

NSM NEWS

FALL
2018

Official Newsletter of the National Soaring Museum

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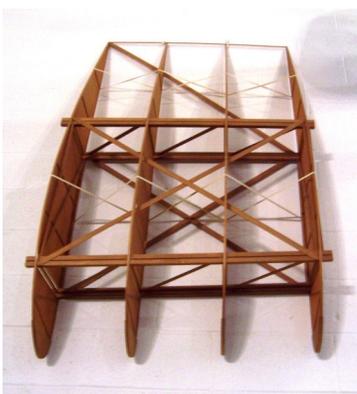
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Bowlus SP-1 wing section

From the Director - Trafford Doherty

Exhibits:

Soaring in Germany Exhibit:

This is essentially an all-new exhibit that addresses the beginnings of the soaring movement at the Wasserkuppe and ultimately describes the interface between German and American soaring in the late 1920's and early 30's. Several artifacts such as Klemperer's barograph, license, and logbook, etc., are included from a previous exhibit. With a couple of exceptions, all photographs and their associated texts are new to this presentation. One especially effective change occurred when I hung the *Blue Mouse* model in the place formerly occupied by the Bowlus SP-1 (Paper Wing) wing section. The Mouse looks really great in its new location above the *Soaring in Germany* exhibit!

Hawley Bowlus Exhibit:

Thanks to a lot of help from Jean, Jeff Byard, and our Fred Loomis photo archives, this exhibit is now complete. The previously-mentioned wing section was put up on the wall above and to the left of the Bowlus kiosk, along with appropriate photos and narrative. I don't know who made that wing section, but it's a fine piece of work – and it really has paper webbing on the ribs! The kiosk contains an elaborate presentation of Bowlus photos, artifacts - and a bottle of *Albatross Ridge* Chardonnay, courtesy of Hawley's son, Jack Bowlus. The Baby Bowlus two-place fuselage was taken out of storage and placed next to the Bowlus kiosk.



Soaring Hall of Fame Nominations:

There were four nominees this year (Sarah Arnold, Jack Gomez, Roy McMaster, Oran Nicks), but none of them received the minimum number of votes (6) for referral to the SSA Board for further consideration.

Introductory Video:

Recently, we put together a narrated 12-minute slide show presentation with narrative on the history of soaring with specific emphasis on Elmira. The purpose is to give our visitors an overview of the early years of soaring and to explain how (and why) Elmira - and ultimately, Harris Hill - was chosen as *the* official American Soaring site. Feedback from our visitors has been very positive.



We are experiencing an increase in favorable comments from our visitors and we are requesting that they share their NSM experiences with the website *Trip Advisor*. During my time at Curtiss Museum, I became very aware of the decisive effect that this medium

has on potential visitors and we're going to make a real effort to take advantage of this excellent advertising vehicle for the NSM.

Zanonia:

We commissioned a large painting of the Zanonia by aviation artist, Ted Williams, which will become part of the Zanonia and Paul MacCready exhibit.

Working from his studio overlooking Canandaigua Lake in the Finger Lakes region of upstate NY, Ted has created a focused body of aviation fine art and illustration. Noted for his stunning realistic approach, he has created paintings and illustrations for a broad clientele, which includes private commissions for aircraft owners, pilots and corporations, as well as historical illustration work for numerous museums and publishers of magazines and books.

Ted primarily works in oil for his fine art and in digital media for his illustrations, but he is also proficient with acrylic and watercolor. However, as Ted is known to say, everything begins with a pencil, "Competent drawing skills are the foundation of any good painting."

Beginning with his art training at the Rochester Institute of Technology, Ted has followed a career in commercial art that has brought him many awards and accolades. He has expanded his work in aviation history by entering the world of publishing as an author and illustrator of his own books. Most notably, his master work is *The American Fighter Plane* (Metrobooks, Barnes and Noble Publishing). The book traces the evolution of U.S. fighter plane development through Ted's full-color illustrations and drawings with text written by his daughter, Amy.

As a skilled independent artist, Ted has garnered much praise among aviation enthusiasts, engineers and historians, "But the best rewards I have received are the many friendships I have established over the years with people who love airplanes as much as I do." says Ted, reflecting on his years as an aviation artist and illustrator.

<https://www.tedwilliamsaviationart.com>



Painting now on display at museum



Traff and Ted in Ted's art studio

New Exhibit at the German Soaring Museum

We have recently received correspondence from Peter Lukas Ditsler and Otto Becker of the German Soaring Museum (Deutsches Segelflugmuseum) at the Wasserkuppe, Germany. They have now completed repairs to a replica of Peter Riedel's first glider. Peter built his first glider at age 14 to compete at the first Wasserkuppe glider meet in 1920. In 1974 Peter built this replica of his first glider and flew it. Named the PR II, the restored replica can now be found in the German Soaring Museum's Exhibition Hall. (photos courtesy of the Deutsches Segelflugmuseum staff except as indicated)



Original PR II
in flight





The German postal system recently released a new stamp honoring Peter Riedel and his first glider.



