

Airworthy

The Official Journal of the Black Forest Soaring Society

24566 David C. Johnson Loop
Elbert, CO 80106



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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

January has been cold and it has been snowy at times. All this has put a damper on flying, obviously. You want to go fly but that's not practical. So what do you do?

Now, in addition to our Wednesday Condor races, Monday/Thursday Proving Ground classes, and **Dave Rolley's** upcoming cross country webinars, we add **Soaring Society of Boulder's Ground School** series on Tuesday nights. This has been a fun and informative series and it also helps our clubs connect in a way we haven't before. The list of the remaining classes is included below. If you haven't already, come and join us on Tuesday evenings. Thanks **SSB** for inviting us!

Many of us have been flying a lot of Condor this winter, either solo or on our Wednesday night races or in Proving Ground classes. For the most part we've been using **Dave Leonard's** Colorado V2 scenery. It's a wonderfully detailed scenery that stretches over much of Colorado and parts of Wyoming and New Mexico. We can't thank Dave enough for the hard work that went into this scenery and how much it has meant to those of us using it. So thank you, Dave! The scenery can be copied from the club computer.

Mark Palmer, Editor



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE by Bif Huss

Even though the days are now short and cold, there are occasionally signs of soaring life in the skies above Kelly. Last Saturday, the soaring weather forecasting program, *SkySight*, predicted that there would be good wave conditions over Kelly. Sure enough, by 11:00 there were clouds forming just west of Kelly and over the Palmer Divide. Unfortunately, good wave conditions often mean that we have strong crosswinds, and that was the case. I was ready though, and during a lull in the wind, I was able to take off.

The clouds just west of Kelly were working and my patience was rewarded with a smooth 5kt climb to 14,000 feet. (I wasn't anticipating it being this good so I didn't turn on my O2. Otherwise, I could have climbed much higher). There was wave/convergence everywhere and I had a great day of flying in mid-January. At one point I ran from the Air Force Academy to

Calhan to Perry Park, only having to stop once to climb. *SkySight* can look ahead five days and is a great tool for predicting flyable days even in the dead of winter. As a reminder, *SkySight* can be accessed from the club's computer.

Later in February, the BFSS BOD will be awarding the first ever **Steve Johnson Youth Scholarship** to deserving young aviators. The BFSS Youth Scholarship is designed to help young pilots defray the cost of BFSS flight charges and to help them obtain their FAA Private Glider Pilot certificate. It will be awarded annually, by March 1st, to deserving individuals as determined by the BFSS Board of Directors. I highly encourage our young aviators to apply. The application can be found here: [BFSS Johnson Youth Scholarship](#). Application deadline is **February 20th**. I also encourage our members to make a tax-free donation to the Scholarship Fund so that we can ensure that the scholarships can be awarded in the future. [Ed. Note: More information on the scholarship requirements can be found later in this issue.]

I would also mention that the BFSS scholarship application closely mirrors the application for the **2021 SSA Youth/Junior Unified Scholarships** being offered by the SSA. That application can be found here:

[2021 SSA Youth/Junior Unified Scholarships](#)

The application for the SSA Youth/Junior Unified Scholarships is due on the **31st of March**.

Finally, the [Kolstad Youth Scholarship](#) is a scholarship that awards up to \$5000 for college to young soaring pilots. BFSS has close ties to this scholarship as it is named for **Paul Kolstad**, who was a member of the Colorado Soaring Association at the old Black Forest Gliderport. Kolstad Loop at Kelly Airpark is named for the Kolstad family. The deadline for the Kolstad Scholarship is **September 30th 2021**. It would be fantastic if our young pilots could be awarded these scholarships.

Last month, we published the BFSS Committee list. Please note what committee you're on. We plan to have a "Committee Day," (Covid-19 permitting), in early April to meet your fellow committee members and get the club ready for the 2021 Soaring Season.

See you at Cloudbase!
Bif "H7"



Bif's grandson Sawyer checks out the Blanik. "Sawyer, would you like to apply for a youth soaring scholarship?"

CALENDAR

Board of Directors Meetings

February 9, 2021 6:30 – 9:00
Via Zoom

March 9, 2021 6:30 – 9:00
Via Zoom

Club Cleanup Day – See more details below

February 6, 2021 – All Day

February 20, 2021 – Weather backup

Club Committee Meetings

April 3, 2021

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

20-Meter and Standard Class Championships

June 14 – 22, 2021

Montague, CA (Go Team H7!)

