



**PUBLISHED TO RECORD
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KANSAS SOARING ASSOCIATION**

Editor: Tony Condon

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Number 4

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TIM DOUBLE (2018-2019)



Keith Smith receives the SSA's Henry Combs Trophy from Region 10 Director **Steve Leonard**

KSA CALENDAR

April 7th - Spring Work Day - Sunflower 9:00 AM - ?
April 14th - Spring Work Day - Sunflower 9:00 AM - Flying begins
April 14th - KSA Meeting - Safety Meeting
April 28th - 29th - KSA Safari - Ulysses, KS
May 5th - Hutchinson Airport Fly In and Open House - 8:00 AM
May 12th - KSA Meeting - Cookout at Sunflower
June 9th - KSA Meeting - Cookout at Sunflower
June 9th-16th - Region 10 North at Sunflower
June 19th - Cosmosphere Flight Camp Rides
June 19th-28th - Sports Class Nationals - Nephi, UT
June 30th - Kansas Kowbell Klassic - Sunflower
July 2nd-7th - US Junior Camp & Contest - Adrian, MI
July 14th - KSA Meeting - Cookout at Sunflower
August 11th - KSA Meeting - Cookout at Sunflower
September 8th - KSA Meeting - Cookout at Sunflower
September 20th - 23rd - Great Plains Vintage Rally - Wichita Gliderport

2018 Dues are Due!

KSA & SSA Regular Membership - \$100

KSA & SSA Family Membership - \$70

KSA & SSA Youth Membership - \$70

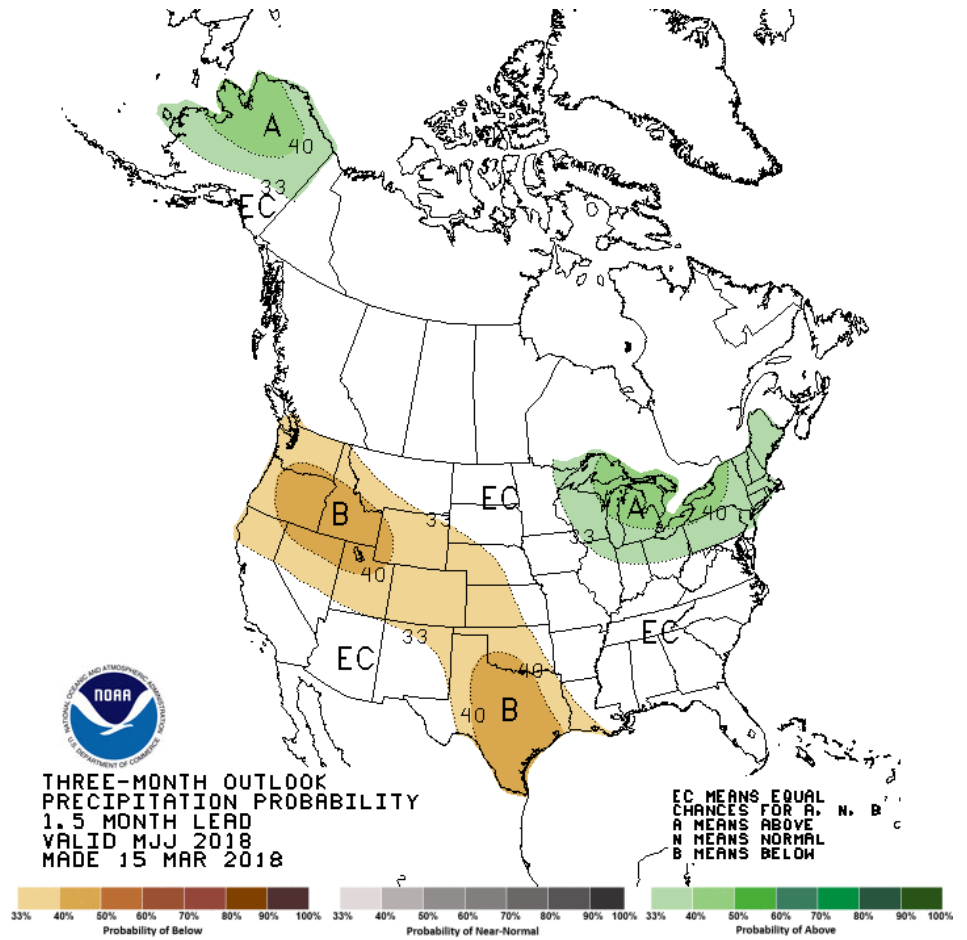
KSA Membership Only - \$50

Send your renewal payments to:

