



Monthly Newsletter of Skyline Soaring Club, Inc. February 2017

SKY LINES

Masthead photo: Jimmy Corey

President's Message

Dan Ernst



I hope that the winter has treated you well so far. Not much in the way bad weather, but no days that you would really want to get out for an ad hoc day, either. Maybe things will improve for February.

Although we are still four weeks away from the start of the season, there has been plenty of activity in the

“off” season worthy of mention. We had the Annual membership meeting this past Saturday. Highlights from the meeting include the election by voice vote of both Keith Hilton and Dick Garrity to their second three year terms on the board of directors. In addition, Keith has volunteered to continue to serve as Secretary. Thank you gentlemen, and also Ertan Tete, Dick Edge and Evan Dosik for your efforts on the board last year and the coming year. And a big thanks to John Noss, emeritus board member, for sticking with us this past year.

It was my distinct pleasure to present the Bela Gogos award to George Hazelrigg for his sustained contributions to Skyline Soaring Club. George is a long time member of Skyline, a flight instructor, past president for four years during some difficult times, and has opened his home and shared his knowledge by hosting ground schools in the off season. He exemplifies the passion for soaring and the desire to share it with others that was Bela.

If you were not at the



Photo: Tom Motinger



Photo: Evan Dosik

meeting, I urge you to go to the website http://members.skylinesoaring.org/RESTRICTED-DOCS/SSC_2017_AnnualMembershipMeeting.pdf and view the slide package from the meeting. It is packed with information you should know, but I will give you the bottom line up front: your club is in a strong financial position and membership continues to grow. While the SSA and many other clubs fret about how to attract members, Skyline has people practically beating down the door. We will try to remain agile in terms of accepting new members and trying to keep to optimum number of students in the pipeline.

The big news for our equipment is that John Noss and Shane Neitzey ferried the Pawnee up to Van Sant Airport in Pennsylvania for recovering of the fuselage and painting of the wings and all metal surfaces at Old School Aviation. Old School has been sending pictures of the work and it should look great when it is done.

It is a smaller piece of equipment, but I am also excited to have a second Gator for towing. Dave Collier spotted this one with low hours on the engine and for a good price and the board decided to snap it up. Bruce Zivik has volunteered to breakout the saws and PVC glue and make another Surrey top for the new Gator. Efforts will be made to make the new top different enough to be identified at a distance. We will keep the ATV for the possibility of towing out of a soggy field after a landout.

As many of you know, we have tried to come up with some names for the Gators to distinguish the two nearly identical machines. Unfortunately, the logistics were too much to meet the deadline for this newsletter.

After significant work on the ASK-21 and Grob last year, this year the Sprite is receiving some attention as Pete Maynard and Bill Vickland are replacing the fabric on the rudder.

As I briefed the assembled members at the annual meeting, a new hangar at Front Royal is coming closer to reality. The airport commission has decided to dismantle the metal-skinned "pole barn" hangars and replace them with a larger, open hangar more friendly to glider operations. The project appears to have traction with the Warren County Board of Supervisors and the airport commission should see approval to proceed from the county in late February or early March. In other airport news, we should see a construction road cut through off of Stokes Airport Road so that the contractor hired to remove the trees on the south side of the field can access them and haul them away. Additionally, the rehabilitation of the stone house is coming along and Reggie expects to move back there in a month or so.

Our next pre-season event is the mandatory Safety Meeting the 25th of February. We hope to have this meeting at the Warren County High School cafeteria. The library meeting room was already booked. Look for confirmation and directions soon. The meeting is required attendance. We know that some folks will not be able to attend for important reasons. If you cannot attend you are required to review the slides and inform Chuck Stover, the Safety Officer before you do anything at the field. This includes flying and standing your duty. As we traditionally do, there will be a hangar sweep out and flying will start directly after the meeting.

See you at the Safety Meeting. Until then, stay warm!