Photo courtesy of the C.E. Daniel Collection

IVSM 2020

The next International Vintage Sailplane Meet will be here before you know it! 2020 marks the 25th anniversary of the first IVSM, originally organized in 1995 by Jan Scott and Paul Schweizer. The IVSM 2020 poster and logo, now in progress by artist, Ted Williams, will feature Chad Wille's Midwest Utility Glider, which will be on Harris Hill for the meet on July 4-11, 2020.

It's not too early to make plans to bring your vintage sailplane or glider to Harris Hill for this special meet.



NSM 50th Anniversary

2019 is the 50th Anniversary of the National Soaring Museum. A Gala celebration dinner will be held on Saturday evening, October 5, with cocktail hour, catered banquet, big band music and special speaker. Invitations will go out six weeks in advance - but mark your calendar now!



CG-4 Model

The model of the CG-4, long sitting atop the “snatch pick-up” diorama, now hangs directly above the CG-4 fuselage. It gives a much better view of the model and also a better feel of the actual appearance of a fully assembled CG-4.



NEW MEMBERS

Family

Shirley Weigand
Jim & Tracey Cook
Mary Ann Caroscio

Individual

Patricia M. Lambert
Brent Schuld

Bronze

Beatrice Schwoerer

MEMBERSHIP UPGRADES

Bronze

Ron & Linda Bors
Rick & Ann Lafford

Family

Paul Trist

MEMBERSHIP DONATIONS

David Robertson
Cal Weiss
Barry Muhlenberg
Chris & Lianne Groshel

MATCHING GIFT

Dr. William W. Doerr
Eileen Collins
Steven Leonard

2018 End-of-the-Year Campaign Donors

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Rob & Holly Buck
Tim & Jackie King
Richard & Linda Welles
Henry Gurshman
Christopher Woods
Stephen & Connie Bowen
Dr. Norbert Wethington



Re-hanging the Blue Mouse

IN MEMORIAM

Sergio Colacevich

died September 2, 2018



We are sad to report that on Sunday September 2, 2018 our soaring community lost two friends and very active pilots in a glider accident near Truckee. Sergio Colacevich and Jim Alton died when the Duo Discuss they were piloting crashed on Slide Mountain. Reports from eye witnesses say that their Duo Discuss Turbo (sustainer engine) broke apart in the air and crashed on the East side of Slide Mountain. Sergio and Jim were participating in the local TAGARS contest.

Sergio has also had a long-time commitment to the soaring community. He held director positions as well as being Safety Director in PASCO. Sergio was always developing ideas to promote soaring and encouraged other senior pilots from glider airports across the region to mentor more junior pilots on cross country soaring. Sergio and Mike Mayo purchased a Duo Discuss so that they could have a ship to train pilots for cross country soaring. In 2008 Sergio developed the "Alby" (<http://albysvoyage.blogspot.com/>) award and spent 6 years talking to clubs and pilots and encouraging them to take Alby on its next leg of the journey from the Pacific Ocean, to Kitty Hawk (Atlantic Ocean) and then finally to Harris Hill, the National Soaring Museum. Sergio's enthusiasm never faltered as he continued to pursue pilots to fly Alby along its journey. As a gifted soaring writer, he contributed many articles to regional and national magazines. He also started the Truckee TAGARS race series and it has been held successfully for many years at Truckee. His idea was to have a race that kept pilots relatively local and where pilots of all experience levels could comfortably compete.

IN MEMORIAM

Sterling Starr

Dec. 25, 1930 - June 13, 2018



Sterling Starr died in Billings, MT, after a year-long battle with pancreatic cancer. Sterling had been a member of NSM since 1975. He earned his Master's Degree in Aeronautical Engineering from Ohio State University in 1953. He was immediately hired by the Convair Corporation in San Diego. Convair was subsequently acquired by General Dynamics and Sterling worked on many significant projects for GD over his engineering career, including the XFY, XF-2Y, F-102, F-106, F-16A, Tomahawk CM, F-16/79, F-111, Sparrow, SM-2, Phalanx Gun System, and Pattern Recognition Systems.

