

# 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](http://SoarBFSS.org)

Airworthy Archive: [SoarBFSS.org/Airworthy](http://SoarBFSS.org/Airworthy)

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

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

Kelly AWOS Cam: [Weather Cams](#)

## FROM THE EDITOR

February was a crazy busy month for the staff of *Airworthy*. In early February we drove to Moriarty to pick up our DG-300, Echo Fox, from **Fidel Ramirez**. A day down, a day with Fidel and friends, and a day back. We had one day home before **Alice** and I left again for Midlothian, TX. There we completed a deal for 1-26A #182. We're partnering with club members **Jon Stark** and **Deb Ings**. Then it was a two and a half day drive back with a heavy open trailer, uphill, into the wind. We were happy to get home. Then the following weekend we attended a virtual Flight Instructor Revalidation Clinic. So we're a bit tired and frazzled.

Now that both Echo Fox and 182 are home, we're looking forward to a more relaxing spring. Look for 182 to take to the air soon!

Mark Palmer, Editor



## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE by Bif Huss

As I write this, I've abandoned the cold of Colorado and am heading to Florida in search of cumulus clouds and great soaring weather. We're officially on "Soaring Safari." We are planning on attending the Seniors Championships in Seminole, Florida, the Region 5 Super Regionals in Perry, South Carolina, and then the 18M Nationals in Bermuda High.

By the time we return in May, we hope to drag the good soaring back to Kelly. Even though no cu have been seen over Kelly in months, there's been a lot going on at BFSS. At the end of January, we took delivery of our ASW-19 and flew it for the first time. Since then, it's been added to the schedule. I had a chance to fly it and can report that it's a beautiful handling glider. I highly encourage you to get checked out in it. I'm sure you'll fall in love with Z3.

Congratulations to Becky Kinder and her Buildings and Grounds Committee for completing their installation of the new carpeting in the clubhouse. With the carpeting, paint, expanding the living room, and the new improved ramp area, we should enjoy major improvements to our facilities this coming season.

We should take possession of our 2<sup>nd</sup> towplane soon. The details have been completed and we should close the transaction by the time *Airworthy* goes to print. Now we need to wait for the Vermont weather to cooperate so we can fly it home.

Work continues on the repair of our L-23. We're waiting for the major parts to arrive to begin the primary repair.

Kelly Airpark is still planning on resurfacing the runway in May. If this goes forward, we will not be able to operate from Kelly in May. Plan accordingly. (There's a possibility of operating remotely; stay tuned for more information.)

Finally, congratulations to **Joe Gerner** for winning the National Glider Aerobatic Championship last month. Joe and his intrepid crew, coach, and father, **Andy**, could be seen practicing constantly over Kelly the last few months regardless of the weather or temperature. Obviously, this paid off. BFSS is proud to be the home of the new National Champion!

See you at Cloud base,  
Bif "H7"



*Hotel 7 on the road*

## CALENDAR

### Board of Directors Meetings

**March 8, 2022 6:30 – 9:00**  
Via Zoom

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

### Senior Soaring Championships

**March 11 – 18, 2022**

Groveland, FL (*Go Team H7!*)

### 1-26 Championships

**May 3 – 12, 2022**

Chilhowee Gliderport, Benton, TN

### Standard and 20-Meter Multi-seat Nationals

**June 7 – 16, 2022**

Sunflower Gliderport, Yoder, KS

### Open Class and 15-Meter Nationals

**June 23 – July 2, 2022**

Hobbs, NM

### Club Class Nationals

**August 30 – September 8, 2022**

Moriarty, NM

### Downhill Dash

**Summer, 2022**

### BFSS Saturday Potluck Barbeque (after flying)

Will begin again in the spring

## FLEET UPDATE

**ASK-21 (77)** – Nothing to report

**2-33 (840)** – Nothing to report

**Blanik L-23 (9BA)** – Down for repairs

**Blanik L-13AC (2BA)** – Nothing to report

**AC-4C Russia (87E)** – Being evaluated for landing damage

**PW-5 (1GM)** – Nothing to report

**ASW-19 (Z3)** – Nothing to report

**Pawnee (76S)** – Nothing to report

### 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!"

### OPS SHEETS

**Don't Forget:** After you have finished flying, be sure to submit your flight information within 24 hours to [Carrie Commerford](#) via the flight ops app. After you submit your flight, if you do not receive a confirmation email, follow up with Carrie to confirm her receipt of the information. **Remember, submitting flight information is your responsibility!** Not only does it help keep the club finances in order, but this is how we track flight time for each club aircraft.

