

2003 POPS Nationals

26-28 Sep 2003

Chambersburg Skydiving Center,
Chambersburg, PA

Competition Scoreboard

Accuracy

Note that some typing errors were corrected after the pages were printed for distribution at the banquet. Places 7-10 of accuracy were affected by the changes.

place	name	rd 1	rd 2	rd 3	total
1	Tom Zukowski	0.03	0.01	0.02	0.06
2	Woody McKay	0.00	0.03	0.05	0.08
3	Cheryl Whitford	0.06	0.00	0.03	0.09
4	Karl Poruben	0.10	0.24	0.03	0.37
5	David Waight	0.15	0.10	0.14	0.39
6	Larry Cordeira	0.10	0.43	0.14	0.67
7	Bernie Larkin	0.06	0.79	0.12	0.97
8	Leo Cobb	0.05	0.12	0.82	0.99
9	Jack LaLonde	0.98	0.10	0.05	1.13
10	Russ Manhold	0.06	1.20	0.01	1.27
11	Thomas Morrison	0.15	0.12	1.29	1.56
12	Ralph Garrison	0.69	0.20	0.69	1.58
13	Ted Rose	0.06	1.66	0.10	1.82
14	Roger Humphrey	0.10	2.50	0.14	2.74
15	William Reinhart	2.50	0.15	0.10	2.75
16	Gordon Klinsic	0.06	0.33	2.50	2.89
17	Bob Peters	2.50	0.32	0.67	3.49
18	Bill Wood	2.50	2.50	0.59	5.59
19	Tim Achenbach	2.50	2.50	0.64	5.64
20	Terry Ross	2.50	1.56	2.50	6.56
21	Ted Williams	2.50	2.50	1.80	6.80
22	Robb Scherer	2.50	1.90	2.50	6.90
23t	Paul Zitzelman	2.50	2.50	2.50	7.50
23t	Mike McGivern	2.50	2.50	2.50	7.50
23t	Alan Resser	2.50	2.50	2.50	7.50
	Pat Moorehead	2.50	w	w	w

4-way RW Scrambles

place	team name	members	rd1	rd2	rd3	total
1	BEER	Ed Dixon, Eileen Culver, Rob Scherer, Burl Baxter (Bob Hadow, rd3)	4	2	6	12
2	Mac Attack	Ron McFarland, Tom Morrison, Alicia Moorehead, Harold White	5	2	4	11
3	McMorManShorts	Russ Manhold, Donna McFarland, Pat Moorehead, Chet Shorts	6	3	1	10
4t	Hole Punchers	Suzanne Morrison, Ted Rose, John Fitzgerald, Paul Zitelman	3	1	4	8
4t	Tuffet Movers	Belvin Wells, Ted Williams, Donna Chmielewski, Tim Achenbach	4	2	2	8
6t	No Rules	Larry Cordeira, Jack Lalonde, George Frey, Jay Franz	2	3	2	7
6t	Ski Mac	Woody McKay, Ski Chmielewski, Mike McQuien, Tom Zukowski	1	2	4	7
6t	S & M Occassionally	Jim Shorter, Kevin Grishkot, Pete Baer, Carol Christian	2	4	1	7
9	Off Constantly	John Terry, Drew Lewis, Chris Needles, Dennis Addair (Kathy Shepard, rd3)	1	0	4	5
10	Bill's Squares	Bill Wood, Calvin Pawkoucek, Bill Culver, Terry Ross	1	2	0	3
11	Scrambled Eggs	Harry Moore, Dave DeWolf, Gary Baron, Bernie Larkin	0	1	1	2

Hit and Rock

place	name	rd1
1	Harry Moore	6.09
2	Terry Ross	6.15
3	Larry Cordeira	6.94
4	Ted Rose	7.22
5	Woody McKay	7.50
6	Bernie Larkin	7.63
7	Tom Zukowski	8.31
8	Jim Shorter	8.34
9	John Thomas	9.09
10	Pat Moorehead	9.77
11	Dave DeWolf	9.85
12	Drew Lewis	10.10
13	Mike McGivern	10.31
14	Gary Barron	10.57
15	Bill Reinhart	10.60
16	Bill Culver	11.31
17	Lynn O'Donnell	13.50
18	Harold White	16.38
19	Alan Ressler	17.84
20	Tim Achenbach	19.06
21	Larry Rogina	20.33
22	Dennis Adair	21.00
23	Pete Baer	21.09
24	Rob Sheerr	22.50
25	Ted Williams	28.84
26	Jay Frantz	29.07

