

From the Editor

Thanks this month go to Associate Editors Mark Maughmer and Zafer Aslan for overseeing the reviews of the papers in this issue, to all our Associate Editors, and — above all — our authors, whose labor make *Technical Soaring* possible.

And, as always, we thank our peer reviewers — you know who you are!

Reminder to Authors

While *Technical Soaring* allows authors to submit color figures with their papers, the journal is printed in greyscale. Therefore, please do not rely on color in your figures. In particular, do not use color to distinguish data sets — instead, use symbols, line styles, fill patterns, etc.

The above notwithstanding, the online version of *TS* at journals.sfu.ca is provided in full color. Both papers in this issue contain color figures that readers may wish to view online.

OSTIV at the 2014 SSA Convention, Reno, Nevada

The 2014 Soaring Society of America Convention will be held February 25 – March 1, 2014 in Reno, Nevada, USA, at the Atlantis Casino Resort Spa Hotel/Reno-Sparks Convention Center. The convention web site is <http://www.ssa.org/Convention>.

OSTIV again will be participating in the Convention by organizing an OSTIV speaker track starting 27 February alongside two SSA-organized speaker tracks. In addition, an OSTIV booth will be set up in the exhibition hall with back issues of *Technical Soaring* and other OSTIV publications available for sale.

OSTIV is seeking speakers for the OSTIV track. Suitable talks will be considered even if previously presented elsewhere. Timing is nominally 50 minutes for each talk, including questions and answers. While OSTIV is unable to reimburse travel/accommodation expenses, a complimentary full SSA Convention registration will be offered. Please contact OSTIV RENO 2014 coordinator Bernald Smith at bernaldd@juggernaut.com for more information and/or to express your interest.

Reader Comment: Safe Winch Launches — an Update

To the Editor,

My paper “Safe Winch Launches” (*Technical Soaring* 37(1)) reports on the outcome of the first 7 years of the BGA safe winch launch initiative.

I am pleased to update these data with results for the 2013 BGA Accident Year which ended recently on September 30, 2013. In this, the eighth year of the initiative, there were no fatal or serious injury winch accidents in BGA gliders.

This means that during the 8 years from 2006–2013 there were 5 fatal or serious injury winch accidents compared with 22

OSTIV Congress XXXII

Now is a good time to start planning to attend OSTIV Congress XXXII, which will be held in conjunction with the 33rd World Gliding Championships in Leszno, Poland, 21 July – 10 August, 2014. The schedule for the XXXII OSTIV Congress:

- Opening Ceremony: Wednesday 30 July 2014
- Technical Sessions: Thursday 31 July – Saturday 2 August
- Excursion: Sunday 3 August
- Technical/Scientific Sessions: Monday–Tuesday 4–5 August
- Closing Dinner: Wednesday 6 August 2014

A call for papers will appear in *Technical Soaring* around January 2014.

Back Issues

Thanks to the efforts of Journal Manager and EIC-emeritus Ward Hindman, back issues from Vol. 24, No. 1 (January–March, 2000) to the current issue are now online at journals.sfu.ca/ts/. The project continues and earlier issues will be made available as soon as possible.

Letters to the Editor and Reader Comments

Your Editor invites comments and suggestions related to any aspect of *Technical Soaring*. News of interest to *TS* readers (upcoming events etc.) is also welcome. Comments addressing technical or factual content of papers published in *TS* may, at writer request, be considered for publication as a formal “Reader Comment,” with the original author being afforded an opportunity to respond.

Respectfully,

Judah Milgram
Editor-in-Chief, *Technical Soaring*
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in the previous 8 years and an 8-year average of 24 from 1974 to 2005. Two of the 5 fatal or serious injury winch accidents from 2006–2013 involved a stall or spin in comparison with 17 in the previous 8 years and an 8-year average of 19.5 from 1974 to 2005. This safety initiative continues.

Sincerely,

Hugh Browning
Lasham, Alton, UK