### OPS DUTY CALENDAR

Here is the Ops Duty schedule for March and early April:

Palmer, Mark	03/05/2022
Patrick, William	03/06/2022
Paluch, Henry	03/12/2022
Paluch, Zach	03/13/2022
Penkhus, Bob	03/19/2022
Price, Brian	03/20/2022
Rolley, Dave	03/26/2022
Sherrard, Jeff	03/27/2022
Dunmall, Chris	04/02/2022
Tomanek, Wojciech	04/03/2022

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. **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.

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.

### CONGRATULATIONS

**Joe Gerner** – (Andy's son) for placing 1<sup>st</sup> in the Advanced Acrobatics competition at Estrella (see note below)

**Bif Huss** – Will be the Contest Director for the Club Class Nationals in Moriarty, NM

**Mitch Hudson** – Will be Contest Manager for the Club Class Nationals in Moriarty, NM. Mitch has also been named as the Contest Director for the Standard Class and 20-Meter Nationals at Sunflower, Kansas.

**Jon Stark, Deb Ings, and the Palmers** – New owners of 1-26A #182

### ACCOMPLISHMENTS

**Ethan Hitz** – Passed his Private written exam

**Patrick Mendonca** – Passed his Private written exam

**Bill Patrick** – Passed his Private written exam

**Mike Kinder** – First Flights of the Year with **Quay Snyder**

**Becky Kinder** – First Flights of the Year with **Quay Snyder**

**Julie Kinder** – First Flights of the Year and L-13 back seat check with **Stan Bissell**

**Dylan Brown** – First Flights of the Year and L-13 front and back seat checks with **Stan Bissell**

**Donald Hannon** – First Flights of the Year with **Bif Huss**

**Joshua Abbe** – First Flights of the Year with **Jon Stark**

## THANK YOU!

**Becky Kinder** – For managing and supervising the installation of the new carpet in the clubhouse

**Andre, Joe, and Andy Gerner** – For clearing the furniture from the living area (and then some) before the carpet installation

**Deb Ings** – For cleaning the women’s bathroom, living area, and computer room

**Gary Baker, Chris Dunmall, Alan Hoover, and Rich Barclay** – For continuing work on the clubhouse

**Raul Boerner, Bill Gerblich and Becky Kinder** – For applying UV-resistant window film to the clubhouse windows

**John Gillis** – For donating wing covers for the PW-5

**Frank DeBacker** – For making full covers for the ASW-19 available to the club

**Bif Huss** – For waxing Z3

**Donald Hannon** – For volunteering to be Z3’s plane captain

**Bif Huss** – For donating a sturdy rack for parachute storage

**Alan Hoover** – For assembling the parachute rack in the battery room

**Rex Yates** – For laying the clubhouse carpet

**Jim Norman, Jamie Treat, Alan Hoover and Lauri Hoover** – For helping to move the furniture back after the carpet install

**Brandon Kolk** – For printing and laminating runway diagrams and 5As for student use

## 2022 KAP TEST TO BE OUT SOON

Chief CFI **Alice Palmer** and Safety Officer **Mark Palmer**, with input from Instructor **Stan Bissell**, have been working on the 2022 update to the KAP/BFSS Ops Test. We are planning on releasing the updated test to the membership no later than March 5th. Keep an eye out for the email that announces its availability. The KAP test is mandatory for BFSS members. Plan on completing it as soon as possible after it is available so you don’t forget. It must be completed by **March 31**. **Note:** You must retake the test as many times as necessary to achieve 100%.

## FIRST FLIGHTS by Alice Palmer

Don’t forget to take advantage of our instructors’ offer by March 31. This month, you can do your first flying session of the year with an instructor at no charge to you for the instructor. As you can see from the Accomplishments section, many members have already taken advantage of this.

## STEVE JOHNSON YOUTH SCHOLARSHIPS AWARDED by Bif Huss

Two deserving student pilots have been awarded scholarships from the Steve Johnson Youth Scholarship committee. **Ethan Hitz** and **Patrick Mendonca** have each been awarded \$500 to pursue their soaring goals. Congratulations!

### FRIENDLY REMINDER

The winter snow season is here. When it melts, the ramps and taxiways can be very soft and muddy. 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.

## 41Y NOW BELONGS TO BFSS

The official word just came down: the deal to buy 41Y, the Pawnee located in Vermont, has officially concluded. It now belongs to BFSS! The ferrying home should start sometime in early March, weather permitting.