1-26 Championships and Low Performance Contest

June 24 – July 1, 2021

Sunflower Soaring, Hutchinson, KS
(Go Team 4N!)

Women's Soaring Pilots Association Seminar August, 2021 (tentative)

Springfield, Vermont

Downhill Dash

Summer, 2021

FLEET UPDATE

ASK-21 – Nothing to report

2-33 – Almost complete! See Alice's report below.

AC-4C Russia – Awaiting gear door and other work

PW-5 – Nothing to report

Blanik L-23 – Interior side panels replaced

Pawnee – Nothing to report

FRIENDLY REMINDER

The winter snow 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.

OPS DUTY CALENDAR

Here is the Ops Duty schedule for February and early March, 2021:

Houston, Doug	01/30/2021
OPEN	01/31/2021
Leonard, Dave	02/06/2021
Kolk, Brandon	02/07/2021
Kinder, Becky	02/13/2021
Dimick, Scott	02/14/2021
Maki, Jeff	02/20/2021
McClain, Kip	02/21/2021
Mendonca, Patrick	02/27/2021

Price, Brian	02/28/2021
Palmer, Alice	03/06/2021
Palmer, Mark	03/07/2021

Every flying member who does not have other duties in the club, such as instructor or towpilot, is on the schedule for line duty. If you are either a pre-solo student or have never performed this duty, Joshua has paired you with someone who has experience. Please check this list carefully to see when you're on duty and if you're working with someone.

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

If you see **OPEN** listed on the schedule, that indicates that no one is scheduled for that day and that volunteers are appreciated. Please contact Joshua if you are available.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Patrick Mendonca – First solo! Congratulations to Patrick for a picture-perfect flight!



Patrick after soloing the Blanik

THANK YOU!

Becky Kinder and Julie Kinder – Clubhouse cleaning

Becky Kinder – Vacuum cleaner donation

Doug Curry – For installing used side panels in the Blanik

Randy Rothe from High Flights Soaring Club – For providing the Blanik side panels to us

Dave Rolley – For XC mentoring on the Condor Proving Ground series and for giving his XC Training Series again this year, with help from **Quay Snyder**.

Brian Price – For setting up and organizing the Condor Proving ground series

Cindy Brickner from SSA – For setting up the XC Training Series in the GoToWebinar software

John Gillis – For providing his trailer to collect junque from our cleanup day and for powder coating glider parts

Bif Huss – For setting up the BFSS Johnson Youth Scholarship

GET WELL SOON!

Pam Rolley fell and broke her hip earlier this month. No more break dancing for you young lady! We're pleased to report Pam is home and doing better every day.

JOHNSON YOUTH SCHOLARSHIP ANNOUNCEMENT by Bif Huss

I am pleased to announce that the application period for the new **BFSS Johnson Youth Scholarship** is now open. Scholarships will be awarded for the first time by March 1st.

The Johnson Scholarship is named for **Steve Johnson** who personified the spirit of volunteerism and love of soaring. The BFSS Johnson Youth Scholarship is designed to help young pilots defray the cost of BFSS flight charges and to help them obtain their FAA Private Glider Pilot certificate. It will be

awarded annually by March 1st to deserving individuals as determined by the BFSS Board of Directors. Details of the scholarship(s) are as follows:

- Scholarship(s) are awarded in multiples of \$250 to a maximum of \$1000.
- Applicants must be less than 23 years old.
- Applicants must be a BFSS member.
- Award will be credited to the recipient's BFSS account.
- Award may be used to reduce awardee's "A" membership funding requirement.
- Award funds will be used first before "A" membership funds are used.
- Award funds not used during the award season will revert to the scholarship fund.
- If a member leaves the club, unused funds will revert to the scholarship fund.
- Awards will be made primarily to individuals exhibiting an enthusiastic desire to participate in the sport of soaring and who demonstrate outstanding club volunteerism.

The Application can be found on the BFSS website (shown below). Here is the direct link:

[BFSS Johnson Youth Scholarship](#)



If you're interested in applying, please fill out the attached PDF application and return via email or mail by **February 20th** to:

Bif Huss
BFSS Johnson Youth Scholarship Coordinator
24831 Ben Kelly Rd
Elbert, CO 80106
(719)-651-8985

WSPA SCHOLARSHIPS FOR WOMEN SOARING PILOTS by Alice Palmer

In addition to our own Johnson Youth Scholarship and the SSA and Kolstad Scholarships that Bif has mentioned, there are also scholarships offered by the Women's Soaring Pilots Association for women in all stages of their flying. Check them out at <https://womensoaring.org/scholarships/>.

