

NSM NEWS

WINTER
2019

Official Newsletter of the National Soaring Museum

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From the Director - Trafford Doherty

Perlan Exhibit: We are in the beginning stages of this project, but at this point, I plan to include it in the existing Sierra Wave exhibit. It will describe the earlier flights of Enevoldson and Fossett and proceed to the present doings down in Argentina. As time goes by, we will obviously need to update this. A 1/24th scale model of the *Perlan II* is in the works.

Special Temporary Exhibits: Currently located on the Gift Shop exterior wall is a presentation of hand-painted Orthodox icons by Joyce Merletti. We got to know Joyce through her doll house interests several years ago and, at that time, we got to see her icon work – which is exquisite - and we talked about doing an icon exhibit at Curtiss, but never got around to it. We did make it happen here and the public response has been very positive. This exhibit will be in place through Labor Day. You may recall that we have used this space for varying art forms, including local photography, and nature paintings. To move back to aviation, Ted Williams has agreed to do an exhibit of his excellent works for 2020 (it will be in place for IVSM). Ted is also responsible for our lovely *Zanonia* painting which is now in the Blossom Gallery.

John Robinson/Paul MacCreedy Exhibit(s): My thinking has evolved a bit on this; I would like to place the various texts and photos associated with these two very significant people on panels in front of the *Zanonia* and *Orlik*, rather than using a nearby kiosk (in order to not obstruct viewing, these would be low to the floor). The “Zani” and *Orlik* are a major focus of these exhibits and having your back to them, while reading about exploits of their famous pilots, would not be as effective. Having the signage in front is a standard method when exhibiting famous aircraft, cars, boats, etc. I decided to adopt this approach when Ted’s painting arrived. After I placed it on an easel in front of the sailplane, and brought the **big** trophy out of my office and placed it on the table (also in front) I realized that I liked the look. This would also free up the kiosk for another exhibit.

Women in Soaring: We’ll be starting on this exhibit soon. *Women in Soaring* is a subject that definitely belongs in a dedicated kiosk. This presentation will take the place of the *Smirnoff Race* exhibit that has been around for a number of years.



← Ginny Schweizer

↑ Bertha Ryan

Restoration Shop:

As it is elsewhere in the museum, the Restoration Shop is continuing to evolve. Several model sailplanes have been added, along with an interesting collection of model airplanes and engines. Please bear in mind that virtually all of us who have an interest in aviation, at one time or another, did model airplanes and/or gliders. People love to see things like these - that they did in their past (and, for some of us, in the present). I've gotten some great comments from our visitors for this very reason. It's all good!

50th Anniversary Banquet:

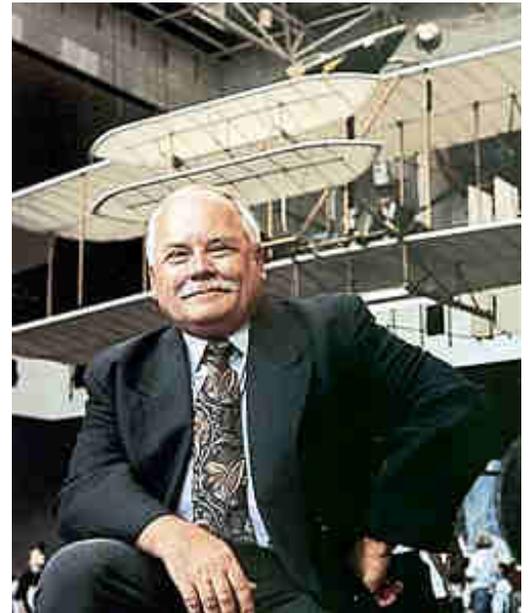
Scheduled for October 5th (same day as the Board meeting), this will be a Gala-type affair with a speaker (Tom Crouch). We plan to have it catered by the same folks who did our Hall of Fame banquet last year: *Corning Catering*. I also have a band lined up: *The Hepcats*, also from Corning. We had them at numerous events at Curtiss and I'm sure that you will enjoy them.

Tom Crouch to Speak at the National Soaring Museum's 50th Anniversary Dinner

Recently retired NASM Senior Curator, Tom Crouch, will be the featured speaker at the National Soaring Museum's 50th Anniversary Gala on October 5, 2019. He very enthusiastically accepted our invitation and we are looking forward to having him here in October.

Tom Crouch was for many years the senior curator of the Division of Aeronautics at the Smithsonian Institution's National Air and Space Museum. Since 1974 he has served both the National Air and Space Museum and the National Museum of American History in a variety of curatorial and administrative posts. He holds a BA (1962) from Ohio University, an MA (1968) from Miami University, a Ph.D. (1976) from the Ohio State University and an honorary degree in Doctor of Humane Letters from Wright State University. All of his degrees are in history.