## BIF GETS PROMOTED

BFSS President **Bif Huss** has been named Chairman of the SSA Contest Committee. As such, Bif will oversee the Rules, Site Selection, and Handicap Committees, as well as US Team selection. Congratulations Bif!

## SSA SEEKING PROPOSALS

The SSA has recently received two generous gifts totalling \$2 million dollars. The SSA would like to use those gifts to fund ways to promote the sport of soaring. As such, they are looking for detailed and specific proposals on how to promote soaring. Proposals are due to the SSA by April 30<sup>th</sup>. For more information, contact BFSS President **Bif Huss**.

## CLUBHOUSE UPGRADES – NEW CARPET!

Buildings and Grounds leader, **Becky Kinder**, continues to make great headway in remodeling the clubhouse. This month, new carpeting was installed. And what a difference! Thanks Becky and company! Now, everyone please wipe their feet before entering! And remember to vacuum at the end of the day.



*The new "atrium"*

**Bif** donated a rack system. Becky, with **Alan Hoover's** help assembling the rack, installed it in the battery room. Now the parachutes for 1GM and Z3 have a nice place to rest.



*The new parachute rack, courtesy of Bif and Alan Hoover*

More upgrades are coming. Be sure to thank **Becky, Gary Baker, Chris Dunmall, Alan Hoover, Rich Barclay** and others for their great work.



*That new carpet smell*

## WHO GOT #600? by John Gillis

The sky was angry, cold. Angry cold. The kind of day you question the meaning of life. Overcast at 10,000 feet. 15 knots out of the north, gusts to 20. OAT of 25°F, wind chill of miserable. A perfect day to punch through 600.

The winner of the 600th tow is **Andy** and **Joe Gerner**! Their dedication to training for their upcoming competition overrode the common sense to stay warm.

Congratulations!

## JOE GERNER PLACES FIRST IN NATIONAL AEROBATIC COMPETITION

John,

A belated thanks for your 600th tow! Evidently all of the training under harsh conditions panned out. We just got back from the Advanced & Unlimited Glider US National Aerobatic Championships held at Estrella Sailport in Maricopa, AZ, from 14 to 19 Feb, and **Joe** took 1st place in Advanced Glider.

I counted 56 training sorties at BFSS from 10 October 2021 to 13 February 2022. This could not have happened without the tremendous support of the great folks of BFSS. Special thanks go out to our intrepid tow pilots **Bill, Bif, Mitch, Iain, Clay, Roland, Kyle, Doug H,** and both **Johns**, many of whom braved the snow, 20-knot crosswinds, and freezing temperatures on many of our training flights. I guess that makes our Fox an Arctic Fox.

Andy

*(Andy promises a more in depth look at the Championships next month! – Ed.)*



L to R: Shad Coulson (3<sup>rd</sup>), Joe Gerner (1<sup>st</sup>), Mallory Lynch (2<sup>nd</sup>)

## OPEN GLIDER NETWORK by John Gillis

You may hear some buzz about OGN (Open Glider Network) and wonder, what can it do for me? Well let me tell you. It can save your bacon.

What is OGN? The objective of the Open Glider Network is to create and maintain a unified tracking platform for gliders, drones, and other aircraft. It's basically a cloud-based database of aircraft positions, much like FlightAware displays for ADS-B transponder-equipped aircraft. But it does it without the use of ADS-B.

Since the data is public, any number of websites/apps can read and display it. Because OGN is public, you have to elect to be part of it. If you don't register and it "sees" you, it will just put your Flarm ID up. You can also adjust privacy settings when you register. BFSS has an OGN Flarm receiver mounted to the roof of the clubhouse and will receive your position and post it on OGN. SSB is also running a receiver in Louisville. We plan on installing more receivers if we can get volunteers to host them. See <http://wiki.glidernet.org/list-of-receivers>.