Tony Condon

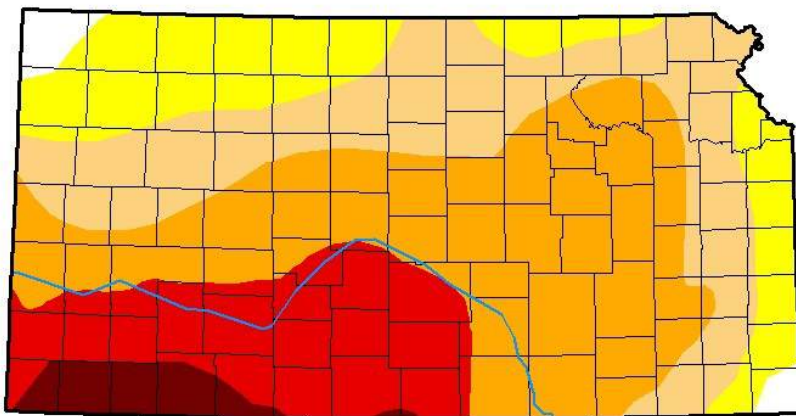
911 N Gilman

Wichita KS 67203



U.S. Drought Monitor
Kansas

March 27, 2018
(Released Thursday, Mar. 29, 2018)
Valid 8 a.m. EDT



Intensity:

- D0 Abnormally Dry
- D1 Moderate Drought
- D2 Severe Drought
- D3 Extreme Drought
- D4 Exceptional Drought

The Drought Monitor focuses on broad-scale conditions. Local conditions may vary. See accompanying text summary for forecast statements.

Author:

Chris Fenimore
NCEI/NESDIS/NOAA



<http://droughtmonitor.unl.edu/>

Sunflower Seeds

March 7th - **Mike Orindgreff** (F8) made a flight of nearly 200km!

March 9th - **Bob Holliday** (3D) and **Mike Orindgreff** (F8) both flew locally.

March 10th - **Tony Condon**, **Robert Estagin**, **Brian Bird**, **Leah Condon**, and **Mike Logback** gathered for some Auto Tows in the 2-22. One of **Brian's** Physics students participated and took notes on rope length, launch technique, and achieved height for his Honors project. **Harry Clayton** and **Sue Erlenwein** observed and worked on the 2-33. **Paul Sodamann** was also seen.

March 13th - **Mike Orindgreff** (F8) did a few laps around the WSA triangle. **Bob Holliday** (3D) made a 100km triangle to the southwest and then tacked on a little more at the end.

March 17th - More Auto Towing. **Mike Logback** once again did the driving. **Brian Bird** flew the 2-22 with students **Robert Estagin** and **Steve Damon**. **Michael Groszek** flew in in the Taylorcraft and took a few launches. **Tony Condon** did four launches in Kate and soared for a total of 3.1 hours! Jeff Thornburg helped out. **Mike Orindgreff** and **Dave Pauly** were seen. **Harry Clayton** and **Sue Erlenwein** worked on the 2-33 with **Jimmy Prouty** lending a hand as well.

March 18th - **Bob Hinson**, **Robert Estagin**, and **Tony Condon** finished up the sanding on the Grob Fuselage!

March 20th - **Tony Condon** (K) got a lunch time tow from **Jerry Boone**. Cloudbase was low with NW wind and he made it to the Stafford airport before landing. **Jerry Boone** provided after work aero tow retrieve to get him home! Thanks **Jerry!** **Mike Orindgreff** (F8) flew locally and encountered cumulus-generated wave which got him 2500 feet above cloudbase!