PHOTOS:

Accuracy Action



Tom Zukowski, 1st place accuracy (photo by Brent Hutchings)



Woody McKay, 2nd place accuracy (photo by Brent Hutchings)



Cheryl Whitford, 3rd place accuracy (photo by Karen Botterbusch)



Ralph Garrison (photo by Brent Hutchings)

RW Action



1st place RW team BEER (photo by Brent Hutchings)

3rd place RW team McMorManShorts (photo by Brent Hutchings)

Hit and Rock Action



Harry Moore, 1st place (photo by Brent Hutchings)



Terry Ross, 2nd place (photo by Brent Hutchings)



Larry Cordeira, 3rd place (photo by Brent Hutchings)



Handsome Dave Dewolf in the rocking chair (photo by Brent Hutchings)

Awards



Accuracy winners: Woody McKay, 2nd; Tom Zukowski, 1st, and Cheryl Whitford, 3rd (photo by Harold White)



1st place RW: B.E.E.R. members Rob Scherer, Eileen Culver, Ed Dixon, and Bob Hadow



2nd place RW: Mac Attack members Tom Morrison, Alicia Moorehead, Ron McFarland, and Harold White

3rd Place RW: McMorManShorts members Russ Manhold, Donna McFarland, and Pat Moorehead. Chet Shorts not in photo.



Hit and Rock winners: Terry Ross, 2nd; Larry Cordeira, 3rd; and Harry Moore, 1st



Bernie Larkin receives BEST OF POPS award from POPS Awards Adminsitrator, Len Zak



Evelyn Hutchison receives JOS #85 from TOP JOS Bill Wood



New TOP POP Tom Zukowski presents a certificate of appreciation to previous TOP POP Ted Rose.

Photos by Cheryl Whitford unless otherwise noted

Article from Chambersburg Public Opinion:

Older jumpers savor event

By **ASHLEY ADAMS**
For Public Opinion



Public Opinion/Christopher Shatzer

On target: Parachutist Terry Ross of Marietta guides himself toward the landing target

Friday during a skydiving competition at Chambersburg Municipal Airport.

Bill Wood has jumped out of airplanes more than 2,000 times and loves it. At 73 years old, Wood was among 60 registered parachuters at the national competition for Parachutists Over Phorty Society (POPS).

"I was a pilot in the Air Force and my friends asked me to fly jumpers," Wood said. "I knew it was safe so I started flying. Then I got interested. There was a lot of pretty girls at the events, so I wanted to become an instructor."

Friday was the second day of competition, which started on Thursday and continues through Sunday.

POPS members from all over the country gathered at the Chambersburg Municipal Airport to compete in various events to try to set new state and national records.

The group was founded in the summer of 1966 to promote good fellowship between the older jumpers in the sport. Today, the organization has thousands of members worldwide and smaller groups of older skydivers have been formed within POPS: Skydivers Over Sixty (SOS), Jumpers Over Seventy (JOS) and Jumpers Over Eighty (JOE).

POPS clubs hold regular meetings in their own countries and every two years there is a world meeting. The next world meeting is in 2004 in Switzerland.

The membership requirements for POPS are that a person must have made a parachute jump or a tandem skydive and the person must be older than 40.

Wood, now living in South Carolina, has been a POPS member since 1976 and is currently involved with the over-70 club. He was the top POP from 1987 to 1993 and co-founder of the SOS in 1991.

J.R. Sides, co-owner of Chambersburg Skydiving Center Inc. with his wife, Kathy, started his day at 3,000 feet in the air to check for wind speed and direction.

Friday's competition began with the accuracy event. Jumpers were flown to 3,000 feet and jumped, aiming at an inflatable target on the ground. At the center of the target was a small disk, about the size of a quarter. The center of the target, along with a small censor in the heel of each jumpers' shoe, measured how far from the target the jumper landed.

"It's pretty cool when they put their foot right on the target," said Sides, a POPS member of five years. "It's hard to maneuver accurately when you're a mile to a mile and a half out with the wind blowing."

Each day's competition starts at 8 a.m. and continues throughout the day until dusk.

There are three skydiving events in the POPS nationals: accuracy, hit and rock, and four-way relative work.

In hit and rock, the jumper races to a rocking chair after landing close to or on the accuracy target.

The relative work event is for teams of four jumpers performing a series of flying formations during a set amount of time. Scores are totaled after three jumps and the team with the best total points wins.