Cheers, Dan





2016 Individual Glider Achievement

| Longest Flights | | Miles Flown | |
|-----------------|-------|----------------|-------|
| Name | Hours | Name | Hours |
| John Anderson | 38 | Steve Anderson | 3,148 |
| John Anderson | 38 | John Anderson | 2,800 |
| John Anderson | 38 | John Anderson | 2,700 |
| John Anderson | 38 | John Anderson | 2,600 |
| John Anderson | 38 | John Anderson | 2,500 |
| John Anderson | 38 | John Anderson | 2,400 |
| John Anderson | 38 | John Anderson | 2,300 |
| John Anderson | 38 | John Anderson | 2,200 |
| John Anderson | 38 | John Anderson | 2,100 |
| John Anderson | 38 | John Anderson | 2,000 |
| John Anderson | 38 | John Anderson | 1,900 |
| John Anderson | 38 | John Anderson | 1,800 |
| John Anderson | 38 | John Anderson | 1,700 |
| John Anderson | 38 | John Anderson | 1,600 |
| John Anderson | 38 | John Anderson | 1,500 |
| John Anderson | 38 | John Anderson | 1,400 |
| John Anderson | 38 | John Anderson | 1,300 |
| John Anderson | 38 | John Anderson | 1,200 |
| John Anderson | 38 | John Anderson | 1,100 |
| John Anderson | 38 | John Anderson | 1,000 |
| John Anderson | 38 | John Anderson | 900 |
| John Anderson | 38 | John Anderson | 800 |
| John Anderson | 38 | John Anderson | 700 |
| John Anderson | 38 | John Anderson | 600 |
| John Anderson | 38 | John Anderson | 500 |
| John Anderson | 38 | John Anderson | 400 |
| John Anderson | 38 | John Anderson | 300 |
| John Anderson | 38 | John Anderson | 200 |
| John Anderson | 38 | John Anderson | 100 |
| John Anderson | 38 | John Anderson | 0 |



What You Can Do

- Make a tax deductible contribution to SSEF at our "away" days, our annual party, or today.
- When buying via AMAZON go to <https://smile.amazon.com> and enter Skyline Soaring Educational Foundation as your designee
- Mention us to family, friends & neighbors
 - We have a website <http://www.ssefva.org>
 - We have brochures
- Consider joining the SSEF board to help promote and ensure the long term future of soaring



Husky

- New in 1993, Club purchased August 2008
 - Last engine overhaul Dec 2012, at 2111 hours
- As of end of 2016
 - 2756 total hours (122 hrs flown in 2016)
 - 66 hrs indicated on new tach (replaced at 2699 hrs)
 - 1555 hours remaining until next engine overhaul
 - Use rate increasing
 - Work in progress to repair transponder, fix fuel
- Future work
 - Annual inspection due by end of Nov
 - Next major overhaul projected in 7-10 years
 - Transponder recert, upgrade for ADS-B compliance
 - Registration through Aug 2018



Report

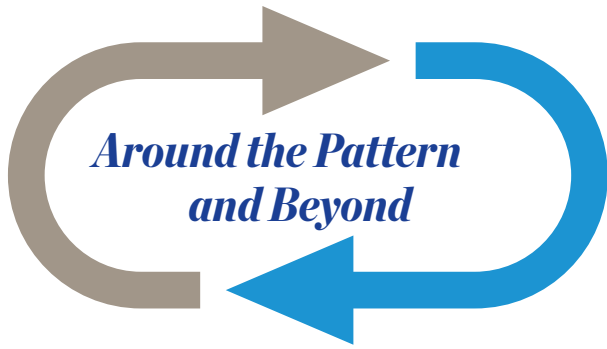
- We've had a good year
- Husky getting much greater utilization
- No significant incidents
- No accidents
- Increased interest by some to become tow