March 21st - **Mike Orindgreff** (F8) flew locally. **Bob Hinson**, **Tim Double**, and **Tony Condon** loaded the Grob fuselage in the trailer.

March 24th - **Mike Orindgreff** (F8) flew locally.

March 30th - **Mike Orindgreff** (F8) and **Bob Holliday** (3D) had flights of 125 and 160 km, respectively.



Bob Hinson and Robert Estagin sanding on March 18th

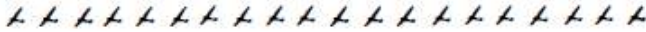
Soaring

Lewin B. Barringer, Editor

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EDITORIAL OFFICES: ROOM 502, 1500 LOCUST STREET, PHILADELPHIA, PENNSYLVANIA



Soaring OVER LEVEL COUNTRY

In our President's open letter to the Directors of the Elmira Area Soaring Corporation published last month he spoke of the possibilities of soaring from auto or winch tow over level country. As examples of what has been done he mentioned the soaring flights from airports at Miami, Florida and Akron, Ohio. To these we can add those of thermal flights at Minneapolis, Minnesota; Valley Stream, Long Island; and Wilmington, Delaware, all located in flat terrain.

We have known for many years that thermals do grow over open, flat country but have chiefly confined our soaring to thermals found near ridges. It has been our experience that very strong thermals originate along slopes, but we have also been able to find and use others over level terrain when soaring cross country.

Probably the strongest and most consistent thermal production will be found over our southwestern deserts in Texas, New Mexico, Arizona, and California. There is no question of the possibility of breaking the world's distance record in these conditions, but such a flight might easily end with a landing in rocky, cactus-covered country many miles from food or water. Instead, we

should first see what can be done over the great plains east of the Rocky Mountains. Colorado, Kansas, Oklahoma, and the pan handle of Texas should provide wonderful sites for high performance soaring from winch or auto tow.

At certain seasons of the year the warm, moist gulf tropical air mass moves upward in a generally north-easterly direction, causing unstable conditions over great stretches of country. Lt. Commander Barnaby, working with the aerologist at Pensacola and your editor, compiling Weather Bureau statistics, collected over a period of many years, are studying the possibilities of this region with a view toward organizing a small expedition next spring to test soaring conditions. These conditions sometimes include storm fronts that travel as much as 500 miles cross country during the daylight hours. If we are successful in raising the necessary funds to finance this venture, we can definitely determine the advisability of basing operations for future regional and perhaps even national and international contests in that part of the country.

Lacking the actual flight experiences of such a test, we can already realize certain important advantages of a site located near Amarillo, Texas or Wichita, Kansas. Geographically it would be close to the center of our country, equidistant from California and New York. From a safety and practical viewpoint, the level terrain with mile square fields of farms and ranches provide the best flying country in the world. Last, but certainly not least, all the meteorological statistics that we have been able to gather show conditions for establishing new records for altitude and distance.

Winch tows to more than 1,000 feet altitude are possible on the huge airports and fields in that country and this height should be sufficient to make contact with thermals on an unstable day. Once a pilot has encountered one of these bodies of rising air he can turn his attention to spiralling up in it and heading downwind on his course without the mental hazard of starting off across forests, lakes or mountains.

We have the country and the conditions. It is up to us to go out to find and use them.



Richard C. duPont, President
Lieut Com. R. S. Barnaby, Vice Pr.

Dr. Wolfgang Klemperer, Vice Pr.
Arthur L. Lawrence, Secretary

Percy Pierce, Treasurer
Dr. K. Lange, Chm. of Contest Board

SSA Launches new YouTube Channel

The Soaring Society of America has launched a new YouTube Channel and will be posting new content throughout the 2018 soaring season, including a series of demographically targeted videos that you or your home club may embed on its homepage or Facebook page. These videos are intended to be shown to the public, used in presentations about the sport (i.e., schools, civic groups, Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts), or displayed at your clubhouse, local Fly-Ins, Airshows, Community Festivals, and other highly visible local events.

