



VARIOMETER

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

Editor: Tony Condon

Volume LVI

March 2016

Number 4

PRESIDENT – TONY CONDON (2015-2016)

SECRETARY/TREASURER – BRIAN SILCOTT (2015-2016)

VICE PRESIDENT EAST – BOB BLANTON (2015-2016)

VICE PRESIDENT WEST – BOB HINSON (2015-2016)

TOW PLANE MANAGER – STEVE LEONARD (2015-2016)

DIRECTORS:

ANDREW PETERS (PAST PRESIDENT)

BRIAN BIRD (2015-2016)

MATT GONITZKE (2015-2016)

DON JONES (2016-2017)

TIM DOUBLE (2016-2017)



Brian Bird's Libelle on display at the Cosmosphere

KSA CALENDAR

April 2nd - Work Day - Sunflower

April 9th - KSA Meeting - Spring Safety Meeting - Cabela's - 6:30 PM

April 16th - Opening Day at Sunflower

May 11th - 20th - 18 Meter Nationals - Lancaster, SC

May 14th - KSA Meeting - Cookout at Sunflower

May 15th - 21st - Region 7 Contest - Albert Lea, MN

June 11th - Great Planes on the Plains Fly-In - Hays, KS

June 11th - KSA Meeting - Cookout at Sunflower

June 11th - 19th - Club Class Nationals - Wurtsboro, NY

June 21st - 30th - 15 Meter, Open, Standard Nationals - Nephi, UT

June 25th - Kansas Kowbell Klassic

July 9th - KSA Meeting - Cookout at Sunflower

July 9th - 16th - International Vintage Sailplane Meet - Elmira, NY

July 9th - 15th - Junior Nationals/Camp - Texas Soaring Association - Midlothian, TX

August 7th-15th - Sports Class Nationals - Uvalde, TX

August 13th - KSA Meeting - Cookout at Sunflower

September 10th - KSA Meeting - Cookout at Sunflower

September 11th - Adventurous Babes Society Rides - Sunflower

September 22nd - 25th - Wichita Vintage Rally

October 16th - Adventurous Babes Society Rain Date - Sunflower

October 30th - Closing Day at Sunflower

Check the ICT NWS Soaring Forecast before heading to the field

<http://weather.gov/ict/soaring>

The gate at Sunflower now has a lock! If you need the combination, check the Soar-Kansas Yahoo group or contact Jerry Boone. jerry@soarkansas.org

Notes from the President

Greetings KSA! March has flown by, and the official beginning to the soaring season is right around the corner. I know some of you may be surprised by the arrival of this *Variometer*, actually on time this month. Hopefully a sign of things to come!

We enjoyed a few good flying days in March, when the wind wasn't blowing, and Steve and I enjoyed a good soaring day on a day that the wind was blowing.

Lots of work has been going on in the background to prep for the 2016 season. **Don Jones** and **Steve Leonard** have been working on getting the schedule for the year established, **Tim Double** is putting the finishing touches on the Emergency Response Plan, and after his unanimous election, **Brian Silcott** is preparing to have the Secretary/Treasurer duties transferred to him. **Matt Gontizke** continues to make great progress on the club's "War Wagon" with plans to have it operational by the beginning of May.

The spring work day is literally right around the corner, on April 2nd. There will be plenty of work to do, with a lot of tree branch cleanup being the largest task. This will be a good opportunity to put in some hours to help maintain our home, so I hope you can make it.

Bob Hinson has arranged to have the Grob's annual completed on April 10th so if you are interested in assisting please contact him.

Speaking of contacting, all club members should have received a club contact list from me a few days ago. If you did not see this list of phone numbers and email addresses, let me know at abcondon@gmail.com. Also, all 2015 members should have received the 2015 KSA Financial report.

The duty schedule for April and May is included in this *Variometer*. You may notice that it does not include instructors. Our instructor core is a bit thin this year, and we decided to change our scheduling to a system where students contact instructors directly to arrange instruction instead of instructors being scheduled and attempting to fly with all takers. This should end up working out better for the students and the instructors. The core of our instructor corps this year will be **Andrew Peters**, **Brian Bird**, and myself. **Rafael Soldan** may be available for some instruction on Sundays but is still busy earning his Master's Degree at WSU. **Paul Soddamann** is working towards his commercial and then CFI-G but will probably not be available until later in the season. So for early season instruction it will be best to contact **Andrew**, **Brian**, or myself.