Deadline is **March 15**. Let me know if you have any questions about eligibility or requirements.



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!"

CLUB CLEANUP DAY – FEBRUARY 6 by Becky Kinder

You may have noticed a trailer in front of the Steve Johnson Clubhouse. It's there so we can haul away the broken stuff, the useless papers, the antiquated junk no one can identify. Here's the thing: No one knows for sure what most of it is. Some of it actually matters! We can live without the junk, but we don't need to pay twice for useful items. Besides, we have a wonderful history.

One way to hear good glider stories is by asking, "What's this?" "Who's in the picture?" (Any picture) "Barograph? What's that?"

Here is a question that relates to the picture below. Answer will be announced at the BFSS Clubhouse/Hangar Cleanup Day:

"Where did this wire glider come from?"



Another question that needs to be answered:

"Whose radio control glider is in the battery room?"

Claim it by February 6 or it will have a new address!

Probably my last visit with Steve Johnson was about potentially remodeling the clubhouse and he asked my opinions. Our priorities matched: Clean, useable, welcoming. Right now there is too much mouse habitat and dust. Time to clean!

Let's clear out the place together and have fun comparing thoughts about BFSS past, present, and future. Many hands make for light work!

--IT'S BEFORE FLYING SEASON!--

**BFSS CLUBHOUSE/HANGAR CLEANUP DAY
FEBRUARY 6, 2021
START TIME 10:00 AM**

LUNCH, FOR PARTICIPANTS ONLY, AT NOON

BYO Side dish/dessert
Kinders will bring hamburger/(chicken patties if available)

RSVP to tweetybird302@protonmail.com

Note: Weather alternate day is February 20

ASK-21 BALLAST WEIGHTS by Mark Palmer, Safety Officer

I want to remind those pilots who fly 77 to remember to check whether the ballast weights have been installed before they fly. Recently, there have been a few incidents where pilots getting ready to fly the ASK-21 have discovered the forward ballast weights installed. If they had not caught it, they would have found themselves flying the ship well forward of the CG envelope or over gross weight.

Here are some reminders:

- Each pilot should determine if they need the ballast before they fly as part of their preflight. If the screw-in ballast plates aren't needed, then they should be returned to the blue bag in Golf Cart #1. Also, if not needed, the ankle weights under the seat should be returned to the golf cart.
- If you use the ballast, at the end of your flights, either remove the ballast or check with the next pilot to see if they need it.
- If you have finished flying, and there is a gap in the schedule until the next pilot, remove the ballast and return it to the bag.
- In any event, at the end of the day, the last pilot should remove the ballast and return it to the bag.

In order to help remind people, changes are being made to the preflight checklist.

Additionally, **John Gillis** and I will be painting the ballast plates in a brighter color to bring them to the pilot's attention.

SPEAKING OF ATTENTION...

We now have an official location for the ATC flag. Rather than placing it on the table where it gets blown and knocked over, it can be placed in the flag holder where everyone can see it. Be sure and hang it there after calling ATC and remove it and put it on the counter inside after ATC has been called at the end of the flying day.



ATC Flag Holder

2021 SPRING TRAINING SEMINARS by Dave Rolley

The XC series of seminars will be held on Fridays beginning at 7 PM. They will be presented every two weeks starting Friday, January 29th, and running through May 21st. The sessions will be online. Look for your WINGS notices for more info.

The sessions will be 1 to 3 hours in duration. Most sessions should be about 2 hours.

Our FFAST Team members (**Quay Snyder, Alice Palmer, and Mark Palmer**) are working to get these seminars approved for FAA WINGS credit. The tentative schedule is as follows. **Quay's presentation has been placed last as a placeholder.** As his schedule firms up for the next few months we will adjust to meet his needs. His presentation may need to be given on a Saturday.

The full schedule is below.

Session 1: January 29, Introduction to Cross Country

- Presenter: Dave Rolley
- Description: Initial XC strategy using GlidePlan software to illustrate the concepts.

Session 2: February 12, Air Data Systems: Airspeed, Altimeter, and Variometers

- Presenter: Dave Rolley
- Description: Focuses on variometer types and uses

Session 3: February 26, Intro to portable gliding computers

- Presenter: Dave Rolley
- Description: Cockpit workload management, equipment and software. In class flight example using XCSoar.

