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**MINUTES**  
**Soaring Safety Foundation**  
**Board of Trustees Meeting (Virtual Online)**  
**February 23 and 25, 2021**

February 23, 2021: Virtual Meeting check-in, called to order at: 6:12 CST

February 25, 2021: Virtual Meeting check-in, called to order at: 6:08 CST

Trustees Attending: Rich Carlson, Burt Compton, Ron Ridenour, Steve Dee (Feb 23 only.)

Trustees unable to attend: Tom Johnson

Advisors Attending: Bernald Smith, Pat Costello, Bob Wander, Adam Kite, Glenn Collins

SSA Members Attending: None

**Approve previous Trustee Meeting Minutes:**

September 10, 2020 (virtual meeting)

Motion by Rich Carlson. Second by Steve Dee. Approved. Approved minutes to be transmitted by BC to SSF webmaster Brent Eigsti [brent@arrowheadim.com](mailto:brent@arrowheadim.com)

**Trustee Reports:**

**Richard Carlson, Chairman's Report**

2021 FIRC Schedule: 4 virtual FIRC's so far in 2021 (Schedule on the SSF webpage)

FIRC renewal with FAA due April 2022.

Current FIRC Handout: "Blue Threats" by Tony Kern

OSTIV. Rich Carlson is co-chairman of OSTIV Training & Safety Panel with Sweden's Henrik Svensson. Rich will serve on the OSTIV Board through 2021.

Trustee Renewals:

Tom Johnson and Rich Carlson expire Dec 31, 2022

Burt Compton expires Dec 31, 2023

Steve Dee and Ron Ridenour expire Dec 31, 2021

RC SSA Board of Directors meeting (Blue Book) report submitted.

RC Will engage the new Soaring magazine editor regarding SSF pre-publication peer review of training and safety articles along with photos in the magazine such as "selfie" images taken out of the canopy window.

RC BRONZE BADGE: Moved final test to electronic format from paper. SSAI certificate and authorization has an expiration date. E-mail to expiring SSAI's. Pins for SSF Wingrunner and Bronze course completion distributed to SSAI's..

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**Trustee Reports, *continued*:**

**Burt Compton**

“Could This Be You?” (formerly “Stop Crashing”) mailers that describe the outreach programs of the SSF and SSF website resources.

In 2021, two mailings of approximately 300 letters per mailing to all SSA Chapters (Clubs and Commercial Operators) and all SSA Directors and SSA State Governors.

Site Surveys:

2020: 12 Site Surveys conducted Utah, Texas, Ohio, Indiana, Illinois.

120 Site Surveys in 33 States conducted since 2001  
including the USAF Academy Glider Program.

Common observations include poor launch point organization, poor use of checklists, marginal operations for “convenience” such as intersection takeoffs and downwind landings towards aircraft at the launch point. Slow to clear gliders from the landing area.

Lack of “club management” regarding club pilots and visiting pilots’ pilot certificates, currency and proficiency. Inconsistent training technique by club CFGI’s.

BC: Site Survey protocol change regarding total confidentiality.

E-mail follow ups to contact persons about specific issues documented and confirm implementation of changes. Lack of implementation will be noted.

Repeat visits to sites may be necessary. Budget to be determined.

Articles. BC wrote one article (“Rusty Pilot”) for SOARING magazine in 2020.

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**Trustee Reports, *continued*:**

**Ron Ridenour, Treasurer's Report & Budget** (e-mailed to Trustees as separate files.)  
Motion to approve by Burt Compton. Second by Steve Dee. Approved  
Approved reports to be transmitted by RR  
to SSF webmaster Brent Eigsti: [brent@arrowheadim.com](mailto:brent@arrowheadim.com)

**Tom Johnson:**

Pins done for SSF Wingrunner Course and Bronze Badge completion  
sent to SSA HQ Hobbs.  
XX SSF Safety Seminars in spring 2020.  
SSF programs advertising in SOARING, restarted February 2021 issue.  
SSAI 5 year Renewal reminder advert in SOARING.  
Postcards for FIRC's in 2021.  
Flight Time Data Postcards mailed February 2021.  
Attending working group of the General Aviation Joint Steering Committee.  
Involvement with NTSB on accident analysis.

**Steve Dee:**

Assisted at one FIRC, created the motorglider lesson for the new FIRC course,  
wrote two articles for Soaring, and commented on others' submissions.

**Comments by SSF Advisors:**

Pat Costello: DPE's now covered under club and commercial operators' insurance.  
Webinars are trending to larger audiences rather than in-person seminars.  
Participation in SSA webinars with a 5 minute "commercial" promoting  
the SSF products.  
Burt Compton to compose a brief outline of the Site Survey process.  
1. Pre-Survey Advance communications.  
2. Agenda of the survey day (pre-briefing / observations / debrief meeting.)  
3. Post-survey Briefing at the site followed by a written report.  
4. Two follow up e-mails / calls to check implementation of safety suggestions.

Bernald Smith: Expansion of SSA funded Scholarships for new CFG's.  
SSF may fund 5% of the total CFG scholarship grant.

Bob Wander: Site Surveys must support the newer club safety officers with written  
reports and follow ups.  
Recognition item for people who visit the SSF website multiple times.

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**Old Business:**

Exemption Request / Modification 61.56 Transition Pilots for Glider Solo per 61.31(d)  
working with Noelle Mayes and Sean Elliot.

**New Business:** *See above comments.*

**Next SSF Trustees Meeting:**

Date and venue TBA. (Typically Friday before the Fall 2021 SSA Directors meeting.)

**Adjourn:** Feb 23. 8:17 PM CST RR Moved / RC Second.  
Feb 25. 7:53 PM CST RR Moved / RC Second