



## Monthly Newsletter of Skyline Soaring Club, Inc. November 2016

# SKY LINES

Masthead photo: Jimmy Corey

## President's Message

*Dan Ernst*



We are just a week away from the Skyline Soaring Club's 25th Anniversary Gala on the 5th of November in the Magnolia Room of the Stonewall Golf Club, 15601 Turtle Point Drive, Gainesville, VA, 20155. Doors open at 6PM and the event will go until 11PM. There will be speakers and performers, a DJ and dancing and prizes. It should be a fun night celebrating our club, its founders and its history.

On another happy note, I want to congratulate Skyline's newest rated glider pilot Michael Bishton who successfully passed his check ride with Piet Barber for his PPL-G add-on.

It would be a shame if I let my column become a long series of complaints, especially among all of the good news this month, however, I must take a few lines to talk about Email Etiquette. Please don't "reply all" to Club emails unless it is necessary, like when you will participate in an ad hoc day and everyone needs to know how many people are going to show up. There may be other examples, but it should be a rarity for you to use "reply all." Take a moment to think about it and

make sure your comments and responses really do need to go to all members before you hit the send button. I suspect there might be a few of you out there that have "reply all" as a default setting in your email client. The first day I came out to Front Royal I was told, "If you decide to join this club, you will quickly find out this is an email club that happens to fly gliders!" Email is a powerful tool to communicate and coordinate in an organization like Skyline, but even a few extraneous emails in an already crowded in-box can be an annoyance for busy people and will crowd out important information that needs to get to everybody.





As some of you may have heard, Bob Hoover passed away this week at 94. For the young'uns out there who may not know the name, Bob was widely revered as the greatest stick and rudder pilot to have ever flown an airplane. I had the pleasure of seeing his routine in the Shrike Commander at an airshow in Wyoming many years ago. From a high perch in the bluest of skies, he feathered the props on the piston twin and proceeded to glide to earth performing an intricate aerobatic routine until he touched down feather light on one wheel, then the other and hit a turn off and rolled to a stop in front of the crowd. He never touched the throttles on his "glider" and I doubt he used the wheel brakes, either. His show was all about energy management (no air brakes on the Shrike!) and that's what gliding is all about, too. Kindred

And at the other end of the age spectrum, you may remember Elise Wheelock's email about starting a gliding club at North Dakota State. I guess the soaring bug bit and bit hard

with Elise. This is the kind of thing that will grow our sport by getting young folks started flying gliders at an early age. I hope we see her back at Skyline this summer.

And I would like to bid a fond farewell to Tim Kreiner who is moving full time to Florida. We had the pleasure of Tim's company for a while when business brought him to the northern Virginia area. Green air, Tim!

Next weekend we will revert back to 0900 show time and 1000 first flight. Don't forget it is also the weekend to fall back to Eastern Standard Time. Take note Sunday duty crew!

As we can see the end of the season (December 11) from here, let's be safe the rest of the year. My dog is shedding out his double coat putting on a heavy layer if that is any indication of the winter to come, but I hope we can get a few good weather days for ad hoc operations before the end of the year.



## SSA Group Chapter News

*Steven Rockwood, Treasurer*

receive a letter from the Soaring Society of America advising of some upcoming changes for the 2017 soaring season. I thought it important to inform the membership of the changes related specifically to you.

For years it seems some SSA members have wanted the ability to read Soaring™ magazine online. The SSA is pleased to announce that beginning in January you will have the ability to log in to the SSA website and read the current issue of Soaring™ magazine. Members will also have the option of receiving both the online and printed copy of Soaring™, or they can opt out of receiving the printed version when they renew. This is a new benefit they are offering and they hope you all enjoy it.

