

Airworthy

The Official Journal of the Black Forest Soaring Society

24566 David C. Johnson Loop
Elbert, CO 80106



Volume 34 Number 4

April 2022

Club Web Page: SoarBFSS.org

Airworthy Archive: SoarBFSS.org/Airworthy

Facebook Group Page: [BFSS Member Only Page](#)

Facebook External Page: [BFSS Public Page](#)

Kelly AWOS Cam: [Weather Cams](#)

FROM THE EDITOR

April is here and with it the beginning of soaring season. March was a typical Colorado spring— heavy, wet snow one day, beautiful, warm weather the next, then wind. Rinse and repeat. Still we got a few nice days in as well as a Private Pilot checkride. Congratulations **Ethan!**

While the club is not going to move operations in May, there are still plenty of adventures about. **Alice** and I are heading to Moriarty in late May for a week of flying. We're hoping others are going to join us. There are lots of local things going on too.

If Moriarty is too far, I encourage you to take a weekend and check out the Colorado Soaring Association folks at Owl Canyon Gliderport, or our friends at Soaring Society of Boulder. It will be a good time to see how other clubs work.

Finally, a special shout out to **John Gillis**. John has shouldered the burden of keeping the club flying, especially this last month. In March he plowed snow over and over again. He met the fuel truck, flew as towpilot and brought up the big screen tracker in the club house. All this was in addition to his duties as Board member and club Treasurer. Thanks, John. Go to the head of the tow line.

Mark Palmer, Editor



*Evening lennies, 3/12/2022
Photo by Mark Palmer*

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE by Bif Huss

The cumulus over Kelly have ended their winter hibernation. The last weekend in March saw numerous BFSS pilots taking advantage of the burgeoning soaring season and start to venture away from Kelly. This is good news since the Kelly Airpark runway improvement is still on track to shut down operations in May. I encourage all of you to get as much soaring in as possible before the runway work commences. For those of you planning to fly BFSS's new ASW-19, this is a great time to get checked out so you can be ready to take advantage of the great flying conditions that should exist when we get back to operating in June.

As of this time, we are not planning on operating remotely in May during the runway resurfacing. It was not possible to find hangar space at an airfield suitable for our operations and the danger to our fleet from hail damage was not something we wished to risk. We do plan on using the down period to hold our Annual Membership Meeting. The meeting is tentatively scheduled to be held on May 7th. BFSS will be looking to fill four Board of Directors slots at this meeting. These positions are for two-year terms. If you are interested in having a direct influence on guiding the direction of the BFSS, I encourage you to run for a BOD position.

Work is progressing well on the L-23 repair. The damaged skin has been removed and we are now awaiting parts.

I'd like to congratulate **Ethan Hitz** and **Patrick Mendonca** on receiving Steve Johnson Youth Scholarships for 2022. These deserving young pilots both received \$500 scholarships to use for flying at BFSS.

Last week, our new towplane, 41Y, departed Vermont on its journey to Kelly. **Al Hoover** is ably piloting 41Y on its way to its new home. Piloting an aircraft that cruises at 95 mph and needs to stay VFR is proving challenging, but Al is up to the task. We are expecting 41Y to complete the journey the first week in April and look forward to hearing of Al's adventure.

As for me, **Ceil** and I are still on Soaring Safari. We left Seminole Lake Glider Port last week after having a great three weeks of flying. I highly encourage you to make the trip to Seminole sometime if you want to get an early start to the season. We are now taking a break at the beach before traveling to the Region 5 Contest in April.

See you at cloud base!

Bif



*Bif awaiting launch at the Seniors
Photo by Bill Van Law*

CALENDAR

Board of Directors Meetings

April 12, 2022 6:30 PM – 9:00 PM
Via Zoom

May 10, 2022 6:30 PM – 9:00 PM
Via Zoom

Wings Over the Rockies Exploration of Flight
April 23, 2022, 10:00 AM – 2:00 PM
Centennial Airport

1-26 Championships
May 3 – 12, 2022
Chilhowee Gliderport, Benton TN

Annual Club Meeting
May 7, 2022 9:30 to whenever
Safety meeting, club meeting, barbeque

Standard and 20-Meter Multi-seat Nationals
June 7 – 16, 2022
Sunflower Gliderport, Yoder, KS
(Go Team H7!)