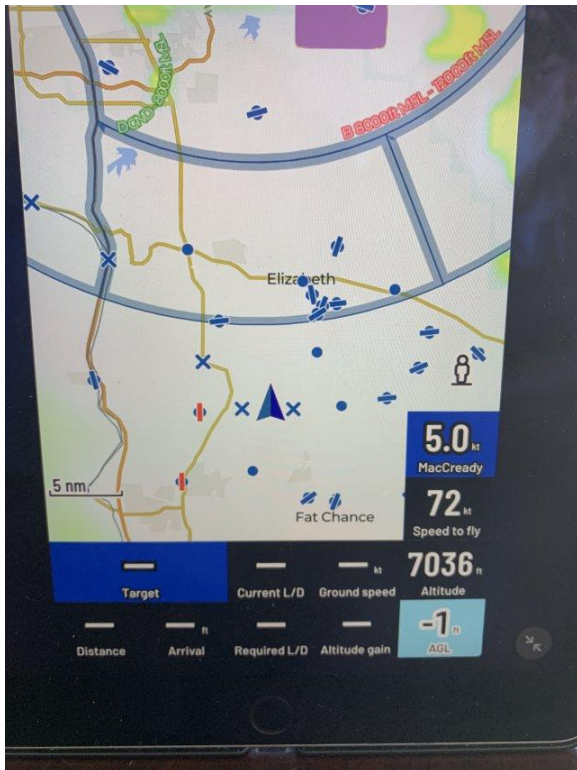
So how do I get on the OGN? If you have Flarm, you simply register your Flarm ID with OGN. If you are picked up by an OGN receiver, you will be on OGN. See <http://ddb.glidernet.org/>.

If you don't have Flarm but have a SPOT or InReach tracking device, you can now register them with OGN. See <https://github.com/DavisChappins>.

A third option is to run an Oudie N or download SeeYou Navigator to your Android or iPhone. Navigator is the same software that runs on the Oudie N. If you are in cell range, it will transmit your position to the OGN and also display other aircraft on OGN on its map. See <https://naviter.com/gliding/>.

You can do all three too; that's what I'm doing. Since each device is mapped to 2M, I will only show up once on OGN, but have three separate feeds. I also have ADS-B Out so I'm fully trackable on FlightAware and FlightRadar24. The OGN wizards are working on a feed from ADS-B to OGN now.

How does this save your bacon? Search and Rescue can start by looking at your last reported position. If you are out on a cross country and we are wondering why you haven't returned, there's a great website that tracks your takeoff and return. If in question, we can see where your last position was and start the rescue if necessary. See <https://flightbook.glidernet.org/>.



*Dave Rolley shows how he's set up SeeYou Navigator on an inexpensive Android tablet.*

## 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 4:** March 4, 7:00 pm: Speed to Fly

Presenter: Dave Rolley

Description: Modern approach for Speed to Fly

**Session 5:** March 18, 7:00 pm: Physiological Considerations for Soaring Pilots

Presenter: Dr. Quay Snyder, CFI

Description: Physiological considerations for safety and optimum performance in soaring operations, including hydration, nutrition, elimination, oxygenation, thermal regulation, and vision issues for sailplane pilots planning long distance XC flights

**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.

## WSPA SCHOLARSHIPS

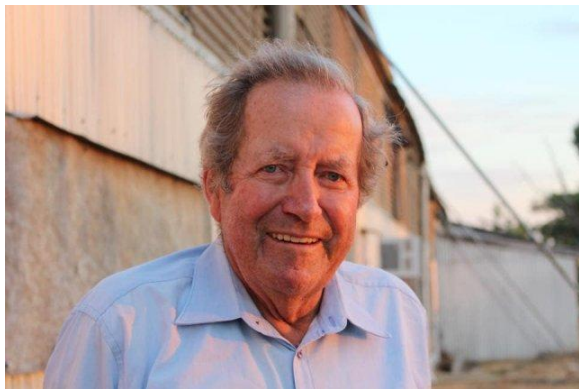
The purpose of the Women's Soaring Pilots Association is to encourage women to fly gliders. One way the organization does that is through scholarships. Check them out at: <https://womensoaring.org/scholarships/>

**Application Deadline: March 15, 2022**



## INGO RENNER – FINAL GLIDE

The world soaring community lost an icon with the passing of **Ingo Renner** on February 26, 2022. Born in West Germany, Renner immigrated to Australia in 1967 and became a citizen in 1971. He primarily flew at the Sportavia Soaring Centre. He was an instructor who taught hundreds of pilots to fly.



*Ingo Renner*

*Photo from Tocumwal Soaring Facebook page*

Renner won the Australian national gliding championships 16 times. He won numerous international events, including the Smirnoff Derby (USA) in 1977, Austraglide 1986, the Hitachi Masters of Soaring (USA) in 1987, and

the Tour Lilienthal (Germany) in 1991. He has held almost every Australian gliding record.

He won the Standard Class world championship at Rayskala, Finland, in 1976, and followed with world championship wins in the Open Class at Hobbs, New Mexico, in 1983, at Rieti, Italy in 1985, and at Benalla, Australia in 1987. In 1982, he broke the Guinness Book of World Records record when he flew around a 100 km triangular course at an average speed of 195.3 km/hr. He will be missed.

