Bob Morris	NS
Dave Acton	NS
Bob Langelius	NS

(Note: NS = no score, 2 flights were recorded but due to the elimination of the high and the low times no score was recorded.)

### **HL/CL Gider Combined – 9 entries**

Vic Nippert	293
Jim Smith	195
Bob Clemens	192
Bob Morris	113
Richard Barlow	95
John Caldwell	88
Les Sayer	81
Don Myers	65
Miriam Morris	57

### **Senator – 3 entries**

Les Sayer	480
Jim Moseley	435
George Parry	247

### **Classic Wakefield – 1 entry** **Sponsor – John Clapp (FAI Supply)**

Ted Lewis	147
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### **Ladies Cloud Tramp Mass Launch – 5 entries** **Sponsor – Richard Barlow**

Pat Barlow	1
Tina Nippert	2
Betty Burns	3
Audrey Parry	4
Jean Sayer	5

### **A/B/C Nostalgia – 2 entries** **Sponsor – Brad Bane**

Brad Bane	360
Jim Smith	258

### **Diesel Duration – No entries**

### **Vic Smeed Design – 7 entries** **Sponsors – Don Myers and Jim Smith**

Jim Moseley	10.00
Vic Nippert	4.90
Jim Smith	3.87
Dave Acton	3.09
Bob Langelius	3.07
Bob Morris	1.70
Don Myers	1.69

### **Nostalgia Rubber – 2 entries** **Sponsor – John Clapp (FAI Supply)**

Les Sayer	360
Jim Moseley	321

**SAM Small Rubber Fuselage – 3 entries**

Bob Clemens	331
Mark Rzacda	207
George Parry	56

**SAM Large Rubber Stick – 4 entries  
Sponsor – Jim Anderson**

George Parry	321
Gerald Litschi	313
Ted Lewis	269
Vince Sadwick	178

**FAC OT Gas Replica Electric – 3 entries  
Sponsor – Jim DeTar**

Vic Nippert	60
Mark Rzacda	83
Bob Clemens	331

**FAC Rubber Scale – 4 entries**

Vic Nippert	148
Jim DeTar	145.5
Jim DeTar	142
Vic Nippert	137

**Golden Age Scale – 7 entries  
Sponsor – Mark Rzacda**

Vic Nippert	339
Bob Clemens	264
Jim DeTar	157
Jim DeTar	132
Vic Nippert	130
Bob Clemens	120
Mark Rzacda	71

**FAC Dime Scale – 5 entries**

Jim DeTar	260
Walt Kornrich	259
Mark Rzacda	247
Jim DeTar	203
Walt Kornrich	198

**FAC 2 Bit + 1, OT Rubber – 7 entries  
Sponsor – Bob Morris**

Jim DeTar	360
Mark Rzacda	328
Vic Nippert	302
Jim DeTar	248
Bob Morris	224
Vic Nippert	209
Gary Hunter	129

**Sunday, September 20<sup>th</sup>****1/2A Texaco – 2 entries  
Sponsor – Richard Barlow**

Richard Barlow	8:27
Bob Morris	7:38

**AMA A/B/C Gas – 1 entry**

Brad Bane	360
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**Bob Gordon Trophy – 1 entry  
Sponsor – Jim Moseley**

Roy Smith	299
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**A/B/C Ignition – 1 entry  
Sponsor – Jack Barker**

Jack Barker	44
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**1/2A Classic Gas – No entries****Unlimited Towline Glider – 3 entries**

Vic Nippert	260
Brad Bane	247
Richard Barlow	211

**SAM Small Rubber Stick – 4 entries  
Sponsor – RESCO Engineering**

Mike Burns	515
Mark Rzacda	338
George Parry	336
Les Sayer	248

**SAM Large Rubber Fuselage – No entries****SAM Commercial Rubber – 3 entries**

Walt Kornrich	343
Jim Moseley	240
Bob Morris	157

**Mulvihill/Unlimited Rubber – 2 entries**

Jim Moseley	540
Les Sayer	189

I would like to thank the many people who worked to make this event a success. It was a collaborative effort on the part of a lot of people, including many from the Western NY Free flight Society. Above all, however, I must extend my most grateful thanks to Jim Anderson. Despite having 'retired' from the job of contest manager, Jim stepped in time and again to fill in for me when I was travelling during this year. Jim did more of the actual work involved than I did! Thank you Jim.

Now lastly, here is Jean to illustrate the spirit of the GGG.



Photo: Sally Smith