



Cloud Nine

NEWSLETTER OF THE SASKATOON SOARING CLUB

Weather Woes

Poor soaring weather continues to be a problem. Weekends and Wednesdays have produced few good days this year. Hopefully, a nice long fall will result in some good flying days. Last year there was soaring weather well into October.

Flight Data Report

Considering the uncooperative weather many weekends, we have done reasonably well. So far there have been 127 launches. XDU has flown 32 times logging over 32 hours. TVT has logged 46 flights for just over 24 hours, and KNG has recorded 14 flights for nearly 14 hours flight time. Private gliders have launched 11 times.

We flew 1 day in Apr, 5 in May, 7 in June, and 10 in July. Can we continue the trend?

Introductory flights are very low – about a dozen so far this year. The annual average is around 100.

The majority of the flights have been by a few members. Hopefully, we will see more participation in the second half of the season. We will need increased activity for the remainder of the year in order to meet budget expectations.

Significant Flights

In terms of distance, Roy Eichendorf has the best flights this year in his Cirrus, logging just over 800 km of cross country flight.

Longest duration flight so far this year goes to Trevor Berg, with a flight of 4.5 hours on Aug 2.

Badges

Applications for the “C” badge are being submitted for Trevor and for Lee. The silver altitude gain (>100meters) is also being claimed by Lee. Congratulations to both. How about a few more badge claims?

Colibri Datalogger

The logger has been installed in KNG and has had some good use so far. It simplifies badge claims, and adds to the competitive nature of club glider pilots by providing an opportunity to participate in the Online Contest. John, Clarence, Brian and Lee have submitted flights so far. (Roy has his own logger). To view the

results of the Online Contest, open the SAC site and click on ‘Online Contest’. Then find and click on CA (Canada). The daily results will be posted. To get a summary of the zone results, click on “Statistics All flights”, and in the box at the bottom right change to SK/ MAN region.

A second antenna and battery connection will also be installed in one of the L-13’s so the logger can be used to record dual flights. The data analysis is excellent for improving soaring skills and getting started in cross country flying.

KNG Trailer

We are in the process of purchasing an enclosed trailer for the L-33 solo glider. There is one available in Calgary, and the purchase is pending. It will take some work to install fittings for that glider, but it will simplify retrieving and transporting the solo.

Coming Events

Aug – Half season membership rates in effect.

Aug. 21, 22 – Canada Remembers Airshow. Members are needed to help with the static display each day. Gate passes and parking will be provided. Let me (John) know if you are willing to help out. Flying can continue at Cudworth that weekend as well if there is enough interest.

Sept. 5 – suggested date for an off site promotion of gliding at the Humboldt Airport. Introductory flights will be offered. Members may also get an opportunity to fly from a different airport. More info to follow.

Sept 8 – Ground School begins for the fall session. It will continue for 6 consecutive Wed evenings. Members are invited to attend any of the sessions as a refresher.

Welcome

Ken Kostiniuk, glider pilot, new member, July.

Computer

We still need one to use with the logger! Anyone know of an older, useable one available cheap? A donation would be appreciated.

It is possible to fly without a motor, but not without knowledge and skill.” - Wilber Wright