

## Soaring Safety Foundation

### Trustees Meeting Wichita, Kansas SEP 28, 2008

Minutes recorded by Burt Compton (last update 12/23/2008)

**Trustees Attending:** Richard Carlson, SSF Chairman,  
Gene Hammond, Bernald Smith, Burt Compton, Stephen Dee

SSF Advisors Attending: Pat Costello of Costello Insurance Associates

SSA Members Attending: Cindy Brickner, SSA Director. Steve Northcraft, SSA Director.

Meeting began at 08:05 am at the Best Western Motel by Wichita Airport.

**AGENDA BASHING:** No comments.

**MINUTES:** Read from previous meeting (Albuquerque, NM – FEB 2008)  
Motion to approve by BS, Second by GH, passed.

#### **TRUSTEES TERMS UPDATE:**

Gene Hammond:	Expires 12/31/2009
Stephen Dee:	Expires 12/31/2009
Bernald Smith:	Expires 12/31/2010
Richard Carlson:	Expires 12/31/2010
Burt Compton:	Expires 12/31/2011

**OLD BUSINESS:** Review Action Items from previous SSF meeting minutes:

**BC** draft new X-C mentor program guide. DONE, TO BE PUBLISHED IN SOARING.  
**BW** mail Sporty's DVD's to 2007 FIRC attendees. DONE.  
**RC** Send letter to SSA Directors promoting SSF products DONE  
**BC** Add Quotes to Site Survey brochure and update SSF web site DONE  
**SD** Edit "First Flight Guidelines" & "Recurrent Training Items" and submit to  
 SOARING for Fall 08 publication DONE  
**BS** coordinate with Steve Northcraft of the SSA Government Liaison Committee regarding SSA  
 response to ADS-B NPRM DONE

#### **INCOMPLETE OLD BUSINESS**

**ACTION ITEM:** RC obtain updated SSAI list and consider methods to give them guidance.

**ACTION ITEM:** RC update reporting form.

**ACTION ITEM:** RC annual safety report and Web site updates.

**TRUSTEE REPORTS:**

Carlson – SSF Chariman Report

Interaction with SSA is quiet regarding finances.

SSF participation in SSA Sport Pilot Growth & Promotion Committee

**ACTION ITEM:** RC will send a message to the SSA ExCom that the Growth & Promotion committee proposal to grow SSA membership via the Sport Pilot is unacceptable due to inaccurate information regarding training requirements. The SSF needs to be consulted regarding realistic training requirements for Light Sport Glider Pilots. Fostering growth by a perceived reduced level of training is not recommended.

Compton: 7 SSF Site Surveys conducted January through September 2008 in Florida, Virginia (2), Wisconsin, Iowa, Minnesota, Nevada.

Compton elected to Director At Large by SSA Board. Term begins JAN 1, 2009.

Dee: Awarded FFAST Team Representative of the Year for Memphis FSDO.

Hammond: FIRC TCO note that FIRC TCO approval needs to be submitted by OCT 2009.

Smith: Treasurer's Report (mid-year)

Budget Report (mid-year)

Draft Budget for 2009: \$51,500.

BS Moved to approve draft budget, SD seconded, passed.

**ACTION ITEM: RC/BS Rectify Media 3 credit card billing method.**

**SSF FIRC PROGRAM**

6 FIRC'S accomplished in 2008 (Oct 2007 to Oct 2008)

133 FIRC attendees in 2008.

Instructors Available: Carlson, Dee, Burkhart, Carswell, Wander, Compton

In 2009, 8 FIRC's are anticipated:

Chicago, IL  
Philadelphia, PA  
Anchorage, AK  
Caesar Creek, OH  
Washington, DC  
Finger Lakes, NY  
Lakeland, FL  
Tidewater, VA

Patricia Wager is coordinating FIRC requests. Contact via the SSF website.

RC No fall-off in FIRC attendance. Many positive comments.

SD FIRC logistics are good, but dependent on RC availability.

Discussion of request for ACR designation to issue Temporary CFI Certificates after a FIRC.

BC Estimated 15 minutes minimum time per applicant. (20 applicants = 5 hours.)

SD Any errors on the 8710-1 airman applications will penalize the ACR / DPE, may not reflect well on the SSF FIRC program in the eyes of the FAA.

(Noted that Compton and Dee are FAA Designated Pilot Examiners, familiar with the process and the critical details of issuing a FAA Temporary CFI Certificate.)

GH Do not offer the Temporary Certificate service at FIRC.

RC Will explore obtaining ACR authority, for occasional use for last-minute renewals.

RC SSF will charge for this service.

FIRC NSM/NSF FUNDS DISBURSEMENT

\$2,269.80 received in 2008 from NSM.

Plan for 2008 is to give Sporty's DVD's to 2008 FIRC attendees.

Motion by BC to give Wander's "Learning To Fly Gliders" lesson plans book, and "Safer Soaring" book to every FIRC attendee in 2009, seconded by GH, passed.

**SAFETY SEMINARS (Oct 2007 – Oct 2008)**

5 Seminars accomplished, more than previous years.

**SSF PROGRAM PROMOTION**

Costello offered to send the SSF programs letter twice per year, spring & fall.