As the SSA works to grow the organization, expenses seem



to grow as well. The SSA Board of Directors has tried to keep membership dues as reasonable as possible. In 2017 however, they have approved a modest dues increase to help cover the rising cost of doing

business. The increase will be \$3.00 per year for all membership categories, except the life membership. Full member rates will increase from \$69 to \$72 annually. Family and Youth member rates will increase from \$39 to \$42. The new rates will be shown in your 2017 soaring season monthly dues and SSA membership invoices issued near the end of the year. Remember, our fiscal year with SSA begins on May 1st and ends on April 30th. All members with SSA members expiring prior to April 30, 2017 may be asked to retroactively pay the monthly difference. Any such changes will be reflected in the monthly statements provided to all active members.



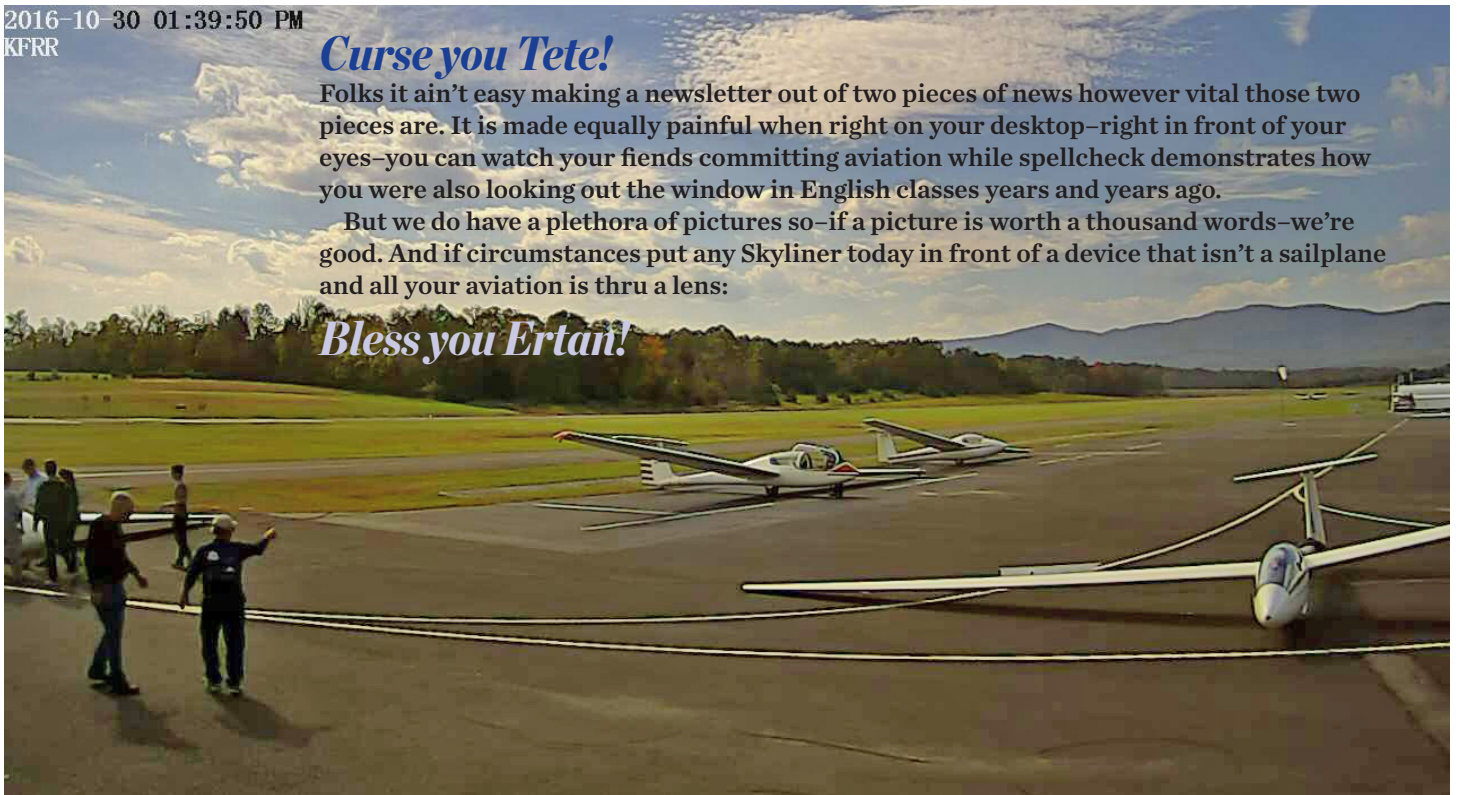
2016-10-30 01:39:50 PM  
KFRR

### *Curse you Tete!*

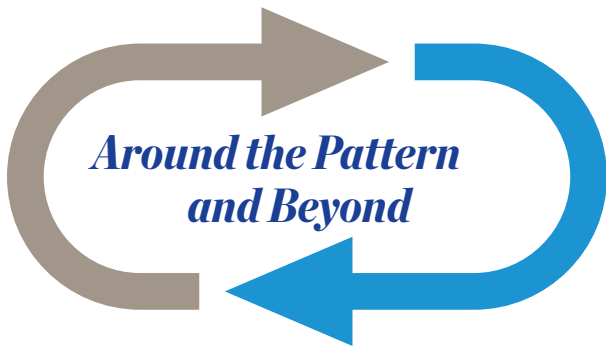
Folks it ain't easy making a newsletter out of two pieces of news however vital those two pieces are. It is made equally painful when right on your desktop—right in front of your eyes—you can watch your fiends committing aviation while spellcheck demonstrates how you were also looking out the window in English classes years and years ago.

But we do have a plethora of pictures so—if a picture is worth a thousand words—we're good. And if circumstances put any Skyliner today in front of a device that isn't a sailplane and all your aviation is thru a lens:

### *Bless you Ertan!*







*Around the Pattern  
and Beyond*

Our own Martin Gomez was one of 35 prominent aviation experts named by the FAA to a high-level Drone Advisory Committee!!

<https://www.ainonline.com/aviation-news/business-aviation/2016-08-31/faa-names-members-high-level-drone-advisory-committee>





Photos: from Val Neitzey



*Our man at Fairfield: Sunday, Oct. 9. The planes assembled and gridded on the runway, but winds were too strong for a contest day.*

