

Minutes recorded by Burt Compton

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

SSA Members Attending: Pat Costello, SSF Advisor / Costello Insurance Associates

Minutes read from previous meeting (Memphis, TN – FEB 2007)
Motion to approve by BS, Second by SD, Passed.

TRUSTEE REPORTS

Chairman's Report (Rich Carlson)

Rich Carlson gave specific recognition to Gene Hammond and Bernald Smith for their continuing service and patience with the recent SSA / SSF relationship.

Discussion of MOU with SSA Directors. MOU (final) of Sep 29, 2007 attached.

Rich Carlson composed letters mailed to all SSA Chapters and the SSA Directors promoting and describing the SSF programs, including the FIRC's, SSF Safety Seminars and Site Surveys 310 letters were pre-folded into ready-to-mail envelopes (postage paid for by Costello), mailed mid-May, 2007.

New SSF "Pattern" Posters: Rich Carlson and Gene Hammond hand packaged, addressed and mailed new SSF "Which Pattern?" posters to every SSA Chapter in July 2007.

The SSA Board of Directors (by unanimous vote) approved the appointment of Richard Carlson and Bernald Smith as SSF Trustees to serve three year terms starting JAN 1, 2008.

*** Action Item: Rich Carlson to generate a similar letter promoting the SSF programs to the SSA Directors and Chapters for mailing by Costello in mid-2008.**

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SSAI Master Program (Burt Compton)

BC states that the new application criteria established in 2006 should be maintained and new / renewing SSA Instructors seeking the "Master" cross country instructor designation must comply with the new continuing education aspects of the program.

The SSAI "Master" criteria include:

1. Mandatory attendance (and completion) at a SSF glider-specific FIRC in the past three years.
2. Awarding at least three Bronze Badges in the past two years.
3. A minimum of actual cross country instruction given either by team flying in single seat sailplanes or dual instruction given in two seat sailplanes.
4. Participation in cross country seminars, writing articles for "Soaring" or club newsletters, creating media (powerpoint) for cross country training.

The former criteria relating to SSAI activities in an SSF approved cross country "camp" are maintained. Only two of these camps are currently held in the US each year, not as many as originally envisioned, so the new criteria were added in 2006..

A new or renewing SSAI "Master" can also be designated outright by careful evaluation by the Chief SSAI Master Cross Country Instructor (Compton).

Compton received unanimous support of the SSF Trustees for maintaining the new criteria / higher standards for "Master" SSAI designations.

SSAI "Cross Country Mentor Guide": Bernald Smith started a discussion suggesting that the SSF support and encourage cross-country mentoring by the SSA Instructors who cannot meet the higher continuing education criteria for the "Master" designation. This would include and go beyond the Bronze Badge training. A reference guide will be developed for SSAI's called the "SSF Cross Country Mentor Guide", as a tool for use by SSA Instructors.

*** Action Item: BC to draft a program guide in outline form to be used by SSAI's to mentor pilots beyond the Bronze Badge. Suggested topics include crewing, trailer preparation, and a list of texts and resources.**

Site Survey Report (Burt Compton)

38 Site Surveys conducted since 2001 in all SSA Regions.

3 conducted in 2007 in FL, NY, NJ.

Noted was the need for better penetration of the 150 + clubs and the commercial operators.

SSA Directors are reminded by the annual Carlson letter and in his report to the SSA Board that Site Surveys and other SSF programs are "by invitation", as neither the SSF nor the SSA has authority to force a Site Survey, SSF Seminar, nor FIRC without invitation.

Compton created the "Safety Officer's Training Guide" as a direct result of observations made to date at Site Surveys. Although Site Surveys are confidential, general, common weaknesses are addressed through this guide, 29 pages in hard copy, now published on the SSF website.