On the subject of instructors, did you read the article in this month's *Soaring* about earning your CFI-G? If that motivates you to want to become an instructor and help out the club and the sport, let me know!

I suppose that's enough for now, I look forward to seeing you at Sunflower!

Tony



I am in the process of totally refurbishing and Americanizing my PIK trailer. The components in the attached photo will not be reused. Anyone who can use them may have them. All I ask is that you make a donation to the Sunflower Soaring Foundation in what ever amount you feel is appropriate. Items are: (1) Spare wheel/tire. 4 x 100mm bolt pattern. P175/80R13 steel belted radial. About 20 years old but has always been stored in the trailer. Has never been on the ground. (2) Coupler with emergency brake and automatic break-away brake setting. Takes a 50mm ball. (3) Retractable front wheel.
KC Alexander

Sunflower Seeds

March 5th: **Brian Bird** flew about an hour in the Libelle. **Jerry Boone** towed. **Mike Orindgreff** flew F8 and **Bob Holliday** flew the PIK-20E. **Paul Sodamann** had Betty Boop's annual completed. **Brian** had the Libelle inspected after landing. **Steve Leonard** helped out but did not fly.

March 10th: **Mike Orindgreff** flew 132 km in F8

March 11th: **Tony Condon**, **William Calderwood**, **Alex Hunt**, and **Tim Double** did auto tows in the 2-22. Each "student" had two flights with Tony. A few broken ropes. Everyone got a turn or two driving. Launch heights were around 1000 feet. **William** had the best soaring flight of the day, delaying for a few turns in zero sink on one of his flights.

March 14th: **Mike Orindgreff** had a short flight in F8

March 17th: **Mike Orindgreff** flew F8 almost 200 km, turning near Turon and Inman

March 19th: **Paul Sodamann** towed. **Steve Leonard** had his first flight of the year in the FJ-1 and **Tony Condon** enjoyed a short flight in the 2-22. Windy out of the northwest. **Brian Silcott** and his son Holton observed as well as **Jerry Boone**, **Mike Logback**, and Adam Kite, **Tony's** friend from Utah.

March 20th: **Mike Orindgreff** had about a 100km flight in F8



Cosmosphere Report

By **Brian Bird**

Two weeks ago, while the NJCAA basketball championships were underway, there were a lot of visitors in Hutchinson. The Cosmosphere took advantage of this to advertise their summer programs. Some of these camps are geared almost exclusively towards aviation and includes the opportunity to take a sailplane ride at Sunflower. They wanted to have a glider on display to help promote this so I offered to let them use my Libelle for that purpose. With help from Jerry and Matt Boone, we got the Libelle assembled in the Cosmosphere banquet room on Thursday afternoon.

The majority of the visitors were there on Friday, but I was still teaching classes at HCC in the adjacent science building. My plan was to pop in between classes as much as I could, but I didn't expect to be able to spend too much time there since I have classes from 9:10 straight through to 1:40 on Friday. Well, as it turned out this was the Friday before spring break, and all my classes had very high levels of absenteeism. So, I shortened my lectures and let each class out early much to the students' delight. This allowed me more time to be there and answer any questions.

At one point I even took my engineering statics class over to look at the Libelle. We were studying distributed loads and bending moments on cantilevered beams. The Libelle's flexible wings made for a great demonstration of that plus I gave them a quick demo of resonance. I'm not sure I sold any of them on soaring though. It's funny how people, even engineers, get so disconcerted by seeing the wings bend and flap.

In spite of my having to come and go throughout the day, I was greatly assisted by several members of the local R/C flying community who had a number of their aircraft (including a really nice looking sailplane model) on display in the banquet room as well. The R/C flyers keep the kids from climbing on my plane when I wasn't there and they helped answer questions as much as they were able.

I had several copies of the Bill Seed Scholarship form for people to take, so hopefully we might get a few more applications out of it. I also got several of the R/C types interested in coming out and giving us a try. I was unable to support this effort on Saturday due to travel plans, so I disassembled late Friday afternoon with the help of my new friends with the R/C flying club and returned the Libelle safely to Sunflower. All in all, it was good exposure for our club and a lot of fun for me too.





Summer Gajewski graduated from Officer Training School at Maxwell Air Force Base and is now a 2nd Lieutenant in the Air National Guard. Pilot training starts in May, on her way to the left seat of the KC-135!

