

VARIOMETER



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THE UPS AND DOWNS
OF THE
KANSAS SOARING ASSOCIATION

Editor: Tony Condon

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Number 4

PRESIDENT – TONY CONDON (2015-2016)

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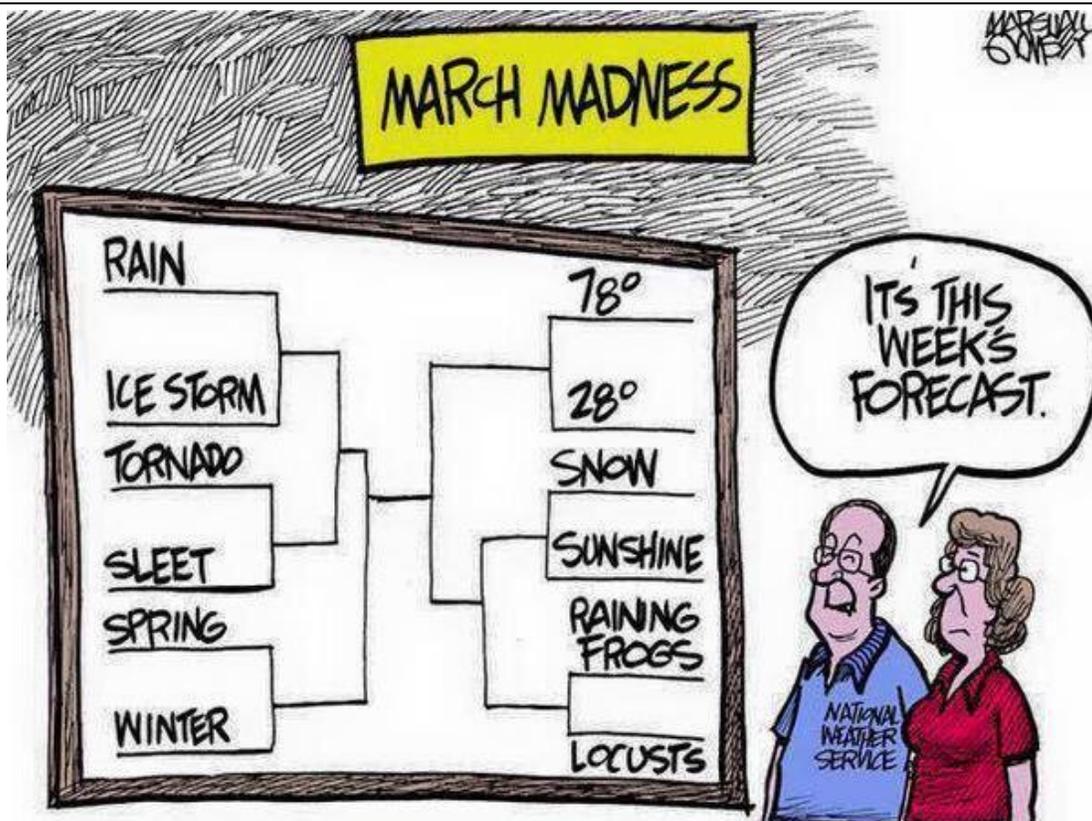
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BRIAN BIRD (2015-2016)

MATT GONITZKE (2015-2016)

DON JONES (2014-2015)

RAFAEL SOLDAN (2014-2015)



KSA CALENDAR

April 3rd - 17th - 1st Pan American Gliding Championships - Benton, TN
April 6th - 11th - Ridge/Wave Camp - Talihina, OK
April 11th - KSA Meeting - Cabela's - Rafael Soldan, Safety Meeting
April 18th - Opening Day at Sunflower
May 1st-3rd - CAP Encampment at Sunflower
May 18th-23rd - Region 7 - Albert Lea, MN
June 12th - 15th - XC Camp - Sunflower
June 15th - 19th - Women's Soaring Seminar - Minden, NV
June 22nd - 25th - Women's Air Race Classic
June 24th - July 3rd - Sports Class Nationals - Waynesville, OH
June 24th - July 3rd - 18 Meter, Open, and Club Class Nationals - Hobbs, NM
July 4th - Kansas Kowbell Klassic
July 2nd - July 9th - 1-26 Championships - Minden, NV
August 1st - 15th - 1st 13.5 Meter World Championships - Pociunai, Kaunas, Lithuania
August 3rd-7th - Region 10 South - Waller, TX
August 7th - 10th - Ratings Camp - Sunflower
September 24th - 27th - Great Plains Vintage Rally - Wichita Gliderport
September 28th-30th - 2015 Fly Kansas Air Tour

Notes from the President

First off I apologize for the late publication this month. I am currently enjoying a rain day at the Pan American Gliding Championships which gave me enough time to put together a quick newsletter. You can look forward to reading about my Pan American adventures in next months *Variometer*.

The season has started! Several of us got in some good soaring flights in March during unusually warm weather. I can only hope this bodes for an excellent 2015 soaring season.

Rafael will be delivering the annual safety presentation at the meeting April 11th which will get us prepared for the opening weekend of scheduled flying at Sunflower on the 18th.

I'm pretty sure that **Don Jones** is still looking to fill a few holes on the schedule so please go to <http://www.brownbearsw.com/cal/KSA> to sign up or see him at the meeting. Otherwise he might be calling you!

See you at Sunflower!

Tony

Sunflower Seeds

March 10th: **Bob Holliday** flew his ASH-31 on a 279 km flight. **Tony Condon** and **Keith Smith** changed tires on Tinkerbelle the PW-5, and **Mike Orindgreff** worked on CAT. **Mike Logback** also was seen.