Open Class and 15-Meter Nationals
June 23 – July 2, 2022
Hobbs, NM

Kelly Air Park Pancake Breakfast Fly-in
July 9, 2022, 7:00 AM – 11:00 AM

Women's Cross Country Camp
July 3 – 8, 2022
Moriarty, NM

Club Class Nationals
August 30 – September 8, 2022
Moriarty, NM

WSPA Women's Soaring Seminar
September 12 – 16, 2022
Chilhowee, TN

Downhill Dash
Summer, 2022

BFSS Saturday Potluck Barbeque (after flying)
Will begin again in the spring

FLEET UPDATE

- ASK-21 (77)** – ClearNav's reinstalled
- 2-33 (840)** – Nothing to report
- Blanik L-23 (9BA)** – Progress made on repair
- Blanik L-13AC (2BA)** – Tailwheel bolt replaced
- AC-4C Russia (87E)** – Back in the air after cosmetic repairs
- PW-5 (1GM)** – Nothing to report
- ASW-19 (Z3)** – New (to us) vario installed
- Pawnee (76S)** – Nothing to report
- Pawnee (41Y)** – On its way!

FRIENDLY REMINDER

The spring wet season is here. Please, DO NOT drive the golf carts on the grass. Driving on the grass could result in deep ruts and a lot of headaches for the club and airpark users. Be especially careful when driving on the edges of the taxiways as they can be very soft.



Roland Laning enjoying his First Flight with Mark Palmer, 3/4/2022

OPS DUTY CALENDAR

Here is the Ops Duty schedule for April:

Dunmall, Chris	04/02/2022
Tomanek, Wojciech	04/03/2022
Abbe, Joshua	04/09/2022
Urschel, Pete	04/10/2022
Baumgartner, Fred	04/16/2022
Boerner, Raul	04/17/2022
Brown, Dylan	04/23/2022
Buist, Mark	04/24/2022
VOLUNTEER NEEDED	04/30/2022
VOLUNTEER NEEDED	05/01/2022

Since the Airpark runway is due to be under construction in May, there will be no GOD calendar for that month. The new schedule will start up June 3rd. Check the GOD schedule on the club website for a look ahead.

Be sure to go to the calendar page on the website and put yourself down in the Line Volunteer column for the day you're assigned.

Remember, if you can't make your duty assignment, you must find a replacement. Once that is done, contact [Joshua Abbe](#) and let him know so he is aware of the change.

MEMBER MEETING – MAY 7TH!

The BFSS 2022 Annual Meeting of the Membership will be held on Saturday, May 7. Please plan to participate and make your voice heard.

The day will begin at 9:30 AM with a safety meeting, to be led by **Mark Palmer**, our Safety Officer. Mark has three important topics that apply to all members. From 10:30 to 12:30, we will conduct the Annual Meeting, discussing an agenda, which will be emailed to the membership in advance of the meeting.

As usual, we will have a financial review, and reports from each of the committee chairs regarding the past year's accomplishments and plans for this year. The last item will be the election of new directors.

This year, we will be voting on four positions. If you would like to join the Board, or can nominate another member who is interested, please reply to me at brian47price@gmail.com.

After 12:30 PM, we will all share in a club BBQ. This is in place of our usual winter party, which was cancelled in the midst of Omicron. Please stay for this, as it will include the announcement of club awards and other entertainment.

Thanks. We are looking forward to a valuable day of club activity.

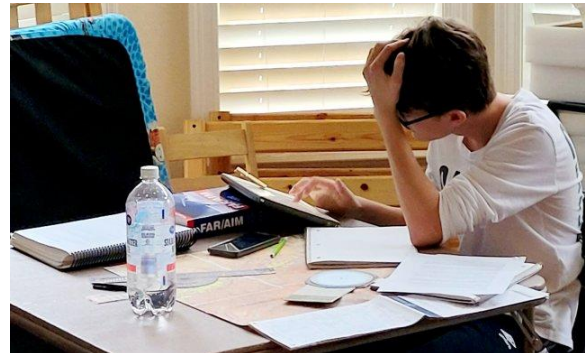
Brian Price, Secretary

CONGRATULATIONS BIF!

Bif won the first contest day and finished 4th overall at the Seniors competition in Florida. See pictures in the Photo section.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Ethan Hitz – Passed his Private Pilot practical test on his 16th birthday. And we all got cake!



*The Joy of Studying for an Oral Exam
Photo by Stacy Hitz*

Kevin LaFollette – PW-5 checkout, and B Badge on his second flight in the ship

Patrick Mendonca – B Badge

Kip McClain – First Flight with **Mark Palmer**

Roland Laning – First Flight with **Mark Palmer**

Bill Gerblick – First Flight with **Raul Boerner**, including completion of a WINGS phase

Clay Thomas – Had one of his beautiful photos showcased in the March 11 edition of [Air Facts Magazine](#)

Becky Kinder – Back seat checkout in the 2-33

THANK YOU!