Club Projects

There is quite a bit going on behind the scenes at KSA. Here are a few projects that the club has taken on this winter.

Matt Gonitzke is working on constructing a “war wagon”. A trailer that we can use to have ropes, chairs, fire extinguishers, first aid kits, etc etc available at the launch point instead of hidden in the hangar

Tim Double is developing an emergency response plan. To go along with that, **Tony Condon** has been working on an up to date contact list for club members, which will be distributed before the season starts.

Don Jones has been working on developing an automatic data gathering computer with the idea of providing the Wichita NWS office with real time temp, pressure, relative humidity, position, and altitude. It should be an interesting experiment which could lead to some really neat applications.

Aaron Maurer is hoping to make his next project for his flight test course at WSU a glide test and flight evaluation of the 2-22. Last I heard he was hoping to start flights in early April. I’m sure some help will be needed so stay tuned for more on this very interesting project.

Work Day at Sunflower:
April 2nd 9:00 AM

Rain Date:
April 9th



Matt Gonitzke reports nice progress on the KSA “War Wagon”. Looking forward to seeing it at Sunflower!

EAA, SOARING SOCIETY OF AMERICA ANNOUNCE MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING

Agreement updates joint efforts to introduce and support flying on all levels
EAA AVIATION CENTER, OSHKOSH, Wisconsin
(February 18, 2016)

The Experimental Aircraft Association (EAA) and Soaring Society of America (SSA) today announced a memorandum of understanding that expands the organizations' joint efforts to bring the possibilities of flight to more people.

The announcement during SSA's annual convention in Greenville, South Carolina, formalizes a relationship between the organizations as they promote and encourage flying activities. It will also include initiatives ranging from membership growth and communications to advocacy and youth activities.

"There is a common passion for flight that connects SSA and EAA, with our organizations sharing a significant number of members," said Jack J. Pelton, EAA Chairman/CEO. "This memo of understanding sets the stage of the next step of cooperation between our associations, as we must work together to sustain and grow interest in all forms of aviation."

The new memo of understanding also outlines specific areas where EAA and SSA will work together. That includes web and publications presence, and possibilities of joint activities between EAA chapters and SSA's local clubs. It also encompasses visibility at major events, including EAA AirVenture Oshkosh and the SSA convention, as well as through the International Aerobatic Club, EAA's special interest community for aerobatic flight.

"The SSA and its members are excited to explore a closer partnership with the EAA and begin work on how both organizations will, in a mutual way, promote and increase aviation participation across all age groups," said Ken Sorenson, SSA Chairman. "We share so many fundamental principles that working together will benefit all our members and recreational aviation overall. We're excited to build a close relationship with our friends within EAA."

EAA and SSA will create a joint working group to further explore possibilities for joint activities and programs that could inspire youth and adults to further explore ways to get involved in model aviation or recreational flying.

The agreement also provides for increased visibility of each organization in the other's outreach and communications channels.



