

# VARIOMETER



PUBLISHED MONTHLY TO RECORD THE UPS AND DOWNS OF THE  
KANSAS SOARING ASSOCIATION

Editor: Tony Condon

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Number 2

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MATT GONITZKE (2013-2014)

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## Notes from the President

Thanks to **Bob Blanton** and **Tony Condon** for a wonderful awards banquet. Some of us still have ribs in our freezers, no one left hungry. **Matt Gonitzke's** slide show was a great way to remember many of the events of the year. And the awards brought with them stories of epic flights. The Kansas Aviation Museum has been undergoing many improvements thanks to some very generous donations. It's worth a visit, especially with kids or grand kids. If you missed it, put it on your calendar for next January.

Speaking of planning ahead, here are some things to be thinking about:

- 1) The duty roster is getting filled in. Which four days will you work?
- 2) KSA is hosting a contest again this year. How can you help?
- 3) Several trophies went in claimed in 2013. Which tasks will you complete?
- 4) Will you add a commercial or CFG to your certificate in 2014?

It's not too late to be thinking about your goals for the 2014 soaring season.

See you at the field,

**Andrew Peters**

# KSA CALENDAR

February 8<sup>th</sup> - KSA Meeting - Badge & Record flying - Cabela's

February 25<sup>th</sup> - March 1<sup>st</sup> - SSA Convention - Reno, NV

March 8<sup>th</sup> - KSA Meeting - Soaring Weather - Cabela's

April 12<sup>th</sup> - KSA Meeting - Annual Safety Meeting - Cabela's

June 10<sup>th</sup>-19<sup>th</sup> - 18 Meter Nationals - Minden, NV

June 12<sup>th</sup> - 21<sup>st</sup> - 1-26 Championships - Waynesville, OH

June 23<sup>rd</sup> - 30<sup>th</sup> - Region 9 - Moriarty, NM

June 24<sup>th</sup>-July 3<sup>rd</sup> - 15 Meter/Open Nationals - Montague, CA

June 25<sup>th</sup>-July 4<sup>th</sup> - Standard Class Nationals - Hobbs, NM

July 5<sup>th</sup> - July 11<sup>th</sup> - Region 10 North - Sunflower

July 15<sup>th</sup>-24<sup>th</sup> - Sports Class Nationals - Midlothian, TX

July 19<sup>th</sup> - 52<sup>nd</sup> Kansas Kowbell Klassic - Sunflower

August 4<sup>th</sup> - 8<sup>th</sup> - Region 10 South - Waller, TX

## YOUR FIRST FLIGHT OF THE NEW YEAR

The Soaring Safety Foundation (SSF), the training and safety arm of the Soaring Society of America, encourages all US glider pilots of all experience levels to make their "first flight" of the year with an instructor. This does not necessarily mean you must fly on January 1, just schedule something more extensive than a one-flight "field check" with a CFG at your local soaring operation when the weather allows.

Review more than just how to get around the pattern and please note that it is not always the student pilots who are having accidents. Not by a long-shot. Reports show quite a few "experienced" pilots and even CFG's are making serious mistakes that result in accidents. Indeed two FAA Designated Pilot Examiners perished in recent years (but not while giving a checkride.)

So make it a priority to schedule ground and flight sessions to review items such as your assembly and pre-takeoff checklists, glider-towplane procedures, causes and options regarding Premature Termination of Tow (PT3), all signals, slack towrope recoveries, goal-oriented landing patterns, preventing takeoff roll and landing roll-out loss of control accidents, stall recognition and spin characteristics of the gliders you may fly in the coming year. Yep, it may take more than one flight!

Maintain the balance of fun and safety.

Stay proficient (much more than "current".)

Consider flying with an instructor on your "first flight" of the new year, or anytime your skills may require a second opinion.

Just ask!

