SSA Clubs and Chapters Committee Report January 2019

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970-330-2050 7am-10pm MST

SSA members in 123 clubs/chapters is 5752 vs 5900 at this time last year. Appears at least one chapter hasn’t renewed and could be seasonal attrition.

Still no real traction on the Ronan, MT, club organizational effort though they are looking at the possibility a pulley launch system. I did suggest they adopt the Hamilton Soaring Club model, get organized, visit the 10 Rotary Clubs within about a 100 radius, connect with the two EAA chapters in the area, and start fund raising. I also suggested they connect with Greg Mecklenburg and bring a glider and Greg’s winch to Ronan to demo the concept.

Consulted with Michael Stimac and Erik Saxon of the Northwest Soaring Club at Cadillac, MI, about winching. Real name is Soaring Club of Northwest Frankfort, but they relocated a few years ago. It is certainly doable at their location and they do have a lead on a serviceable winch. I also spoke with the insurance broker for a local college with an aviation program. He was pretty optimistic that they could insure the glider activity liability if the club were to offer glider training to students in the aviation program. The college requires $3M in liability coverage. I explained the limits of a typical coverage under the SSA group plan.

Harris Hill is constructing a new pilot/visitor center. See their Facebook page for progress reports.

Sunflower Soaring Foundation is constructing a flight center at Sunflower Gliderport.

Treasure Coast Soaring Club has not responded to SSA requests for a chapter roster. They had a board election which they apparently nullified since the president was not re-elected to the board. IRS has a demand for prior year taxes in the amount of $3200. SSA has been asked to consider action on Treasure Coast Soaring Club’s relationship with the SSA.

Utah Soaring Association is continuing their Winter Seminar Series. They are also trying to do more winter training than in prior years.

Aero Club Albatross is refinishing their LS-3a, led by Erik Mann.

Brandywine Soaring Association is refinishing a Grob-103 in a booth set up in Richard Kellerman’s hangar.