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SSF Activities at the SSA Convention (Burt Compton)

FIRC (Tuesday and Wednesday)
SSF Seminar (Wednesday 6 – 9 PM)
SSA Instructors and Towpilots Breakfast (Thursday 7:30 AM)
SSF Booth Wednesday through Saturday on the convention floor)

*** Action Item: Compton to confirm with SSA Staff that the SSF Seminar on Wednesday night will have the adequate seating, audio-visual support.**

It was agreed that the SSF should continue to present a FIRC at the proposed "SSA Symposium" to be held in the odd years, as the full SSA Convention will only be held in even years after 2008.

Motorgliders (Stephen Dee)

Total number of "motorized" gliders, includes sustainers, touring motorgliders, self-launch gliders, by the FAA Registry web site: 447

Manufacturers sample: DG: 84, Ximango: 51, Grob 103SL and Grob 109: 53

Treasurer's Report (Gene Hammond)

Gene Hammond resigned as the SSF Treasurer (but not as a SSF Trustee).

Motion that Bernald Smith to be appointed as the SSF Treasurer.
SD moved / GH seconded motion passed, Bernald Smith will assume SSFTreasurer duties.

Bernald Smith developed the 2008 Draft Budget.
Motion to approve 2008 Draft Budget. BS moved / SD seconded. Motion passed.

Accident Reports (Bernald Smith)

Accidents trends discussed.

*** Action Item: RC to update reporting form.**

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SSF Training and Safety Articles for "Soaring" magazine (Bernald Smith)

*** Action Items:**

Jan 2008 Wander "First Flight / Recurrency"
Feb 2008 Compton "Safety Officer's Training Guide"
Mar 2008 Steve Dee "Density Altitude"

Resurrection of the "American Soaring Handbook"

RC The ASH is topic specific, allowing the SSF to target safety issues.
Rewrite certain chapters to reflect contemporary procedures and techniques will require expert authors, to be edited by the SSF.
BS To determine costs, and marketability. SD made motion / BS seconded. Motion passed.

ADSB

To be implemented in the USA. Pilot education on instrument use to be part of the SSF mission.

Wake Turbulence

ALPA magazine published an excellent photo of a B-757 generating wake turbulence.
Image to be used at the FIRC.

NEW BUSINESS

Approval of the new Memorandum Of Understanding (MOU) with the SSA.

Motion to approve the MOU dated SEP 29, 2007 by BS, seconded by SD, motion passed.

FIRC's

Patricia Wager will handle FIRC logistics, and be the contact person on SSF website.

*** Action Item: Patricia Wager to contact SSA regarding FIRC at the Albuquerque.**

FIRC's confirmed in 2008:

Seattle, WA

RC to discuss flat fee of \$3,000 rather than individual fee with Seattle organizers.

Albuquerque, NM

Charlottesville, VA

Potential FIRC's:

Long Beach, CA

Denver, CO

Ann Arbor, MI

*** Action Item: Bob Wander to mail the Sporty's "Transition to Gliders" Video to 2007 FIRC attendees, along with cover letter, per NSM agreement.**

Motion by BS to continue the Sporty's Video program in 2008.
Seconded by SD. Motion passed.

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Safety Seminars

Bob Wander to arrange and conduct seminars for the SSF.

Annual Safety Report

** Action Item - RC to compile and publish.*

Website Usage

** Action Item - RC to report.*

Posters

New themes include density altitude, human factors.

Advertising & Fund-Raising Activities

** Action Item – RC to reprint letters for Costello to mail in late January*

SSA at the SSA Convention

Wednesday night SSF Seminar

Speakers:

Steve Dee "Motorgliders / Density altitude"

Pat Costello "CFIG Student Supervision"

Burt Compton "SSF XC Mentor Program"

Bob Wander "Soaring Safety"

SSF Booth

Videos (VHS) to give away

Videos (DVD) to give away

SSF Credit Cards

RC and BC turned cards over to GH. No credit cards are outstanding.

** Action Item – GH to cancel all cards*

Site Survey checks and expense forms to be mailed to:

Soaring Safety Foundation
Bernald S. Smith, Treasurer
Box 3075
Fremont, CA 94539-0307

Adjorn. GH moved SD seconded.