Session 4: March 12, Speed to Fly

- Presenter: Dave Rolley
- Description: Modern approach for Speed to Fly

Session 5: March 26, Collision Avoidance Technology

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

Session 6: April 9, Model based weather forecasting:

- Presenter: Dave Rolley
- Description: Examples using the Front Range RASP tool

Session 7: April 23, Flight Tracking

- Presenter: Dave Rolley
- Description: Satellite based (SPOT, InReach), Smart Phone based (GlideTrack), FLARM based

Session 8: May 7, Online Soaring Contest

- Presenter: Dave Rolley
- Description: It's all for fun but if it isn't on the OLC it didn't happen.

Session 9: May 21, Physiological Considerations for Soaring Pilots (**tentative date only**)

- Presenter: Dr. Quay Snyder

- Topic: Physiological considerations for safety and optimum performance in soaring operations
- Description: For all sailplane pilots looking to begin XC soaring or improve their knowledge and skill. Dr. Quay Snyder, CFI, will discuss hydration, nutrition, elimination, oxygenation, thermal regulation and vision issues for sailplane pilots planning long distance XC flights.



Interesting sky on January 3

SSB GROUND SCHOOL SERIES by Mark Palmer

The Soaring Society of Boulder is holding a series of ground school talks over the next few months. The talks are held on Zoom every Tuesday evening at 7:00 PM Mountain Time through April 27. All BFSS pilots are invited. **Armand Charbonneau** is the contact for this, and every Sunday he will send me an email with the Zoom link. I will then forward the link to the membership. There are a number of interesting topics and many are hosted by well-known local soaring pilots. If you have any questions, please contact me. Below is the list of the remaining topics. Sessions are recorded so you can watch later if you miss the live session.

SSB Ground School Schedule:

Feb 2: Fourteener Challenge – Tom Zoellner

Feb 9: Glider Maintenance – Rex Mayes and John Seaborn

Feb 16: Declared Tasks/Badges – Clemens Ceipek

Beginning Tasks and SSB Mentoring – Ryan Courreges

Feb 23: Buying/Selling Gliders – Scott Westfall

Mar 2: Cross Country – Bob Caldwell

Mar 9: OLC and Speed Weekends – Bob Faris

Mar 16: Tow Plane Maintenance – Gary Steube

Mar 23: Landout Database – Open forum including all Colorado cross-country pilots

Mar 30: FLARM, ADS-B, and Collision Avoidance – Bill Kaewert

Apr 6: Launch to Soar: How to Get Up and Connect with the Good Lift on Typical Boulder Convergence Days – Clemens Ceipek

Apr 13: Electronic Technology for Gliders or TBD – Allistair Moses

Apr 20: Human Factors at High Altitudes – Phil Ecklund

Apr 27: To be Announced

SHIPS FOR SALE

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

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



N65840 TANKER 2-33 REFURB by Alice Palmer

We made good initial progress this month, as **Dave Rolley** began the installation of the wiring components. Helping in the efforts were **Mark Palmer** and **Gary Baker**.



Dave Rolley works on the wiring.

Unfortunately, Dave had to put work on hold after his wife **Pam** had a fall, but we're very happy to report she is home and recovering.

Cold weather continues to be our nemesis this time of year.

Doug Curry made progress with the recalcitrant new harnesses, completing the installation of the shoulder harnesses for front and rear. Gary did the rear seat test to make sure we had the adjustments in the right place.



Doug finishes installation of the front seat shoulder harness.



The crew at work on a cool day in January

We hope to get some momentum going again in February if we have some warm days. After the wiring is completed, we have mostly small tasks to accomplish before the final weighing and completion of all paperwork. The FAA Form 337s for all the work may weigh as much as the glider in the end!

Thanks to my dedicated crew who braved the cold and dark this month:

Doug Curry
Dave Rolley
Mark Palmer
Gary Baker

PHOTOS



Gary tests the new harness (and the tight fit in the back seat)!



Lee Kuhlke's new mistress, a Ventus 3 FES, Hotel One, awaiting pickup



Not Mad Max – Gary Baker, Val Dean, and Mark Palmer



Vitaliy on winter day in the PW-5, January 3



Patrick as PIC performing a careful preflight.



*Patrick and Raul after Patrick's first solo
Photo by the Mendonca Family*



Bringing the Blain back after first solo



John Gillis and Babe enjoying a January flight.