Moreover, these videos be be linked from newly designed print and digital materials that will be made available to SSA members, clubs, and businesses later this year.

See: https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCqo0_F8-X8d5fFLUfE3iGmw/featured

The SSA's hope is that you'll "Like" these new videos and help encourage everyone in our community to View, "Share", and "Subscribe" to the new SSA YouTube Channel. Keep in mind that all of us are in a unique position to share our love and passion for the sport with others, and sharing these videos is but one step in recruiting new faces to our home club.

Here are the first two videos in a series of many to be produced throughout the 2018 & 2019 soaring seasons. Enjoy!

Soaring... You Should Try It! See: <https://youtu.be/HyvKdQFidFY>

Support U.S. Junior Soaring (Contests, Camps, Grants & Symposiums) See: <https://youtu.be/RZEIUC0YiPM>

Best regards,

Chris Schrader
SSA Director, Region 6
Chair of the SSA's Growth & Retention Committee



Matt Gonitzke is building a new trailer for his SH-1 and it looks great!!

SSA Convention 2018 Report-Out

By Leah Condon

For those uninitiated, the Soaring Society of America holds a bi-annual convention. This convention is part exhibition hall, part lecture seminar, part awards ceremony and part social networking. The 2018 SSA convention is the 6th one that I have attended, and the third time I have attended it with Reno as the host location. The convention officially began on Thursday and concluded with the awards banquet on Saturday evening.

The convention hall had a convenient skyway which connected it to the Atlantis Resort and Casino. This came in handy as I did not have to venture much outside during a very snowy weekend. There were a few jokes thrown around that the SSA should auction off conventions and contests to sites which are experiencing record drought conditions. Each year I swear I am going to make it to the 3rd floor spa and pool but once again I had too much fun attending the convention itself to make it happen.

The Soaring Safety Foundation hosts a Flight Instructor Refresher Clinic "FIRC" was held the Tuesday and Wednesday leading up to the start of the convention.

Wednesday is the day which exhibitors are allowed into the hall to set up their booths, displays and of course gliders. The exhibitor categories were: aero equipment & sales, aircraft design & manufacturing, financial & insurance, museum, recreational, repair & maintenance, research & development, safety & training, soaring clubs, soaring materials and soaring schools. A full list of the 45-exhibitors can be found at <http://ssaconvention.org/exhibitor/>.

Three separate rooms hosted a full schedule of presenters. One of these rooms was set aside as the OSTIV track of presentations. OSTIV for those unfamiliar is the International Scientific and Technical Organization for Soaring Flight. KSA was well represented in the OSTIV track by **Neal Pfeiffer** who presented Thursday on the Volksgleiter and on Slotted Airfoil with Control Surface. Unfortunately for me I didn't arrive until Thursday evening and missed them both, my loss. **Tony Condon** had a cameo role in Dave Nadler's "So You Think You Want a Motorglider ..." presentation, also on Thursday, where he shared his experience with the front electric sustainer "FES" on the Silent 2 Electro. **Tony's** main presentation "Going the Distance: Downwind Dashes in the Midwest" was on Saturday morning.

Of the four KSA presentations this last one was the only one which I was able to attend. **Tony** provided background information on post cold front downwind dashes which occurred in the Midwest from the 1960's to the present. He spoke a bit about what he is looking for regarding a forecast, what other preparation is involved before dashing, how he communicates with his chase crew and then he shared stories and traces of his downwind flights from 2014-2017. The presentation concluded with a Q&A. Overall feedback was that people enjoyed learning about the technical aspects of downwind dashing in a way that wasn't too far over their heads. There was also a lot of feedback on how they enjoyed **Tony's** story telling approach to his presentation. Personally, I liked how one person was so engaged she cornered him in the exhibit hall with her written list of questions/comments.

