

POPS

75way

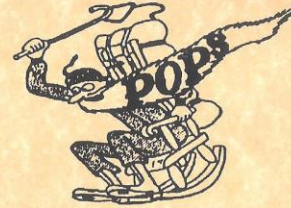
3 Dec 1995

Eloy, AZ



POPS 75-way World Record, Eloy, AZ , 3 Dec 1995

Parachutists Over Phorthy Society



CERTIFICATE OF ACHIEVEMENT

This certifies that

Lance Aikins
Dennis Anderson
Al Arnold
W. Vic Ayers
Bob Boreman
Richard Brooks
Joy Brown
Dan Carroll
Flip Colmer
Ron Cox
Mad John Dobleman
Dan Dominey
Jim Edwards
Leigh Fairbank
Jack Farrell
Jessie Farrington
Jeff Farrington
Steve Fielding
Norm Forbes
Denny 'Bear' Gainor

Janet Gayler
Jay D. Gile
Ron Green
Ray Harding, Jr.
Andy Harris
Mike Johnson
Harry Kane
Chris Kelly
Rocky Kenoyer
Al Krueger
Tom Lebus (video)
Dave Leclercq
Harry Leicher
John Lewis
Chris Libs
Fred Lundquist
Janet Lundquist
Dale Maddox
Rick Martin

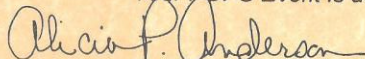
Melinda Martinez
Chuck McElwee
Bill Mendenhall
Dale Meyer
John Miller
Mike Nestor
Michael Owens
John Parrott
Frank Parisi
Cecil Pearson
Carey Peck
Mark Pharr
Robert Pope
John Prickett
Scott Robinson
Tony Ross
Dave Ruckert
Greg Russell
Jeff Sanders

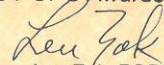
David A. Sands
Ray Sayles
Roy Schermerhorn
Terry Schumacker
Lee Silcox
Carl J. Smith
Sharron Smith
Jim Staggs
Larry Stein
Fred Strunk
Jeffrey M. Taffet
Rick Thues (video)
Paula Thues
John Walrond
Robert 'Lizard' Waltzer
John Walton
Rex L. Westmeyer
Jeff Wilhelmsen
Stan Wood

*did participate in the Arizona state record POPS 75 person freefall formation
at Skydive Arizona on December 3, 1995*

Your POPS Event is acknowledged and recorded in the POPS Awards History.

Sincere congratulations!


Alicia P. Anderson
TopPop #9


Len Zak, POPS 460
POPS Award Coordinator

**US NATIONAL SKYDIVING
CHAMPIONSHIPS**

For the third time in four years, we will be hosting America's most prestigious event, the United States National Skydiving Championships. During one busy week at the end of October, the finest skydivers in the country will be here vying for honors in Formation Skydiving (RW) and Canopy Formations (CRW.) 4, 8, and 10-way RW have intermediate as well as open classes. Get your friends together for a speed star team! Official practice and preparation for the meet will be on the 22nd and 23rd. 4-way RW and CRW start on Monday, the 24th. 8-way will begin Wednesday, 10-way is on Friday, and 20-way will run on Saturday. Two local teams are practicing for 20-way, one for 4-way sequential CRW, three for open 4-way, and at least one for intermediate 4-way. For information on rules and entry requirements, or to volunteer to help out, contact Competition Director Bryan Burke.

HALLOWEEN BOOGIE

Fun jumping will go on all week during the Nationals. Saturday night is party time!

Organizers!

DZ TV competition coverage!

Manufacturers displays!

**Film festival featuring historic
skydiving footage!**

The balloon guy returns!

**And plenty of partying at the
legendary Costume Party!**

Win big prizes!

Don't miss it! Sunday will see large blots organized by **George Jicha**. Will the elusive 100-way star finally happen?

**THANKSGIVING BOOGIE
AND 16-WAY SCRAMBLES**

The Thanksgiving Boogie, from November 24 - 27, traditionally focuses on RW skill development. This year **George Jicha** will be organizing a 16-way scrambles. The Bent Prop will serve a Thanksgiving dinner for our skydiving family.