SOARING SOCIETY OF AMERICA



2016 KSA SCHEDULE

| DATE | NAME | CELL PHONE | HOME PHONE | TOWPILOT | PHONE # |
|--|--------------------|--------------|--------------|---------------|--------------|
| Saturday, April 16, 2016 Beginning of Season | Michael Groszek | 206-412-2985 | | Paul Sodamann | 785-456-5654 |
| | | | | | |
| Sunday, April 17, 2016 | David F. Wilkus | 316-706-9261 | 316-788-0932 | Mike Logback | 620-755-1786 |
| | Don Jones | 620-960-6444 | | | |
| Saturday, April 23, 2016 | Leah Condon | 316-249-3535 | | Tony Condon | 515-291-0089 |
| | Steve Leonard | 316-249-7248 | 316-729-0356 | | |
| Sunday, April 24, 2016 | Alexander Hunt | 785-224-6330 | | Bob Hinson | 316-841-5561 |
| | Mike Orindgreff | | 316-773-7154 | | |
| Saturday, April 30, 2016 | | | | Paul Sodamann | 785-456-5654 |
| Sunday, May 01, 2016 | Mike Orindgreff | | 316-773-7154 | Jack Seltman | 316-636-4218 |
| | Don Jones | 620-960-6444 | | | |
| Saturday, May 07, 2016 | David F. Wilkus | 316-706-9261 | 316-788-0932 | Paul Sodamann | 785-456-5654 |
| | | | | | |
| Sunday, May 08, 2016 | Susan Erlenwein | 316-644-9117 | | Tony Condon | 515-291-0089 |
| | Harry Clayton | 316-644-9117 | | | |
| Saturday, May 14, 2016 | Alexander Hunt | 785-224-6330 | | Ben Sorenson | 316-655-0257 |
| | William Calderwood | 316-617-0301 | | | |
| Sunday, May 15, 2016 | Matt Gonitzke | 815-980-6944 | | Bob Hinson | 316-841-5561 |
| | Bob Blanton | | 316-683-9759 | | |
| Saturday, May 21, 2016 | Robert Estagin | | 316-573-5881 | Andrew Peters | 316-393-2261 |
| | | | | | |
| Sunday, May 22, 2016 | Steve Leonard | 316-249-7248 | 316-729-0356 | KC Alexander | 316-308-8498 |
| | Brian Silcott | 620-204-0051 | | | |
| Saturday, May 28, 2016 | | | | Paul Sodamann | 785-456-5654 |
| Sunday, May 29, 2016 | Susan Erlenwein | 316-644-9117 | | Mike Logback | 620-755-1786 |
| | Harry Clayton | 316-644-9117 | | | |
| Monday, May 30, 2016 | | | | KC Alexander | 316-308-8498 |
| | | | | | |

Schedule available online at

<http://www.brownbearsww.com/cal/KSA>

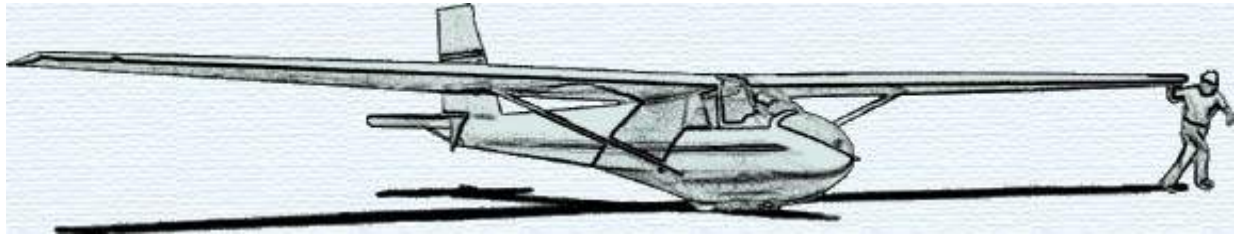
| | |
|--|--|
| <p style="text-align: center;">KSA TOWCARD</p> <p>TOW NUMBER START TACH TIME</p> <p>_____</p> <p>TOW PILOT _____</p> | <p style="text-align: center;">KSA TOWCARD</p> <p>TOW NUMBER START TACH TIME</p> <p>_____</p> <p>TOW PILOT _____</p> |
| <p>PILOT _____</p> <p>ADDRESS _____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>SAILPLANE _____</p> <p>TOW HEIGHT _____</p> <p>TOW SPEED (MPH) _____</p> <p>DATE _____</p> | <p>PILOT _____</p> <p>ADDRESS _____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>SAILPLANE _____</p> <p>TOW HEIGHT _____</p> <p>TOW SPEED (MPH) _____</p> <p>DATE _____</p> |
| <p style="text-align: center;">KSA TOWCARD</p> <p>TOW NUMBER START TACH TIME</p> <p>_____</p> <p>TOW PILOT _____</p> | <p style="text-align: center;">KSA TOWCARD</p> <p>TOW NUMBER START TACH TIME</p> <p>_____</p> <p>TOW PILOT _____</p> |
| <p>PILOT _____</p> <p>ADDRESS _____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>SAILPLANE _____</p> <p>TOW HEIGHT _____</p> <p>TOW SPEED (MPH) _____</p> <p>DATE _____</p> | <p>PILOT _____</p> <p>ADDRESS _____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>SAILPLANE _____</p> <p>TOW HEIGHT _____</p> <p>TOW SPEED (MPH) _____</p> <p>DATE _____</p> |

KSA VARIOMETER

911 N Gilman

Wichita, KS 67203

abcondon@gmail.com



KSA Meeting
Spring Safety Meeting
Cabela's Wichita
April 9th, 2016 6:30 PM