Crouch is the author or editor of more than a dozen books and many articles for both magazines and scholarly journals, most of which have been on aspects of the history of flight technology. His leading books include "The Bishop's Boys: A Life of Wilbur and Orville Wright" (1989); "Dream of Wings: Americans and the Airplane, 1875-1905" (1981); "Eagle Aloft: Two Centuries of the Balloon in America" (1983); "Wings: A History of Aviation from Kites to the Space Age" (2003), "Rocketeers and Gentlemen Engineers: A History of the American Institute of Aeronautics and Astronautics and What Came Before"; "Lighter than Air: A Concise History of Balloons and Airships. His other works include Bleriot XI: The Story of a Classic Airplane; and several other notable publications.



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Prior to coming to the Smithsonian he was employed by the Ohio Historical Society as director of education (1969-1973) and as Director, Ohio American Revolution Bicentennial Advisory Commission. (1973-74). Since 1974, Crouch has served both the National Air and Space Museum and the National Museum of American History in a variety of curatorial and administrative posts. Throughout his career, he has also played a major role in planning exhibitions and managing museum collections.

In the fall of 2000, President Clinton appointed Dr. Crouch to the Chairmanship of the First Flight Centennial Federal Advisory Board, an organization created to advise the Centennial of Flight Commission on activities planned to commemorate the 100th anniversary of powered flight.

New HHSC Flight Center Progress

Lots of hard work in some pretty nasty weather conditions this winter. As of this writing, drywall is mostly up and plastering will begin soon. And - spring is coming - I think! Thanks to Roy McMaster for these great photos. See following page to make a contribution.



Harris Hill Soaring Corporation

Flight Center Capital Campaign Pledge Form



Donor Information

First Name _____ MI _____ Last Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip Code _____

Gift Pledge Information

I (we) pledge a total of \$ _____ to the Harris Hill Soaring Corporation Capital Campaign.
Bronze \$100-\$999 Silver \$1,000-\$4,999 Gold \$5,000-\$9,999 Diamond \$10,000 or more

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Please contact us for securities transfer instructions

Please charge my ___ Visa ___ Master Card

Card Number _____ Expiration _____ 3-digit Security Code _____

Signature _____
Credit card payments will be automatically charged per your billing preference above. Make checks payable to Harris Hill Soaring Corporation.

My gift will be matched by _____ Company/Foundation/Family.
___ form enclosed ___ form will be forwarded

Acknowledgement and Recognition

Your Name(s) as you wish it (them) listed _____

___ I (we) wish to have our gift remain anonymous.

Donor Signature(s) _____ Date _____

HHSC is a 501(c)(3) charitable organization. According to current IRS regulations, donations qualify as tax-deductible charitable contributions.



Harris Hill Soaring Corporation P. O. Box 544 Horseheads, NY 14845

United States Soaring Hall of Fame

Call for Nominations

Nominations for election to the United States Soaring Hall of Fame are currently being accepted.

The deadline for the current year consideration is June 30, 2019

Any member of the Soaring Society of America may submit an individual's name for consideration as a Hall of Fame candidate. Each nomination must be accompanied by a detailed statement setting out the achievements or contributions of the nominee, justifying consideration for election to the Hall of Fame.

Please send nominating letters and support material to:

Trafford L. Doherty, Director
National Soaring Museum
51 Soaring Hill Dr.
Elmira, NY 14903-9204

Questions? Please call (607) 734-3128 or e-mail:
director@soaringmuseum.org



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Thomas Mellies

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Jerry & Jeanne Madden

Bronze
Dr. Norbert Wethington

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Henry Gurshman
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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 Zanon, 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 _____

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

Signature _____

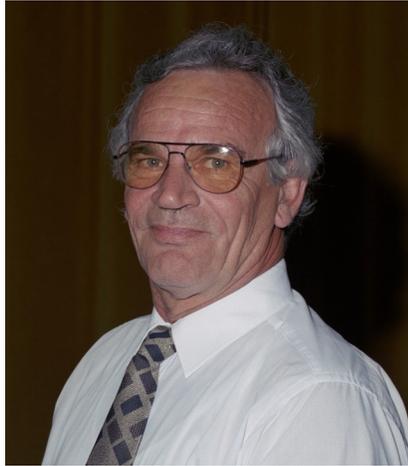


IN MEMORIAM

Wolf Elber

July 2, 1941 - January 12, 2019

Born in Quellendorf, Germany, Wolf worked in Germany and Australia before coming to the States and spending the final 36 years of his career with NASA at Langley Research Center. He began his NASA career in 1972 as an aerospace engineer in the Materials Division. He specialized in fatigue crack growth in metals and in fracture and impact resistance in composites. In 1979 he joined a special study group to perform a risk assessment for graphite fibers released into the atmosphere. In 1980 he became a member of the NASA