2016 Income Breakdown

| INCOME | Total | Budget | Delta |
|--------------------|-----------|-----------|----------|
| | Sum | | |
| Husky Tows | \$139,974 | \$128,987 | \$10,987 |
| Pawnee Tows | \$13,892 | | |
| Husky Rental | \$38,972 | | |
| ASK-21 Rental | \$1,530 | | |
| Grob 103 Rental | \$8,977 | | |
| Sprite 1-36 Rental | \$5,084 | | |
| Cirrus Rental | \$1,352 | | |
| Membership Dues | \$1,089 | | |
| Initiation Fees | \$43,713 | | |
| Hangar Sub-lease | \$6,500 | | |
| FAST Vouchers | \$8,090 | | |
| Miscellaneous | \$3,354 | | |
| | \$7,394 | | |

Total Flight Income of \$70,896 (\$12,269 less than 2015)



*Around the Pattern
and Beyond*



Photo: Kaye Ebelt

Skyliners, My airline bid to LAX as a crew base has finally come in, and it's now time to make my move to Reno, NV this spring. I'm sorry to say I'll not have the opportunity to do any local soaring, aerobatic instruction or towing this year, as moving will consume all of my foreseeable free time. I do hope to see you all at my new soaring club, Air Sailing/Nevada Soaring Association www.airsailing.org. Come on out and give it a try, but don't expect to not be spoiled.

I've discussed turning over hangar A-16 to a number of glider owners, and Reggie seems agreeable to having gliders in this hangar. When I vacate the hangar, I'll be giving away the paint booth I inherited, if anyone is interested. This move probably won't happen till mid 2017 at the earliest, and I'll be keeping up with interested parties as it approaches.

And, we'll need a new Cirrus meister.

Happy soaring,—*Curtis Wheeler*

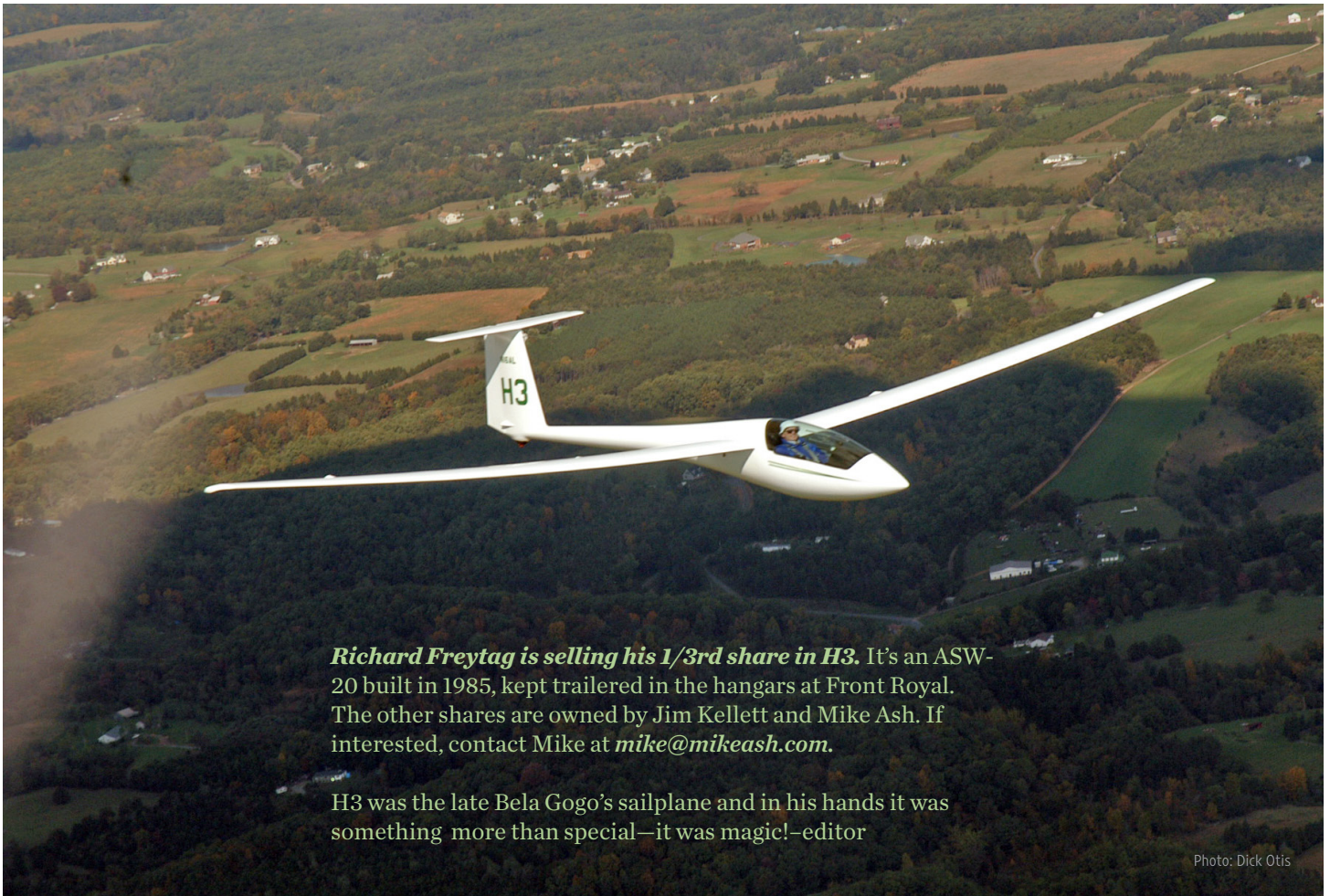
On February 6, I will start teaching a course on Aviation Technology at the Arlington Career Center. One of the goals of the class is that the students will take the FAA written exam for the Private Pilot Certificate. I can share a few old sectionals with the class but there are not enough to go around. If any of you have old expired sectionals to donate to the cause, please send them to me. Your contribution will be greatly appreciated,