*Unfortunately Shane developed some kind of raging lung infection— with sore throat, fever, no sleep, the works. What a bad way to end a fine week of soaring at Fairfield.*

*October A.M. FRR—Michael Bishton*







Photos: from Dick Otis



Above and left: FAST Flight for 85 year old Katie Simenson. It's been "on her bucket list" for some time. Her large family gathering witnessed Katie's adventure into the wild blue wonder with Dick Otis.



Photo: Evan Dosik



Photo: from Chris Zaboji

JP Stewart, Steve Zaboji, Chris Zaboji: Last minute trip up to Latrobe, PA for a luncheon with the Comanche pilot group. My dad sat in the back without headphones so either he's comfortable with the both of us or was too scared to hear what was going on. —Chris Zaboji

Many of us have feet of clay but the DPE has feet of steel as he demonstrates to Kate Ayers.





*QQ outbound at Burner – Duane Wessels from a prime perch.*



Photo: Gordon Roesler

*Left: “Does that look like a lennie to you?” – Gordon Roesler*

***Coffeemate 1st Class** takes one for the crew and goes down with the ship. – DO’s, please include emptying the coffee machine water reservoir as part of the closing checklist. This was a preventable fatality – John Noss*



Photo: John Noss



Copy That



*Flotsam and Jetsam  
from the Editor's  
Daily Email Tsunami*

**The next New Members Orientation Session (NMOS)** is scheduled for November 5th at 12:30 p.m. If you have not completed this extremely interesting and mandatory overview of how the club operates, what are your roles as a new member, what's in the Skyline Soaring Club (SSC) website that should interest you, and how can I see how the instructors are tracking my flight performance, this is a must attend for you. The session lasts for one-hour and we typically try to make sure each member has a chance to take a training flight in conjunction with the session. The session is free, so you have no excuse not to attend. Please reply to RSallada@aol.com and steve.rockwood@comcast.net if you plan to attend and fly.

