

Greetings Adventurers! Today (Tuesday) was my last full day here at Truckee, and it was a good/bad/ugly sort of day...

I awoke to the non-sound of a balloon drifting over the gliderport...



Then, I stopped by a couple of guys heading out in the Silverado (glider club) DG-505. They had planned a 4-hour cross-country flight. Silverado is the club I will be joining, as soon as I get my paperwork in order.

Here they are...



Serious bunch, eh?

The DG-505 is a super machine, very hi-tech and super-comfortable.

Here's a side-view...



And an overall view...



Amazing, eh? **I'm scheduled to fly this glider on Wednesday!**

Then, it got...

Ugly: My dirt-bike ride...

I departed the gliderport heading west, looking for a “new riding spot”. As usual, this initially went well...



I got up high, with great views...



I was thinking... “Awesome!”



But this was not to last...

Each road a dead-end after a mile...

Ending with me ***burying the bike in hillside sand...***



The “road” is the sand-patch just above the bike, but the hill is soft-sand and no matter how I tried to get going, the bike just “buried itself”.

Note that at the stuck-point, I’m just 3 miles from my car, and I know *exactly* where I am, and have phone/water 😊

But then again, I *am* stuck 😞

It took me a half-hour of dragging it inch-by-inch the 6’ to the flat-spot. From there I motored out. “Ride-time” = 2 hours, distance = 8 miles 😞

Pics of the scenery...



Hmmm... I did notice glider-friendly clouds...



Which as we'll soon see was a terrific omen.

More scenery...



Well I got back to my car, trailered the bike, and headed for Donner Lake...

I took the below pic from a scenic-overlook, and decided that during my glider flight I'd come back looking for this spot...



Here's the lake, from my glider! WooHoo!



More scenery... Northstar ski area and Lake Tahoe...



The airport/gliderport...



Below pic is the Boca reservoir where I do most of my dirt-biking...



12,400' over Tahoe! WooHoo! Look at the altimeter!



And now... For my final night camping at Truckee, I fixed/inflated my air mattress (loaned to me by Glider Girl)...



Here's **Glider Girl...** *every pilots dream!*



My time at Truckee is almost over. On Wednesday I will be flying the Silverado DG-500 as a *guest* not as member (but “soon”).

In the morning, I'll be packing (a monster job as the tent “ain't easy”).

Wednesday after flying, I'll drive down to my Mammoth apartment (4 hours) for my last night there (I did not renew my lease). There I'll pack my remaining stuff, load my mountain bicycle (where will it go? Good question...).

After Mammoth I'll head down to the Crystal Gliderport.

<http://www.greatwesternsoaring.com/index.htm>

...because I still need more flight time in a Blanik glider (to simplify my Blanik checkout next month in Driggs ID). Are you following along? Good, because schedule-wise I'm confused...

Thank you for reading along!

Paul P.