Many thanks.

— ***Bill Vickland***

billvickland@verizon.net.

Very exciting!—As a courtesy to members of the FAA's Drone Advisory Committee, I'm invited to tour Tesla's battery Gigafactory. I'll have to sign an NDA to get in, and I won't be able to take photos, but I'm excited anyway.—*Martin Luis Gomez*



Richard Freytag is selling his 1/3rd share in H3. It's an ASW-20 built in 1985, kept trailered in the hangars at Front Royal. The other shares are owned by Jim Kellett and Mike Ash. If interested, contact Mike at mike@mikeash.com.

H3 was the late Bela Gogo's sailplane and in his hands it was something more than special—it was magic!—editor

Photo: Dick Otis

Remembering Bela: Bela was an extraordinary pilot who stayed up when everybody else was shot down after an hour or so. I remember him landing long after everybody else gave up due to weak lift and him saying he'd been to Petersburg and Charlottesville.

He was treasurer of SSC at the beginning while I was president. As such he kept the finances on an even keel during those first thin years, taking care of insurance as well as finances. SSC was basically an around the field outfit but he showed members that cross-country was easily doable. Of course, his humanity showed when he organized the fund to help Shane with his medical problem.

He, also, always seemed to have a smile in his eyes, if not on his lips.—***Spencer Annear***

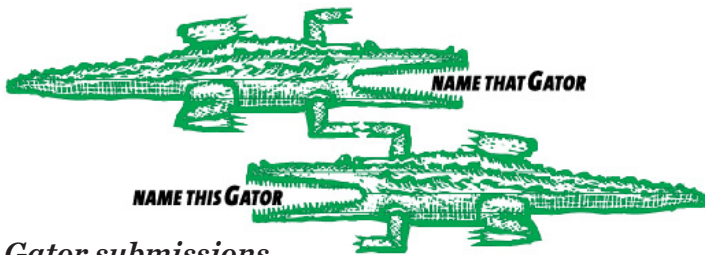


This photo of Bela Gogos, SSC Icon, is from Jim Kellett's WSC archive, photographer unlisted.



Identity Crisis?

Photo: Keith Hilton



Gator submissions

Icarus & Daedalus

Orville & Wilbur

Ernie & Bert

Tick & Tock

Wally & Gator

Brutus & Nero

G1 & G2

Thing 1 & Thing 2

Tick and Tack

Gator jr. & Gator sr.