# KSA Banquet

The KSA banquet was once again a great success and kudos to **Bob Blanton** for organizing the event at the Kansas Aviation Museum. The food was wonderful and so was the company. **Tony Condon** presented the travelling trophies with **Jerry Boone** awarding the Rex Hamilton Memorial Trophy. **Steve Leonard**, Kansas state record keeper, recognized state records won by **Tony & Leah Condon** and **Keith Smith**. Here are the trophy winners for the 2013 season:

Wooden Wings:

**Tony Condon** - 176.3 Miles - NG-1

Mamie Cup:

**Tony Condon** - 317.1 Miles (Kowbell) - Std. Cirrus

100 KM Speed:

**Andrew Peters** - 52.6 MPH - LS-3A

200 KM Speed:

**Jerry Boone** - 39.8 MPH - Zuni

300 KM Speed:

**Andrew Peters** - 43.2 MPH - LS-3A

Pilot of the Year:

**Jerry Boone** - 3224 Points

Henning Memorial Trophy:

**Andrew Peters** - 45.0 MPH - LS-3A

Praying Mantis:

**Matt Gonitzke**

Kansas Kowbell Klassic:

**Tony Condon** - 317.1 Miles - Std. Cirrus

Kansas Kowbell Klassic Konsolation:

No claims

WSA Triangle:

**Jerry Boone & Summer Gajewski** - 2-33

Club Maintenance:

**Mike Davis**

Tow Operations:

**Sarah Wildman**

Rex Hamilton Memorial Trophy:

**Steve Leonard** - Years of service to KSA, State Governor, many incredible flights, and mentoring all of us

# KSA Banquet Photos



**Andrew Peters - 100KM Speed**



**Jerry Boone - 200KM Speed**



**Andrew Peters - 300 KM Speed**



**Steve Leonard - Rex Hamilton Memorial**



**Tony Condon - Kowbell**



**Matt Gonitzke - Praying Mantis**



**Leah and Tony - Multiplace State Records**



**Jerry Boone - WSA Triangle Speed**

## Sunflower Seeds

January 25<sup>th</sup> - **Tony Condon, Leah Condon, Matt Gontizke, Bob Hinson, Lyn Juby, Mike Logback, Jerry Boone, and Sebastien Gris** gathered for some auto towing. **Mike** provided the tow hitch and we used **Tony & Leah's** car. 14 launches were done and **Jerry** earned his ground launch endorsement. **Jerry** managed to soar on two of his flights and best altitude of the day was logged by **Tony & Leah** with 5200 MSL! No one expected to be soaring in January. Lots of activity was also taking place on **Steve Leonard's** hangar with many people helping out, at least including **Andrew Peters, KC Alexander, and Jerry Martin.**



Up Up and away - Photo **Matt Gontizke**



2-33 over 5,200 MSL

## Talihina Seeds

January 27<sup>th</sup> - **Jeff Beam (F1)** and **Tony Condon (K)** drove to Talihina for a day of Ridge and Wave soaring after a cold front passage. Primary difficulty was keeping feet warm. **Bob Holliday** flew down in his 172 to provide tows and **Bernie Mohr** rode along to provide wing runner support. Thanks guys! The Kiamichi, Rich Mountain, and Black Fork ridges were working well and wave was found with max altitude capped at about 6500 MSL due to a wind shift.



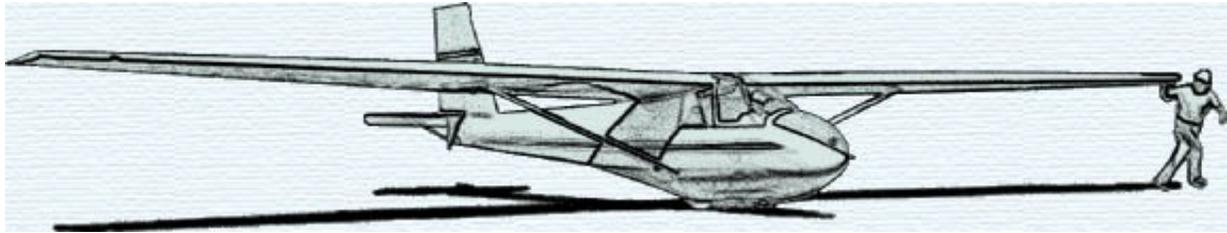
Looking towards Talihina from the wave

KSA VARIOMETER

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## **KSA MEETING**

**Badge & Record Flights - Tony Condon**

**Saturday February 8<sup>th</sup>, 2014, 7:30 PM**

**Wichita Cabela's, K-96 & Greenwich**