Sterling was VP of General Dynamics Planning, VP of F-16 Marketing, VP of the F-111 Avionics Upgrade program, General Manager of the Pomona Division and the Camden, Arkansas Sparrow Missile Division, and later, President of E-Metrics Subsidiary. He traveled to such diverse places as Pakistan, Taiwan, Japan, Denmark and the Middle East while marketing the F-16/79. Sterling's relationship with soaring began in the early 50's. He was a founding member of the Soaring Society of America, serving as president for two years and as a director for more than ten years. He designed and built his own glider, which he flew more than 450 hours. He donated his Schweizer SGS 1-23 to the National Soaring Museum where it remains as part of the museum collection. He set 32 Montana State soaring records.

Sterling introduced many young people in the community to the joys of flying, giving Young Eagle rides in his Piper Comanche 260-C and setting up his sailplane for kids to climb into during Laurel Aviation Days. Sterling served on many local committees and was especially involved with the Rocky Mountain College Aviation program.

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David Welles
Phil Westcott

IN MEMORIAM

Marion S. Griffith

Oct. 19, 1930 - June 2, 2018

MEMORIAL DONATIONS

In Memory of
Howard F. Trampenau
Rex Wells

In Memory of
Robert J. Buchwalder
Phyllis Buchwalder

Sponsor A Glider

By sponsoring a glider for the annual donation of \$500, the National Soaring Museum will designate the glider of your choice as being sponsored by you for 2019 and will display near the glider a photo (if desired) of the sponsor and a brief biography. At the sponsor's option, the biography may include a reference to the particular glider and its importance to the sponsor.

A list of gliders currently in our collection can be found on our website. The Zanonina, Baby Albatross, Schweizer 1-26, Schweizer 1-35, Orlik, Schweizer 1-7, Pratt Read LNE-1 and the Gross Skyghost were all under sponsorship for 2018. Please call the museum 607-734-3128 with any questions

SPONSOR A GLIDER 2019

My name(s) as it is to appear in printed matter : _____

Address _____ City _____

State _____ Zip _____ Home phone _____

e-mail address _____

My check for \$500 is enclosed

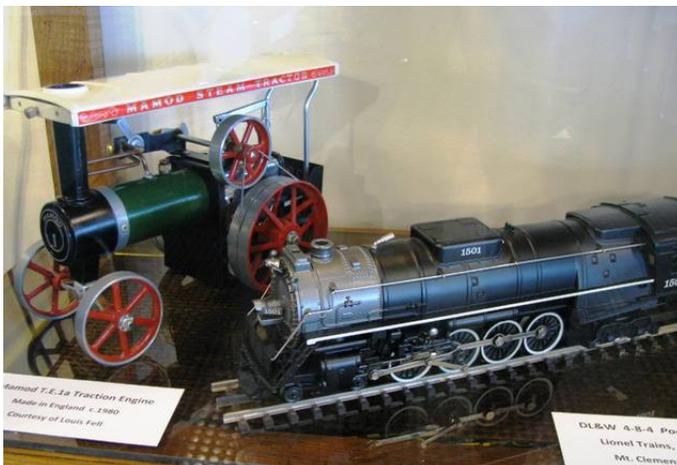
Please bill my Credit Card# _____ exp. date _____

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Signature _____

CALENDAR OF EVENTS



Now through September 2019

Icon Art of Joyce Merletti

Now through March 2019

Dollhouse & Miniatures Exhibit

April 26-28, 2019 - **Quilt Exhibit**

2019 - **NSM 50th Anniversary**

July 4-11, 2020

International Vintage Sailplane Meet



51 Soaring Hill Drive
Elmira, NY 14903

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www.soaringmuseum.org
607-734-3128

FALL 2018



MUSEUM HOURS

May 1 - Dec. 31
Open daily 10-5

Jan. 2 - Apr. 30
Open daily 10-4

**Closed on Monday and
Tuesday in January &
February**

**Museum closed on the
following holidays:**

- New Year's Day
- Easter Sunday
- Thanksgiving Day
- Christmas Eve
- Christmas Day

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NSM Membership Form

Please check the membership category of your choice and return to:

The National Soaring Museum, 51 Soaring Hill Dr., Elmira, NY 14903

Basic \$35
 Family \$50
 Bronze \$100
 Silver \$250
 Gold \$500
 Diamond \$1000
 Cayley Society \$2500

My name(s)
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My check is enclosed

Please bill my Credit Card# _____ exp. date _____

(MasterCard-Visa-Discover-American Express) V-code _____

Signature _____

**Additional tax-deductible donations will be used for museum improvements, including
upgrading facilities, restoration shop and new exhibits.**

My additional donation _____

Membership Benefits: Unlimited free admission • Invitations to exhibit openings and receptions
Guest passes • Subscription to the museum newsletter • Volunteer opportunities • Discounts on
museum programs and events • Discounts in the museum shop