Fred" & "Barney

1 & 2 (or nothing at all!)

Bob & Sallada

Kermit & Pepe

Follow Me One & Follow Me Two

Gator 1 & Gator 2

Tug 1 & Tug 2

Tuginator 1 & 2

Bela & Gogos


Bela & Susan

Gator Aid & Gator Too

Ali & Croc

Gator Rescue & Gator Aid

Green Hornet & Kato

Skyline Soaring Club being an email club that often flies and is political-neutral, the editor has omitted all Gator submissions that were political—regardless of how amusing they might be to some. Thanks to Reynolds Renshaw for creating this stimulating little exercise. In the March issue of Skylines (if not sooner) our wise leaders will figure out just where to go from here. 

Copy That



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

2017 Petersburg Wave Camp—New information

As advertised just after Christmas, there will be a wave camp in Petersburg, West Virginia this Spring sponsored by Stahl Flying Services (the Grant County FBO) and supported by Shenandoah Valley Soaring with towing and ground support.

The terrain around Petersburg produces some of the best wave in the region and the airport is perfectly situated for entry into the wave. A wave window to 23,000 feet MSL exists.

The camp will include more educational information about wave, wave weather and also try to have more social events this year. Larry Stahl would also like to have some advance registration for planning purposes.

Please Note—The Dates of the Wave Camp had to be changed because of many conflicts. The New Dates are Friday, March 24, 2017 thru Sunday, April 2, 2017.

The wave camp now has a website with information, a schedule and pictures Please have a look at the following URL: <http://2017wavecamp.weebly.com>

Also new is that you can now sign up via the website and it automatically sends your registration information to Larry Stahl and myself. If you are interested in attending, please ask them to sign up soon so we can begin to make plans for scheduling and staffing — **Jim Garrison, SSA Director, Regions 2 & 4**

I know several members who are already subscribers to “Gliding International”, the journal published in New Zealand, and I think they’ll back me up as recommending it to members as a very interesting bi-monthly read on soaring that, IMHO, is better than SOARING magazine!

It’s not cheap, but you can get an online version that’s less expensive than the printed one. See <https://www.glidinginternational.com/> — **Jim Kellett, Resident Curmudgeon**



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

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

I saw this at the container store, and knew that I had to have this. It’s designed for camera equipment. The foam blocks are pre-cut so you can carve out the right number of rectangular prisms to fit your equipment nicely.



I got tired of all the delicate equipment rattling around in the trunk after a long day, and I got tired of always forgetting something in the morning; or worse, having to delay my departure because I forgot one-more-thing. Charles Norman has a “Go Box”, a cheap Tupperware container that has all his glider goodies, so I thought I should have one, too.

Clockwise from 12 o’clock: Batteries, GoPro, 360Fly camera (new toy, super cool), USB sticks, USB pocket sized power brick charger, GoPro remote control (and wrist strap), Nano III. All items are arranged so that their USB ports are facing up, and could theoretically be charged while still in the box.

The Container Store has 2 containers like this, one is 50 bucks, the other (shown here) is 70. (AmazonSmile)

This is a pretty good winter project. — **Piet Barber**

Some great photos and videos well worth a visit or two:

While you were really freezing here in the Northern Hemisphere, the FAI World championships were taking place in Benalla, Australia.

See the latest at: <http://www.wgc2017.com/>

If you dig into the above site and look at the Brits facebook page there are lots of good pictures of Benalla and the surrounds

Or see the US teams facebook page at: <https://www.facebook.com/ussoaringteams/>

John Good is also doing periodic reports that have shown up on the SSA website.

Have fun avoiding work— **Jim Garrison**

The original model of the Starship Enterprise from the TV series of that name carried a “tail number” of NCC1701.

The model, which was about 15’ long, was built by Volmer Jensen, his son, and one other person. He was also a glider pilot—see his obit from SSA at

<http://www.ssa.org/FinalGlide?id=662>

Oh, and NCC1701 was taken from his Piper Cub!!
— **Jim Kellett, Resident Curmudgeon**