49- Speakers in all participated in presenting at the 2018 convention. My favorites were Garret Willat's "15 Bright Ideas that Slowed Me Down, Lost Me Points, or Got Me Stuck" and Pete Alexander's "Tips and Insight from My Soaring Coaches." Garret's presentation was a comedic self-deprecating list of mistakes he has made in soaring, and his lessons learned on how not to do that again. Pete spoke of three soaring coaches/mentors he has had over his soaring career. My main take-a-ways from Pete's presentation are: it is good to get feedback on our soaring skills in order to improve (reach out to that CFIG or the more experienced cross-country pilot in your club), he learned the best flying together with these coaches in two-seaters rather than in a lead and follow environment, and to only focus on three things at a time to improve on (no more and no less at a single time). **Tony's** favorite presentation was Jean-Marie Clement's "Hydraulic Jump" about non gravitational wave. **Tony's** favorite Christmas present from 2016 is Clement's book "Dancing with the Wind."

In addition to the exhibit hall and lecture series many soaring groups hosted a breakfast or lunch gathering (tickets required) which along with food provided a chance to network with likeminded people and had a speaker. I attended the Vintage Sailplane Association's luncheon which was partnered for the first time with the Old Timers. The featured speaker discussed the restoration of a SGS 2-8, which might be the only zero flight time airworthy Schweitzer in the country. VSA president Jim Short also provided an update on activities going on with the VSA. I did not participate in the breakfast (food) component of the Competition Pilot's breakfast, but **Tony** and I snuck in the back to support JP Stewart and Sarah Arnold who both presented at the breakfast. **Tony** crewed for JP during the last two Junior World Gliding Championships "WGC." JP has created a US Junior contest/seminar to help grow the sport and he shared a video which was made at last year's event. 2018 will mark the third year of the event. Sarah shared great insight into the sport psychology needed for a glider pilot to be successful and even a world champion. Sarah has won both a silver and bronze medal for team USA at the last two Women's WGCs.

Friday at 5:15pm was the SSA General Membership Meeting. At this meeting a new webinar series was introduced to help build our new glider pilots into cross-country pilots to help with membership retention. **Mitch Hudson** (KSA member) shared that the first of these webinars will be available on May 1st and then a new one will be released the first Tuesday of each month to follow. Keep reading Soaring for more information. KSA member **Tony Condon** was awarded the U.S. National Record Gliders Standard Class General Straight Distance to a Goal by the NAA for his 864.67 km (537.28 mi) flight from Hutchinson, KS to La Grange, TX on May 5th 2017. **Tony** was joined on this flight by **Mitch Hudson** and **Mike Westbrook**. He was also awarded the Paul Tuntland Award for his article "The Flight Home."

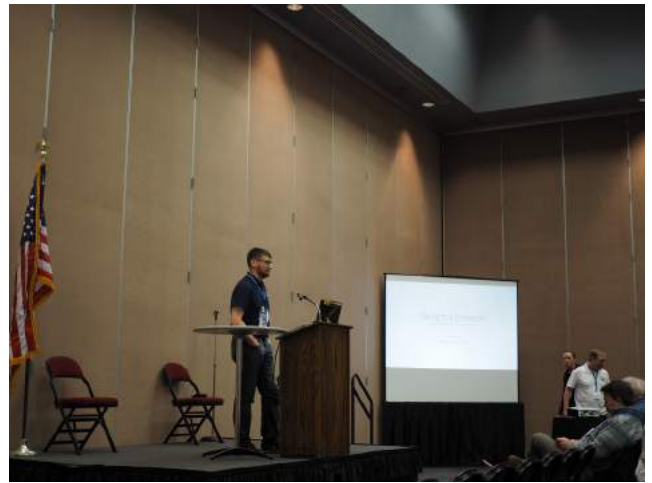
Friday night was the OSTIV banquet which featured Jim and Jackie Payne as the key note speakers. The topic of the presentation was "Perlan 2 Update: 52172' World Record Claim." Jim shared the history of the Perlan and walked the audience through the Perlan 2's record breaking flight with Morgan Sandercock. Jackie shared the logistics involved in preparing for and operating a Perlan season in along with great pictures that made me want to jump on the next flight to Patagonia. This was only my second time attending the OSTIV banquet and both times the presentations have blown me away. I highly recommend the banquet to any future convention goers.