## 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](#).





## PHOTOS



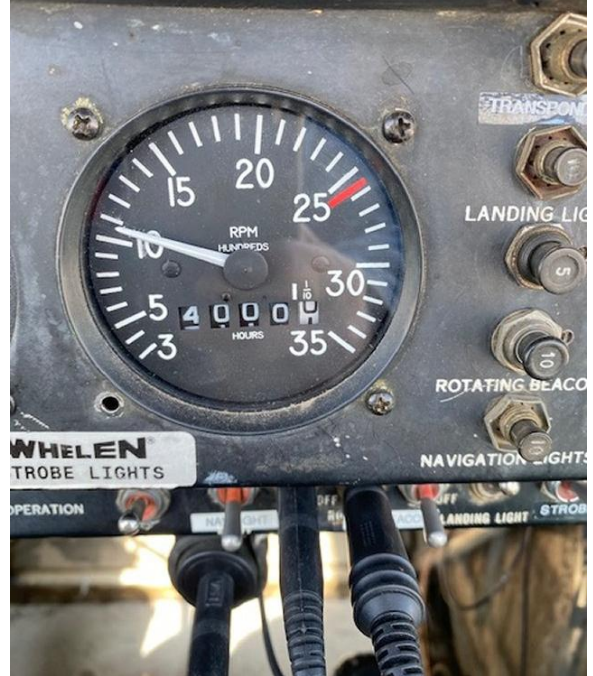
*Pete Urschel takes 77 for his first flight of the year, 01/02/2022*



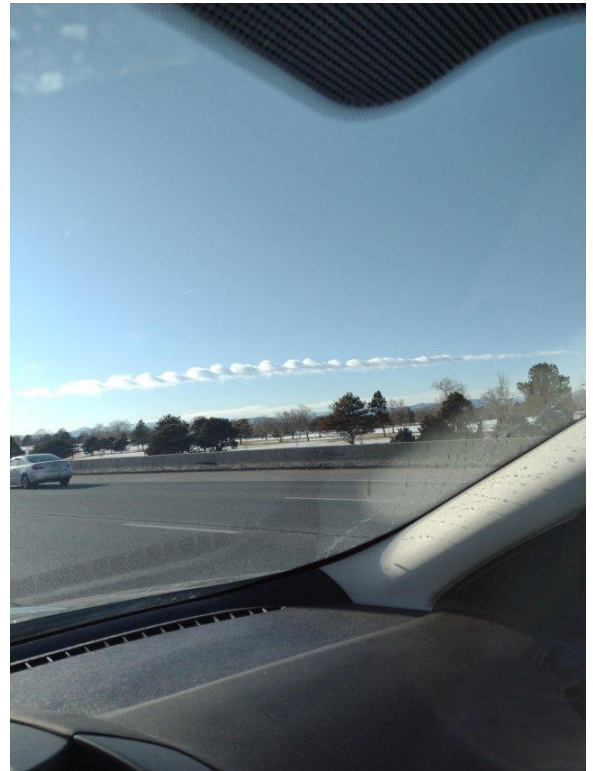
*A lineup of Texas Soaring Association club gliders at Midlothian, TX—three PW-5s and two 1-26s*



*Joe, Andy, and Andre Gerner after doing the heavy lifting to move furniture from the living area*



*John Mann caught this moment in time on the Pawnee tach, although it doesn't reflect the true total time on the aircraft, 2/5/2022*



*Brian Price caught this picture of some Kelvin-Helmholtz clouds, 2/8/2022*



*The Buildings and Grounds manager asks you to walk to the left or the right of the current path to the 3<sup>rd</sup> Hangar. As you can see, the path is creating quite a rut.*



*Many thanks to Lauri Hoover, Jamie Treat, Jim Norman, and Alan Hoover, Airpark resident friends who helped move the club furniture back once the carpeting was complete.*



*Kyle Kendall was one of the valiant towpilots who braved wind and cold temperatures to tow Joe and Andy for aerobatic practice flights.*



*More Colorado soaring history from Bill Prescott, Jr.:  
August 13, 1970—Waverly West Glider Port, northwest of Ft Collins, Colorado. I was 17 years old and did my Silver Distance flight flying a Schweizer 1-26D from Waverly West to Akron, CO, a 100-mile flight. It was a great cross country flight. I remember climbing in a strong thermal and flying east under a cumulus cloud street to Akron. After I landed at Akron Airport, I called my dad and he drove out with the glider trailer to retrieve me.*

*From Bill Prescott's Facebook page*