Editor's comments

Please note, almost all of the figures in this issue contain colors and *Technical Soaring*, for cost reasons, is printed in grey-shades. However, *Technical Soaring* is online in full-color at **journals.sfu.ca/ts/**. Therefore, to see the colors, please view the online issue.

On the opposite page is the call-for-papers for the XXXI OSTIV Congress. The Congress will occur between 8 and 15 August 2012 at the site of the FAI World Gliding Championships for the Open, 18m and 15m classes in Uvalde, Texas USA. All OSTIV members and non-members, as well, are encouraged to submit papers for presentation. These papers, then, form the 'core' content for future issues of this journal.

After the Congress call-for-papers, appears another call. OSTIV has been invited by the Soaring Society of America to conduct a speaker-track at their convention in Reno, Nevada USA between 2 and 4 February 2012. This event is being organized by OSTIV Honorary Member Bernald **Smith**. Presenting your study at this event would be a good 'warm up' for the OSTIV Congress in Uvalde.

In the last issue was the announcement of the OSTIV Joachim P. Küttner Prize and Trophy for a 2500 km free straight distance soaring flight. Also in that issue was a brief article on the Küttner Prize for a 2000 km free straight distance soaring flight accomplished by Klaus Ohlmann and Hervé Lefranc 'surfing the wave' downwind of the Argentinean Andes. They flew a Nimbus 4DM the longest flight in a straight line to a goal (2138 km) on 23 November 2003. To date, this record still stands. The description of the flight submitted to OSTIV by **Ohlmann** is in this issue.

This issue continues the publication of papers presented at the 2010 OSTIV Congress in Szeged Hungary. Miroslaw **Rodzewicz** presents results from studies of composite materials useful in the construction of gliders. Lukas **Popelka** and collaborators present the results from theoretical, wind tunnel and flight studies focused on the boundary layer at critical locations on a glider. Wolfram **Gorisch** presents a theory for the energy gain of a glider in a gusty atmosphere with hints regarding glider design, new instrumentation and ideas towards favorable flight tactics. Finally, Natalie **Souckova** and colleagues focus on suppression of the flow separation, which occurs on a deflected flap, by means of vortex generators.

The following persons located the reviewers and supervised the review and revision of the papers in this issue: Associate Editor Helmut **Fendt** (Rodzewicz paper), Associate Editor Mark **Maughmer** (Popelka, et al., Gorisch and Souckova, et al. papers) and I edited Ohlmann's article. To assure accuracy of the published manuscripts, each senior author received a 'galley-proof' for corrections-only prior to publication. I applaud the team that produced this issue: associate editors, peer-reviewers, authors, copy-editor/layout person, printers and distributors. Thank you!

You are invited to send me comments on papers so a useful dialogue with the author(s) can occur in *Technical Soaring*. Guidelines for comments can be found at **www.ostiv.org (editor)**.

Back-issues, from Vol. 32, No. 1/2 (January/April 2008) to the current issue, are online at **journals.sfu.ca/ts/**; earlier issues will be put online as possible.

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