The SSA Annual Awards Banquet was held on Saturday night. The awards banquet provides an opportunity to see fellow glider friends without their bucket hats. I must say that as a group we clean up clean-up pretty well. KSA was well represented as **Mitch Hudson**, **Keith Smith** and **Mike Westbrook** all took home the Henry Combs trophy for the central region for their flights out of Sunflower. **Tony Condon** and **Mitch Hudson** also were co-awarded with the Barringer trophy for their flight from Hutchinson, KS to La Grange, TX. On top of the awards and a fine meal, Dr. Donald R. Abbe was the evening's keynote speaker. Dr. Abbe is the curator of the Silent Wings Museum. He spoke about the remarkable story of gliders in World War II.

The conclusion of Saturday's awards banquet marked the end of the 2018 SSA Convention. This was the first convention that I have been in the exhibit hall after closing to help with the tear down. I was impressed by the trailer backing and maneuvering that was involved to get all the display gliders disassembled. 2020 is a few years off in the distance but I highly encourage everyone to attend. No matter which aspect: informative, social or glider eye candy interests you the most there is something for everyone.



Cherokee II's on display



Tony speaking



Tony with Ventus 3



Perlan 2 on display



HP-24 on display



JS-1C and Arcus, both with jet engines



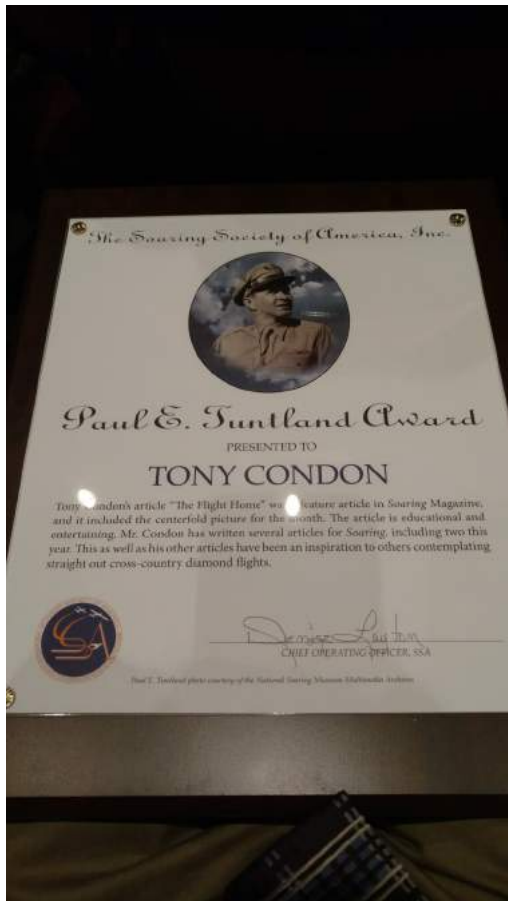
Leah in the Perlan Simulator



Tony Condon receiving National Record for May 4th 2017 flight from Greg Principato, President of the NAA



Tony Condon and **Mitch Hudson** shared the SSA's Lewin Barringer Memorial Trophy for their May 4th flight to LaGrange, TX



Tony Condon was presented the Paul Tuntland Award for his articles in *Soaring Magazine*



Tony and **Leah Condon** with Barringer Trophy plaque

KSA Towpilot Directory

If you need a towpilot, contact one of these members:

Brian Bird - 620-664-7844 - bljacdg@sbcglobal.net
Tony Condon - 515-291-0089 - abcondon@gmail.com
Mike Logback - 620-755-1786 - m_logback@yahoo.com
Bob Holliday - 316-641-6178 - moto123@sbcglobal.net
Jerry Boone - 620-474-4177 - jerry@soarkansas.org
Paul Sodamann - 785-456-5654 - sodie6390@gmail.com
Bob Blanton - 316-841-2921 - bobblanton46@gmail.com
Kirk Bittner - 860-670-5544 - kirkbittner@gmail.com
Tim Double - 724-954-2938 - tjd5185@gmail.com
Mark Schlegel - 316-641-5093 - pmschlegel@terraworld.net
Ben Sorenson - 316-655-0287 - goneflying01@yahoo.com
K.C. Alexander - 316-308-8498 - pikdriver@att.net
Andrew Peters - 316-393-2261 - apsoars@yahoo.com
Michael Groszek - 206-412-2985 - mig82au@gmail.com
Bob Hinson - 316-841-5561 - rhinson1@cox.net
Kevin Riedl - 316-253-9972 - kjrair@aol.com
Dave Wellbrock - 214-507-9107 - dave.wellbrock@gmail.com
Lauren Rezac - 316-619-3207 - lauren@rezac@engr.aero - Unknown Availability

KSA CFI-Glider Directory

Brian Bird - 620-664-7844 - bljacdg@sbcglobal.net
Tony Condon - 515-291-0089 - abcondon@gmail.com
Ben Sorenson - 316-655-0287 - goneflying01@yahoo.com
Andrew Peters - 316-393-2261 - apsoars@yahoo.com - Limited Availability
Lauren Rezac - 316-619-3207 - lauren@rezac@engr.aero - Unknown Availability

KSA Duty Schedule 2018

Date	Towpilot	Line Manager 1	Line Manager 2
Saturday, April 14	Michael Groszek Mig82au@gmail.com	Keith Smith	David Wilkus 316-706-9261
Sunday, April 15	Tony Condon 515-291-0089	Steve Leonard 316-249-7248	
Saturday, April 21	Michael Groszek Mig82au@gmail.com		
Sunday, April 22	Ben Sorensen Goneflying01@yahoo.com	Rob Rippy 316-706-2270	
Saturday, April 28	Tony Condon 515-291-0089		
Sunday, April 29	Brian Bird 620-664-7844	Sue Erlenwein 316-644-4586	Harry Clayton 316-644-9117
Saturday, May 5	Tony Condon 515-291-0089	David Wilkus 316-706-9261	
Sunday, May 6	Tim Double 724-954-2938	Ray Girardo 316-648-5451	
Saturday, May 12	Kirk Bittner 860-670-5544		
Sunday, May 13 Mother's Day	Tim Double tjdouble@gmail.com	Matt Gonitzke 815-980-6944	Leah Condon 316-249-3535
Saturday, May 19	Kirk Bittner 860-670-5544		
Sunday, May 20	Mike Logback 620-755-1786	Steve Leonard Zuni228@yahoo.com	
Saturday, May 26	Jerry Boone jerry@soarkansas.org		
Sunday, May 27	Bob Blanton 316-841-2921		
Monday, May 28 Memorial Day			

Online Calendar at

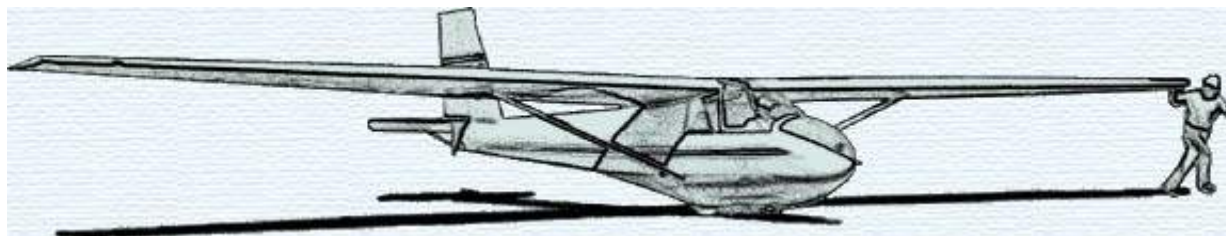
<https://www.brownbearsww.com/cal/ksa>

KSA VARIOMETER

911 N Gilman

Wichita, KS 67203

abcondon@gmail.com



KSA Meeting
April 14th 6:00 PM
Sunflower
Spring Safety Meeting - Brian Bird