John Gillis – For snow plowing at the clubhouse and the field—several times

Al Hoover – For the epic journey that was retrieving 41Y (see some pictures in the photo section)

Chris and Sharon Dunmall – For donating the sideboard for the front room in the clubhouse

Vitaliy Aksyonov, Donald Hannon, Chris Dunmall, and Mike Kinder – For moving the sideboard

Chris Dunmall – For cleaning the inside windows of the computer room

Lauri Hoover – For vacuuming the clubhouse before the KAP meeting. She used the Hoover vacuum that she and **Al Hoover** donated. A Hoover Hoovers.

Becky Kinder, Alice Palmer, and Mark Palmer – For cleaning out old drawers and file cabinets (30-year-old paper records), and cleaning the clubhouse (an ongoing job with the wet spring sand)

Mike Kinder – Donated the new welcome mats



The ATC flag is now stored in the cabinet in the battery room.

Kevin LaFollette, Bill Patrick, Zach Paluch, Donald Hannon, Zolt Silberer, Mark Palmer – For derigging and flipping the Russia fuselage to make repairs

Donald Hannon, Vitaliy Aksyonov, Bill Patrick, Mike Kinder, Alex Nadein, Mark Palmer – For rigging and flipping the Russia back on its feet (foot?).

Bill Patrick – For repairing the belly of the Russia and repairing the tail dolly

Doug Curry – For his work on the Russia, L-13, Pawnee, and ongoing work on the L-23

Donald Hannon and Mark Palmer – For bleeding the brakes on the Russia and getting it ready for return to flight

Wojtek Tomanek – For vacuuming out the interior of 840

Brandon Kolk – For printing documents for the instructors

Dave Hitz, Stan Bissell, Mark Palmer – For snow shoveling

Stan Bissell, Chris Dunmall, Vitaliy Aksyonov, Zach Paluch, Bill Patrick, Wojtek Tomanek, Mark Palmer, Patrick Mendonca – For extra GOD duty

Deb Ings and Mark Palmer – For reinstalling the ClearNavs in the ASK-21

Dave Rolley, Vitaliy Aksyonov, and Wojtek Tomanek – For working on the avionics on the ASW-19

John Mann – For all the work behind the scenes to coordinate maintenance on our entire fleet

Bill Gerblich, Doug Curry, Bif Huss, John Gillis, John Mann, Al Hoover, and probably others we've missed – For all the work needed to get 41Y to its new home

THANK YOU BFSS MEMBERS!

There are so many people we needed to thank this month, and we hope we included everyone. If we've missed thanking anyone, please let us know and we'll catch you next month. We have a great club!

THANK YOU ALL by Ethan Hitz

Thank you so much to all the wonderful people of BFSS for helping me get my license. All the hard work and commitment from you guys really helped make my experience super smooth. I especially want to thank **Alice** and **Vitaliy** for their super helpful ground work, and **Stan** for his incredible flight instruction as well as **John Gillis** and others for plowing off the airfield just a few days before my checkride so I could fly. Also a special thanks to the members and Board of Directors of BFSS for the scholarship. (That money will be going to good use over the summer!)

Once again, thanks so much to everyone involved in getting my license.

Ethan Hitz



DPE Quay Snyder, Ethan Hitz, and CFI Stan Bissell after Ethan's successful Private checkride

AVIATION SYMPOSIUM APRIL 21, 2022

There will be a free aviation symposium, Saturday, May 21, 2022, at the Exploration of Flight Hangar, 13005 Wings Way, Englewood, CO 80112. The hangar is located on the south side of Centennial Airport.

The two-part program will include:

Dagmar Kress, World Aerobatic Championship Competitor and Metro State Aviation Program Lecturer. Dagmar will present a riveting video presentation on stall recovery from various spin entries and recoveries, including inverted and crossover spins. Skills for both power and glider pilots. 1-hour WINGS credit.

H. (Walt) Green, FAA Designated Parachute Rigger Examiner for the DEN FSDO will present an informative program on emergency bailout parachute usage. The presentation will use professionally produced videos and live demonstrations, including dragging a "volunteer" at high speed behind a golf cart to show how to recover from being dragged by high winds! 1-hour WINGS credit.

RSVPs are requested but not required:

bailoutpilot@hotmail.com .