Nationals are held every year in different parts of the world.

Jay Frantz, a POPS member for 16 years from Hagerstown, Md., has made more than 1,200 jumps. Frantz said he's always had an interest in skydiving.

"A client of mine was taking skydiving lessons here (Chambersburg Municipal Airport)." Frantz said. "I went with them and I've been involved ever since."

Kathy Sides has been a POPS member since 1994 and has made about 2,500 jumps. She said that she'd always wanted to skydive but she either didn't have the money or was too scared. When she was in her 40s she decided to do it before she got too old.

"Life does not end at 40," Kathy Sides said. "Life begins at 40."

She enjoys doing big formations with numerous people jumping together and currently holds the free-fall record and the Virginia and Delaware state records for big formations.

Originally published Saturday, September 27, 2003

Article from Hagerstown Herald-Mail:



Roger Humphrey, 69, of Muncie, Ind., lands on a target mat in the accuracy event of the POPS (Parachutists Over Phorty Society) Nationals competition Thursday at Chambersburg Airport. **(Photo credit: Ric dugan / Staff Photographer)**

Friday September 26, 2003

Airborne to be wild

Sky divers over 40 hold national competition

by RICHARD BELISLE

Kathie Sides said she jumped out of a plane because she wanted a photograph to show her grandkids "what a wild and crazy grandmother they had."

Cherie Schuch watched her husband sky-dive for three years before she decided to give it a try. She was, she said, tired of staying home waiting for him.

"It was either divorce him or join him," she said.

Sides, 56, of Chambersburg, and Schuch, 40, of Frederick, Md., are members of POPS, Parachutists Over Phorty Society, an international organization of sport parachutists.

About 60 members, including 15 women, are at Chambersburg Airport through Saturday for the annual three-day POPS Nationals competition.

They will take to the air from 8 a.m. to dusk, weather permitting, doing accuracy jumps - landing on a target on the ground, team contests involving four jumpers creating formations, and a favorite, "Hit and Rock," where after landing, the parachutist removes his or her equipment, touches the target then runs to a rocking chair.

A subgroup, Jumpers Over 70, had a handful of members on the field Thursday. Bill Wood, 72, of Greenville, S.C., was one of them.

Wood said he sky-dives because he finds golf boring. Wood said he makes about 100 jumps a year and has logged about 2,300 so far.

"Most of the older guys have been jumping for 30, 40 and 50 years," he said.

Tom Morrison, 79, of Ambler, Pa., said he's been sport jumping since 1963. He goes up about 150 times a year.

Morrison first put on a parachute and jumped out of an airplane in 1944. He was serving with the 101st Airborne Division when he jumped out of a plane over Normandy on the day after D-Day.

Morrison was discharged from the Army in 1945.

"I never thought about an airplane or a parachute for 18 years," he said.

Then he saw an exhibit of Navy sky divers at an air show.

"I said to myself, 'I wonder what that free fall feels like,'" he said.

Morrison said the time spent in free fall before sky divers pull their ripcords "is why I do it. It's the excitement of free falling with other jumpers."

Although sometimes it's higher, the average height for sky divers like Morrison and Wood when they jump out of an airplane is 13,500 feet. They drop to an altitude of 2,500 feet before they open their chutes.

Asked if the landing affects older knees, Wood said parachutists pull back on their rigs at the last second.

Landing in a parachute "is like stepping off a curb," several sky divers said.

Sky diving is a fairly expensive sport. An average jump costs \$20 for the plane ride. Sky-diving gear can run between \$4,000 and \$5,000, although it lasts a long time with proper care. There's also travel expenses to events like the POPS Nationals. Members came to Chambersburg this week from as far away as California.

Jay Frantz, a Hagerstown insurance agent, made his first jump in 1988 at the invitation of a client, he said.

"I was only going to make one jump," he said.

Frantz made his 1,200th jump Thursday.

Dr. Larry Rogina, a Waynesboro, Pa., physician, jumped from a plane for the first time on July 23, 2000. He said he did it to overcome his fear of heights. He's made 311 jumps so far.

"I always get nervous when I'm riding in the plane," said Sides, who has made more than 2,300 jumps, including 300 in 1994, the first year she tried it.

"I'm never afraid going out the door," she said. "I feel like an eagle. It's where I belong."

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Dawn Dinius is a new POPS member who just joined our sport on August 23rd for her 40th birthday and has posted photos on her own web space for all of us to enjoy.