March 11th: **Bob Holliday** towed and then flew the ASH-31. Thanks **Bob!** Pure glider pilots were **Tony Condon** in Kate the Cirrus and **Steve Seibel** in the 2-33. **Bob** flew to Pratt and Harper. **Tony** flew to Pratt and Great Bend. **Steve** stayed local for 3.5 hrs and reported getting over 10,000 from a fire thermal.

March 12th: **Bob Holliday** flew 282 km in the ASH-31.

March 21st: **Bob Hinson** towed. **Mike Orindgreff** (CAT), **Jeff Beam** (F1), and **Don Jones** (MB) all flew. **Bob Holliday** flew the ASH-31. **Tony Condon** and **Dave Anderson** flew for an hour in the 2-33. **Steve Leonard** and **Bob Park** were also seen at the field.

March 22nd: **Bob Holliday** towed and then flew the ASH-31. **Tony Condon** flew Kate on a 200 km triangle around Wichita. **Steve Seibel** and **Brian Bird** both had flights in the Ka-6, towed by **KC Alexander** later in the afternoon. **Steve Leonard** was also seen.

Wichita Gliderport Seeds

March 13th: **Tony Condon** flew Kate on a 95 km flight pushing north into the wind.

March 20th: **Tony Condon** flew Kate on a short local flight

Tullahoma Seeds

March 31st: **Tony Condon** flew a Silent 2 Electro on a 3.5 hour soaring flight. This is the glider he'll fly in Lithuania at the 13.5 Meter World Championships in August.



Fire south of Great Bend March 11th



March KSA Meeting



East Wichita on March 22nd



Silent Electro before flying on March 31st



Soaring over Tennessee in the Electro March 31st

Greetings,

Winter gives way to Spring and soaring will again captivate us. The Region 7 soaring contest comes to Albert Lea during the week of May 17-23. As contest manager, I invite you to participate! There is something for everyone at a regional contest, whether they are new recruits to soaring or veteran cross country pilots with diamond badges. Come and join the fun!

Jim Hanson, the airport manager at the Albert Lea municipal airport, has again embraced another general aviation event and we all know that he offers some of the best airport cookouts in the area. Jim and Geoff Weck of the Chicago area initiated the plan for a regional soaring contest at AEL for 2015, and so let's join the parade and participate as racing pilots, volunteers, and interested souls. The flying, hangar parties and stories are great fun.

Pilots – Contest flying offers a chance to fly head-to-head with other pilots for the best speed over the day's task. If you have a Silver Badge or have flown a qualifying OLC flight, then participate and learn something new about flying faster as a cross-country pilot. Watch how the fast pilots leave a thermal at the right moment or fly for miles through occasional lift without circling. These are skills that you can learn as they did.

Volunteers – This regional contest offers a more casual event with your friends and other soaring enthusiasts from our Region 7 community than a national event. Imagine the operations at your club and then project them to the contest. We need help at the registration and retrieve desk, at the scales to weigh gliders before they move to the grid on the runway, and finally at the launch line to manage ropes, connections, signaling, and wing-tip running. We have done all of this before and done it well. Chances are good that you will have already done so for the same pilots at your home glider port.

Enthusiasts – Come down to watch, bring your friends and offer to help if you think and feel that you can participate. This event may bring an aviation enthusiast to our sport, your club, rewarding all of us with new friendships and experiences.

For interested pilots, if this event sounds like fun, then sign-up on the SSA website (www.ssa.org). Go to the "Sailplane Racing" tab and then scroll down to "Online Registration" in order to complete your registration. After registering, begin reading about racing in gliders. And by no means become intimidated because other gliders appear fast. The FAI classes attract the latest racing designs, while the sports class can accommodate a range of glider designs because of a handicap factor used for scoring. Regardless of the class, the tasks will reflect the skill of the pilots and the glider designs.

I understand that most volunteers cannot be at the airport every day and that's fine. Send me a note to leonzeug@yahoo.com and I will provide you a link to *Sign-Up Genius* and instructions on how to choose a time and activity according to your interest. Or you can sign-up at this link www.signupgenius.com/tabs/23673D807AFCCE4C17-grid, but you must register. By registering, I can send you emails about any changes or news. Finally, sign up genius does not share your email address; the addresses are only for contest correspondence.

Thank-you,

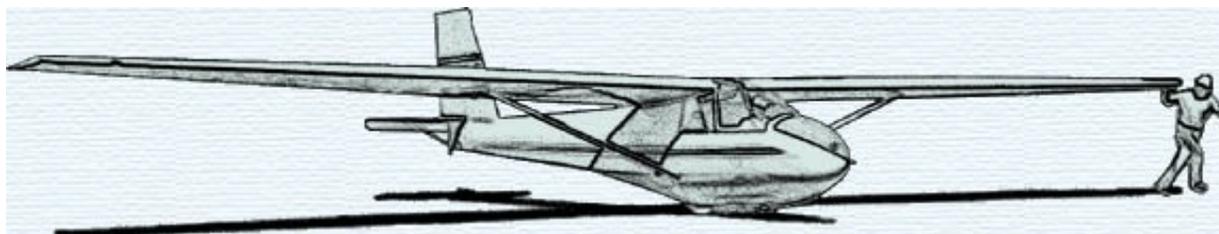
Leon Zeug

KSA VARIOMETER

911 N Gilman

Wichita, KS 67203

abcondon@gmail.com



KSA Meeting

April 14th, 2015

6:30 PM

Rafael Soldan - Spring Safety Meeting

Cabela's in Wichita