POPS WORLD RECORD ATTEMPTS

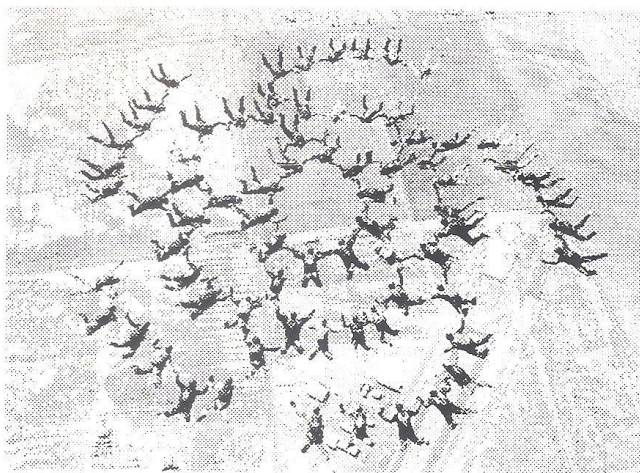
Carey Peck, organizer of the current POPS (Parachutists Over Phorty Society) world record, will be going for a new record December 2nd through the 4th. He plans at least a 70-way, and as of this writing already had over 100 registered participants. Those not on the record team will find organizers for smaller dives. For more information, call **Carey at 213-972-5130 (office) or 310-457-5801 (home.)**

HOLIDAY BOOGIE

\$13 to 13,000 for the entire ten day boogie! This will be a big one! George will put together a large RW camp: -20, -40, -60, -? size dives. Because there will be no moon New Year's Eve, **night jumps** will be restricted to experienced night jumpers. Others can party on the ground, with a band and lots of beer. Groups from Germany Sweden, Russia, Canada, and other countries are planning to come for the boogie. Someday, when your grandchildren ask where *you* were for New Year's of 1994, will you hang your head and say you were watching TV in DesMoines? Or will you smile and say, "Yep, I was at Skydive Arizona!"

Video and Still Order Form

POPs world record 75 way formation
at Skydive AZ 12/3/95



Name _____
Address _____
City _____ State _____ Zip _____
Phone _____ Fax _____ E-mail _____

<u>Item</u>	<u>Price</u>	<u>Quan.</u>	<u>Total</u>
Video with freeze frame highlights and music (includes all jumps, both views, ground shots & video tape)	\$30	_____	_____
8x10 still photo	\$15	_____	_____
16x20 still photo	\$28	_____	_____
Shipping and handling (flat rate per order)	\$5	_____	_____
Total check or money order			_____

Send check or money order to: Phone: 714-858-9838
Rick Thues Fax: 714-451-9120
32081 Pleasant Glen Road E-mail: skythues@village.ios.com
Trabuco Canyon, CA 92678 WEB: <http://village.ios.com/~skythues/>

Allow two (2) weeks for delivery



P A R A C H U T I N G ' S N E W S M A G A Z I N E

Skydiving

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\$3.00

POPS Builds Record 75-Way Formation

by Carey Peck

Members of the Parachutists Over Phorty Society completed a 75-way formation December 3 at Skydive Arizona in Eloy, a world record for the organization.



The formation was built on the seventh attempt and held for about eight seconds.

POPS jumpers from around the country, and a few from abroad, came to Skydive Arizona for a weekend of jumping.

The record 75-way eclipses the old official record of 40, built by the same organizers—this author and Dave Leclercq—at Lake Elsinore, Calif., in 1992.

The jumpers—all over the age of 40—completed a 54-way formation at Perris Valley, Calif., in 1993, although not every jumper was a member of the POPS organization.

The series grew not only in the size of the completion, but in new sponsorships. Skydive Arizona, Square One Parachute Sales and Service, and Rigging Innovations all provided support with T-shirts and catered breakfasts each morning.

"The people who come to this series run schools and drop zones across the whole country," said Kate Cooper of Square One. "That's an ideal audience for us, so we like to have our name in front of these divers. The series is growing too, and we're glad to be a part of that success."

Brenda Reid of Rigging Innovations re-

members when there weren't that many "old" jumpers in the sport. "It's nice to see that so many jumpers in their 40s are still in the sport, and are still skydiving at this level," she said. "There's a whole spectrum of experience in this group, and we ought to share that with other jumpers."

About a year of planning went into the success, and a large number of returning jumpers made a difference. This base of flyers provides the qualified referrals to make the record grow.

"Good organization and good support really makes a difference," said Leclercq. "But without quality skydivers nobody could do a 75-way."

(continued on page 6)

75-Way Record

(continued from page 1)

"We spend a lot of time traveling and jumping around the country, organizing at local drop zones, and in competitions recruiting people for our series."

"Our first rule is that nobody just walks on the dive. We have to see them in the air first, or they have to be referred by somebody we trust. It's worked every year, and that's pretty important to us."

A second reason for the success was the advertising put out by Skydive Arizona. Many jumpers heard about the attempts through the press and came to Eloy to try out for a slot.