The session will be conducted at the Front Royal Airport in the terminal building and begin sharply at 12:30.  
—Steve Rockwood, Membership Officer

**To help the DO get the log correct**, please specify your AGL when you radio the tow pilot for a "Pattern Tow". A "pattern tow" can be anything from 1000 AGL to 2200 AGL, depending whether you get off at the Downwind or stay on to your Decision Point to do the checklist and call your Right 45. The DO cannot see your release point from the DO desk when using 28.—Robert Gray

**I would be interested in knowing who would be interested in ground school this winter**, possibly during January and early February, and what would be the most popular form of activity. In the past, I have taught an intense, 4-5 day course, 8 hours per day, in my home in Vienna, VA. I can easily accommodate 6 people, but 10 starts to become a bit intense. I teach



**Skyline Soaring Club, Inc.**

is a private, 501(c7) non-profit organization, dedicated to the enjoyment and promotion of the sport of soaring. SSC is based at the Front Royal-Warren County, Va. Airport and is an affiliate club of the Soaring Society of America.

For information about the club go to  
[www.skylinesoaring.org](http://www.skylinesoaring.org)

**President**—Dan Ernst  
**Secretary**—Keith Hilton  
**Treasurer**—Steve Rockwood  
**Membership**—Steve Rockwood  
**Chief Duty Officer**—Bruce Zivic  
**Chief Tow Pilot**—Steve Zaboji  
**Chief Flight Instructor**—Piet Barber  
**Safety Officer**—Chuck Stover

**Newsletter Editor**—Phil Jordan  
wingup126@gmail.com

**Directors**—Evan Dosik, Ertan Tete,  
Dick Edge, Richard Garrity,  
Keith Hilton, Dan Ernst

for in-depth understanding. Piet has done an on-line course, I believe more oriented toward passing the FAA knowledge test. I would like to know the following:

**Who is interested in devoting time to ground school this winter?**

What is your preferred venue?

- a) Someplace near DC, e.g., my home
- b) The terminal building at FRR
- c) Someplace in between Vienna and FRR
- d) On-line (I won't do it if it's on line)

What is your preferred time?

- a) Saturday, all day
- b) Sunday, all day
- c) Evenings during the week

What is your preferred objective?

- a) Only to pass the FAA knowledge test
- b) To pass the FAA knowledge test and to have a deeper understanding
- c) In addition to (b), a discussion of topics, such as finding and using lift, and glider cross-country flying, that are not included on the FAA knowledge test

—George Hazelrigg

**To the Board, Instructors, Tow Gods and all members of Skyline Soaring.**

I wanted to let you all know that my time in the Virginia area is coming to a close at the end of this month, after which I will be relocating most likely to Tampa Florida. I cannot tell you how much I have enjoyed getting to know and fly with all of you.

Skyline Soaring is by far the best Soaring Club I have seen or been part of. But that needs some explaining...

The Board, past and present, have built a thorough and comprehensive Operation that runs extremely well. Piet and the instructors have built a training program and tools to monitor progress unequalled and very enviable. Shane, the Tow Pilots and Various Meisters keep a sharp eye on every piece of equipment and keep it all running safe.

Tow pilots are kind of special (in more ways than one). Skyline has a variety of great tow pilots who always watch out for the safety of the gliders and pilots they tow.

Students, especially Reynolds (former student) keep our adrenaline pumping and us honest and religious.

Seriously, you have all made my stay in this part of the country without my family much more gratifying. I will you all continued success and safety doing all that you do.

I will be continuing with my current company and probably be back in the area at least monthly. I'll be sure to come out and visit.

If I can ever be of any service to any of you, please contact me at tkreiner@yahoo.com.

I will be out at FRR at least one more time towing.

**Adios.—Tim Kreiner**

ps. A special thanks to Dick, John, Shane and Piet for your leadership and guidance.