**ACTION ITEM:** RC will reprint the letters, send to Costello for mailing.

**SSF ANNUAL SAFETY REPORT**

**ACTION ITEM:** RC to complete.

**SSF WEB SITE**

RC would like short, well focused on-line training courses on the SSF website, possibly using the Condor soaring simulator. (Draft Budget for \$10,000)

**NEW SSF TRAINING MATERIALS (posters, videos, books, articles)**

Certificates for Clubs and Operators noting SSAI's, attendance at Clinics  
Motion by BS, second by SD, passed.

**ACTION ITEM:** BS to develop FIRC certificate for SSA Instructors.

**ACTION ITEM:** Bob Wander to mail Sporty's DVD's to FIRC 2008 attendees  
(BW NEEDS NAMES OF 2008 FIRC ATTENDEES.)

**ACTION ITEM:** FIRC TCO approval needs to be submitted by OCT 2009.

Bob Wander DVD: Pat Costello suggested a DVD of a Bob Wander seminar.  
Costello suggested that financing may be arranged from outside donations.

BC to check time and cost with Bob Wander & Kevin May for a "Best of Bob"  
(temporary working title) of 60 minute, 4 segment seminars, done in studio, with FAQ's,  
powerpoint slides. Topics from "Safer Soaring" book?

**ARP PROGRAM**

First Flight:  
Publish Steve Dee's "First Flight Guide" for instructors and candidate in December SOARING.

**SSF ARTICLES IN SOARING MAGAZINE**

**ACTION ITEM:** Soaring magazine articles (one page items are 800 words) / submit to BS.

**2009 ARTICLES**

JAN "First Flight" (BS)  
FEB "Roll Out" (BC/PC)  
MAR "Checklists" (Diane Black-Nixon)  
APR "Annual Accident Report" (RC)  
MAY "Signals in Training" (GH)  
JUN "Rudder Waggle / Wave Off" (RC)  
JUL "Cross Country Mentor" (BC)  
AUG Topic from past "Sailplane Safety" articles (GH/BS)  
SEP "Club Management" (BC/PC)  
OCT Topic from past "Sailplane Safety" articles (GH/BS)  
NOV Topic from past "Sailplane Safety" articles (GH/BS)  
DEC "SSF End of Year" (BS)

SSF to continue to review training and safety articles in SOARING.  
RC will receive all safety and training articles via SOARING editor, then contact author.

Discussion of the Thelen articles. RC reviews and considers these articles as "editorial."

BC noted that many SSA members mistakenly regard the Thelen articles as "authoritative."  
GH noted that accidents with fatalities must not be written until NTSB conclusions.  
BS proposes that SSF have strong oversight of what Thelen writes.  
RC to change the SSF review procedure to higher level of editing and eliminate speculation.

Additional Articles. "Accidents That Almost Happened" article series – solicit input.

**NEW BUSINESS**

**Winch Launch Training.** Ground Launching concerns expressed by Pat Costello as he is receiving requests from SSA members for more coverage for winch launching.

The AIG Underwriters may be concerned about:

- Winch "operators" and how they are initially trained and recurrent training.
- Cable falling onto property and causing damage or injury after glider release
- Conflict of winch launching at airports where powered aircraft are also operating.

Costello suggests that the SSF should assist in training winch operators.

BS SSF articles have addressed pilots, but not necessarily the winch operators.

RC Towpilots / self-launching criteria are established by FAR's and AC's.

Consider minimum training for winch operators per BGA training manual.

BC Whiteley and Daniels are traveling to USA operators and report that most of the winches used in the USA are very different.

RC Dean Carswell is an experienced ground-launch training resource.

PC The insurance underwriters want to know:

1. Criteria for winch operator training?
2. How to train winch operators?
3. Who will offer the training?
4. Recurrent training for both operators and pilots?

Steve Northcraft observation: BGA Winch Operators Manual is online.

BS SSF must be proactive and address the training of winch operators.

**ACTION ITEM:** GH Send Costello's questions to clubs and COBM's to get input on how they train winch launch operators and pilots. Ask about current and future winch ops.

**ACTION ITEM:** BS/GH To contact TSP for winch operating training suggestions, training regulations, winch specs. Review American Soaring Handbook on ground launching.

**ACTION ITEM:** GH Look at spec's for winches being built commercially in California.

**ACTION ITEM:** RC Identify experts in winch operator training.

**ACTION ITEM:** BC Contact CFI Thomas Wendl in Germany re. winch operator training.

**Soaring Safety Foundation**  
**Trustees Meeting Wichita, Kansas SEP 28, 2008**

*Minutes recorded by Burt Compton (last update 12/23/2008)*

**NEXT SSF TRUSTEES MEETING**

Friday, JAN 23 Chicago. SSA Directors meeting Holiday Inn ORD 8 AM to 4 PM.  
Friday evening, JAN 23 Chicago. SSF Trustees meeting Holiday Inn ORD 5 PM.  
Sat + Sun JAN 24 + 25 Chicago area (Naperville). SSF to conduct a FIRC.

**ADJOURN:** Motion by GH, seconded by SD, passed. Meeting ended at 3:50 PM.