FATHERS AND SONS – AND BROTHERS

March was a month for Fathers and Sons and Brothers. First, on March 13th, **Dylan Brown** took his brother **Carson** for a flight in the Blanik, 2BA. That was warmup, because on March 27th, he took his dad, **Craig**, for Craig's first two flights in a glider. Craig came down from both flights with a smile on his face!

Also on March 27th, **Ethan Hitz** took his father, **Dave**, for a nice soaring flight in 2BA. Dave had spent many of his weekends since late last summer shuttling his son to BFSS for lessons. Dave seemed to really enjoy his flight and had a great time with his son at the controls. The flight had been delayed a day as new Private Pilot Ethan discovered a broken tailwheel bolt on his preflight. Nice catch, Ethan.

LOOKING TO THE FUTURE by John Mann

Recently, my sister visited Colorado with her two teenage granddaughters, **Emma** and **Alice Eaker**. As part of the visit, I invited the girls for a glider ride at BFSS.

I asked **Deb Ings** if she would be able to fly the girls so that they would enjoy the soaring experience while seeing a potential future for themselves in aviation.

Many thanks to Deb for making the time in her schedule to give these girls such an awesome experience!

John Mann



Emma Eaker, Deb Ings, Alice Eaker

KELLY AIRPARK PANCAKE BREAKFAST JULY 9

The Kelly Airpark homeowners would like to extend an invitation to our aviation and non-aviation friends and neighbors for our Annual Pancake Breakfast at **Jim** and **Cindy Norman's** hangar, located one hangar south of BFSS.

Kelly Airpark (CO15) is planning a fly-in breakfast Saturday, 9 July 2022 from 7:00 am to 11:00 am. Expect this to be a very busy day at the Airpark with lots of visiting power traffic!

For more information contact:
Jim and Cindy Norman: 703-786-8217,
james.norman@verizon.net

Jamie Treat Phone: 303-304-7937,
JamieTreat397@gmail.com

SPRING ELECTRONICS CLEANING by John Gillis

It's that time of year that we start coming out of winter hibernation, extract our ships from their cryogenic pods, and turn our sun-deprived faces toward the cloud streets.

For you private ship owners (and now the ASW-19 too), it's also time to do some spring cleaning of your electronics. Most electronic instrument manufacturers release an annual update in the spring for their devices (if they are still in business). So it's best to jump on their websites and see if there's an update for your devices. Usually in some setup screen, it will display the firmware version currently installed. In my case, I have a TrafficView80, S80 Club vario, and Powermouse FLARM.

<https://gliding.lxnav.com/lxdownloads/>

If the vendor offers a newer version of the firmware, it's usually a good idea to update it. There may not be an update if nothing was changed for that instrument.

If you have a FLARM Fusion or its older brother Power Flarm, you head to
<https://flarm.com/support/firmware-updates/download-firmware/>.

If you have an LXNav Powermouse, you download the FLARM firmware from LXNav.

It is required that everyone with FLARM update to the annual release, in this case 7.06.
From FLARM.com:

"From the March 2015 Update, every FLARM device needs to be updated with the latest firmware version at least once per year (rolling 365 days). This has to be part of the Aircraft Maintenance Program (AMP). The entry in the AMP is to be made during installation. If you have a FLARM installation that is not previously monitored by the AMP, an entry should be made as soon as possible."

If you don't, your FLARM will become disabled because it may not be compatible with others flying the latest release. The current download expires 1/10/2023 (is that Jan/10/2023 or Oct/01/2023?), so if you haven't already updated yours, you probably are already out of date and disabled.

While you are at it, you can download the latest Flarmnet file which has all the latest FLARM IDs, so when you get a ping on your screen, you can easily see who it is. In your traffic display, the FLARM ID of the target is sent to your device. Your device compares that ID to the file uploaded and then will display the Contest ID instead of the FLARM ID. If you don't update, new entries will just show up as a hexadecimal FLARM ID.

<https://www.flarmnet.org/flarmnet/downloads/>

Lastly, it's probably a good idea to update your turnpoints and airspace files while you are at it.
<https://soaringweb.org/>

Of course your portable electronics also can use an occasional update. However, usually they self update when they are connected to the web and talk back to the mother ship.

The process is pretty simple. Go to the websites, select the correct download file for your device, and copy it to either an SD card or

USB stick. Then follow your manufacturer's instructions to upload the file into the instrument.



*John Gillis runs through the checklist prior to launching in 77.
Wojtek Tomanek is ready as GOD.*

2022 BFSS Winter/Spring XC Training Seminars by Dave Rolley

The seminars will be held every other Friday beginning at 7 PM, and will run through May 13th. The sessions will be 1 to 3 hours in duration. Most sessions should be about 2 hours. Check your FAA WINGS webinar email announcements to sign up.