Each year, the organizers run practice 20-ways for three days prior to the series, and each year some new jumpers make the grade and get into the dive. We like that because you can never have enough talent on the field.

The DZ provided excellent support with

three Twin Otters and a Skyvan.

"It's a good day for us," said DZ spokesman Bryan Burke. "To see everything come together is gratifying, and we're happy to have over 100 people come to our drop zone for that time."

"I also think this was our biggest formation of the year, which is pretty notable for a bunch of old fogies."

The first dive of the series took to the air after the inevitable round of run outs and lay downs, and the dive built into the high 60s with few bobbles. The next dive built with two grips off and one jumper low.

"We didn't have to make many replacements that morning," said Leclercq, "people were doing their job."

The third dive almost built with every one in except one jumper who was involved in a collision.

"Things were looking very strong, and the bench was getting nervous," said John Dobleman, who had volunteered to run the bench. "I thought they were going to get it right away and that I wouldn't be there."

Still, he fed in his jumpers as they were



Members of the Parachutists Over Phorty Society complete a 75-way formation early this month, for a POPS world record. Photograph by Rick Thues.

needed: The organizers had asked several friends to start on the bench so that there would be a strong reserve, and they settled out problem areas as they slowly worked into the dives.

The afternoon dives were another story. Overconfidence and some impatience resulted in a major funnel on the fourth dive. It was high, at about 8000 feet, but the base was destroyed as a diamond was rammed into the center of the formation, and jumpers began breaking off early.

The fifth dive went better, but the momentum developed during the morning was lost, and there was no completion.

Sunday's weather was perfect with temperatures in the mid-70s.

Over the previous evening, the organizers decided to make their move, and the bench was heavily drawn down to put the best divers up for the morning formations. There was a short dirt dive for the newcomers, and then at 8:50 the first flight took off for the day.

It was almost a success. Every flyer came on to the formation, but one internal grip on a line was never closed, fooling many people into thinking the record had been built.

The video showed the problem. One more jumper was brought in, and within an hour the second lift went up.

That did it. The divers and floaters came on just as they had before, and the forma-

tion built quickly and smoothly.

"It was our smoothest flight, much better than the others," said plane captain Rick Martin.

The drills and work paid off as the formation flew for eight seconds while videoman Tom LeBus and Rick Thues shot every frame they had.

On the ground, everyone was waiting, remembering the first dive. We held a short video review and called everyone into the hangar for a look at the video. There it was, and the cheering began as everyone on the team and around the DZ celebrated the record.

Everyone wanted to try for more since there was time, and two attempts at an 80-way were put up. The first built with two out, and the second didn't do as well. So, at the end of the afternoon the organizers, responding to many requests, decided to end the big-ways and hold an impromptu 20-way speed star competition.

Larry Hill provided a prize worth competing for as he offered a free sunset load to the winning team. That got people jumping again.

"It was fun," said Jim Edwards who captained the squad that took top honors. "We did the round, built a second point, and were going for a third at breakoff. It was a nice end to a successful weekend."

(Carey Peck of California helped organize the dives.) □

STUDENT
SWEETHOG
SWEETHOG
SWEETHOG
V A I

75-Way Participants

Lance Aikins, Dennis Anderson, Al Arnold, W. Vic Ayers, Bob Boreman, Richard Brooks, Joy Brown, Dan Carroll, Flip Colmer, Ron Cox, John Dobleman, Dan Dominey, Jim Edwards, Leigh Fairbank, Jack Farrell, Jessie Farrington, Jeff Farrington, Steve Fielding, Norm Forbes, Danny Gainer, Janet Gayler, Jay Gile, Ron Green, Ray Harding Jr., Andy Harris, Mike Johnson, Harry Kane, Chris Kelly, Rocky Kenoyer, Al Krueger, Dave Leclercq, Harry Leicher, John Lewis, Chris Libs, Fred Lundquist, Janet Lundquist, Dale Maddox, Rick Martin, Melinda Martinez, Chuck McElwee, Bill Mendenhall, Dale Meyer, John Miller, Mike Nestor, Michael Owens, John Parrott, Frank Paris, Cecil Pearson, Carey Peck, Mark Pharr, Robert Pope, John Prickett, Scott Robinson, Tony Ross, Dave Ruckert, Greg Russell, Jeff Sanders, David Sands, Ray Sayles, Roy Schermerhorn, Terry Schumacker, Lee Silcox, Carl Smith, Sharon Smith, Jim Staggs, Larry Stein, Fred Strunk, Jeffrey Talfat, Paula Thues, John Walrond, Robert Walter, John Walton, Rex Westmeyer, Jeff Wilhelmken, Stan Wood.