Current schedule:

Session 6: April 1, 7:00 pm: Collision Avoidance Technology

Presenter: Dave Rolley

Description: Transponders and FLARM, types of units, usage, what they can, and what they cannot do.

Session 7: April 15, 7:00 pm: Model-based Weather Forecasting

Presenter: Dave Rolley

Description: Examples using the Colorado Front Range RASP tool and SkySight

Session 8: April 29, 7:00 pm: Flight Tracking

Presenter: Dave Rolley

Description: Satellite-based (SPOT, InReach),
SmartPhone-based, FLARM-based,
Transponder-based (ADS-B-Out)

Session 9: May 13, 7:00 pm: Online Soaring
Contest

Presenter: Dave Rolley

Description: It's all for fun, but if it isn't on the
OLC, it didn't happen.

SHIPS FOR SALE

Have a ship you want to sell? Looking for a
partnership? We can list it in *Airworthy*.

FOR SALE: ASW-20A, has winglets and lift-up
instrument panel. Top of wings have been
refinished. Current condition inspection. One-
man rigger, wing stands, tail dolly, and wing
wheel. \$25,000. Contact [Jeff Sherrard](#).



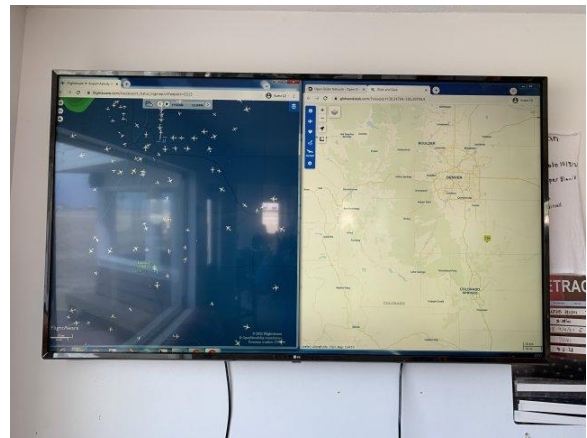
FOR SALE: 1/3 share in ASW-26E motorglider
D2D. Based at KAP. If interested, contact
[Gerald Peaslee](#).



FRIENDLY REMINDER: STOP BEFORE THE DROP!

During the landing roll, assure that
the glider's wing does not scrape
across the rocks on the runway
edges. Before the wing drops, apply
the wheel brake, but not so hard that
you put the ship on its nose!
"Stop before the drop!"

PHOTOS



*John Gillis is upgrading the clubhouse
by having the wall TV display
FlightAware and OGN screens.*



*The crew that braved the cold and snow to flip
the Russia. Kevin LaFollette, Bill Patrick,
Zach Paluch, Donald Hannon, Zsolt Silberer
Photo by Mark Palmer*



"I'm really getting tired of this," said 87E to no one in particular.



Vitaliy Aksyonov taking a late afternoon tow with Z3, with good lift still plentiful.



Vitaliy Aksyonov and Donald Hannon had one of the first good flights of the season. March 13, 2022, Photo by Donald Hannon



Clay Thomas in 76S towing Andy Gerner.



Rick Culbertson (FG) enjoying a first soaring flight of the year. Photo by Dave Hitz, flying in the back seat of 2BA with son Ethan as pilot



Patrick Mendonca after a beautiful late Saturday afternoon B Badge flight



*H7 on the launch line at the Seniors
Photo by Bif Huss*



*Bif describing his win on the first
contest day of the Seniors
Photo by Bozena Michalowski via Facebook*



*Bif in flight at the Seniors
Photo by Jim Lee*



*Bif landing at the Seniors
Photo by Bozena Michalowski via Facebook*



*Nice day at the Seniors
Photo by Bif Huss*



*Busy pre-launch activity at the Seniors
Photo by Bill Van Law*



Al Hoover with his son and 41Y, at Warsaw Municipal Airport, Warsaw IN, 3/23/2022



41Y at Quincy Regional Airport, 3/29/2022



Al Hoover expressing joy at flying 41Y through the midwest "spring." 3/29/2022



High winds and storms kept Al and 41Y an extra day in Concordia, KS. 3/30/2022

This is where the picture of 41Y arriving at KAP would be. Unfortunately, 41Y didn't make it home by press time. We'll have pictures and hopefully a story of 41Y and Al's adventure next month!