Structures Team to verify the flight safety of the Shuttle's heat-resisting tiles. He was among dozens of Langley employees to investigate the O-ring seals that caused Challenger to disintegrate over the Atlantic Ocean. While at Langley, he served as Director of the Aerostructures Directorate, U.S. Army Aviation Research and Technology Activity and as Director of the US Army Research Laboratory, Vehicle Technology Directorate. In 1982 he was awarded the NASA Exceptional Scientific Achievement Medal. The accompanying citation read, "For pioneering discoveries in fracture mechanics and unique analytical solutions to the behavior of engineering materials that have enhanced the performance and safety of aerospace structures."

Wolf was well known at Harris Hill, scoring several contests. In 1982 Wolf, together with Steve Sliwa, developed the first display scoring program during the infancy of PCs. For the first time, crews and already-returned pilots could see on a TV screen (superimposed on a schematic display of the Fingerlakes Region) where pilots had landed. He also wrote the program for the ground clock that was used during the 1983 Soaring World Championships in Hobbs, NM. He tinkered with home-calibrating sailplane instruments and tried to develop a "thermal sniffing" instrument, an idea that was far ahead of its time and has become reality only in the last 10 years.

IN MEMORIAM

Dietrich "Dieter" Ennulat

1931 - February 23, 2019

Dieter passed away on February 23rd at his home in Milton, PA at the age of 87. He was born in Insterburg, Germany in 1931 to Walter and Martha Ennulat. Dieter immigrated to this country in 1956 after completing his formal training as a watchmaker. He had a long and successful career as an engineer with the Westinghouse Corporation; starting in Pittsburgh in 1961 and finishing in Horseheads in 1996 with their Industrial Tube division which became IST. He held a Bachelors degree in Engineering from Empire State College and held several patents for camera tubes he designed.



Dieter loved the outdoors and was an avid camper, hunter and marksman. Perhaps his greatest hobby was soaring and gliders which he did for most of his adult life. He was an active member and past club president of Harris Hill Soaring Corporation. After retiring from soaring he took up training Bonsai trees as a hobby and was an active member in the Augusta Bonsai Club.

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IN MEMORIAM

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9/24/1928 - 1/2/2019

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Heinz Weissenbuehler
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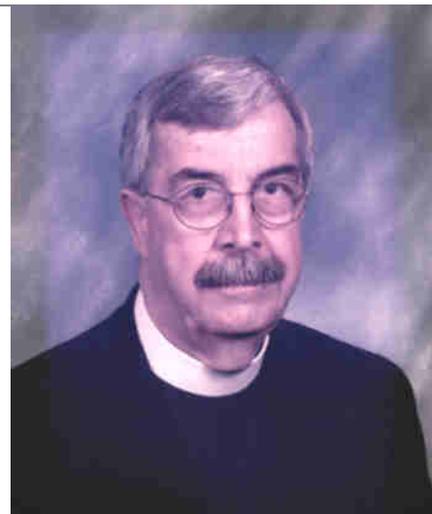
IN MEMORIAM

Arie Johannes "Han" van den Blink

April 30, 1934 - February 11, 2019

Han van den Blink and his late wife, Nelson, were longtime benefactors of the National Soaring Museum. Han was born on April 30, 1934 in Mojowarno, East Java, Indonesia, the oldest son of the late Rev. Jan van den Blink and Tine van den Blink-Woudstra, who were Dutch missionaries. He was predeceased by his wife of 61 years Katherine Nelson Mooers van den Blink.

Han and his family were interned in Japanese concentration camps from 1942 to 1945 and in an Indonesian concentration camp in 1946. This experience was a defining moment for Han and his family and greatly affected them the rest of their lives, and influenced Han's spiritual journey. Han came to the United States in 1953 as a Rotary exchange student at Alfred University and met Nelson in 1954 in Elmira where they were married in 1956. He was a 1955 graduate of Trinity College with a Bachelor of Arts degree, a 1962 graduate of Yale Divinity School with a Bachelor of Divinity degree, and received a PhD in 1972 from Princeton Theological Seminary in Pastoral Theology.



Han had a long and varied career in religion, counseling, and education. He was first a hospital chaplain in Knoxville, TN, and then, after attending a pastoral counseling program at the Menninger Foundation in Topeka, KS in 1965, Han and his family moved to Princeton, NJ in 1967. He worked as a counselor and psychotherapist in Princeton until 1983, becoming a NJ licensed psychologist during that time. Han then became a Professor at Colgate Rochester Divinity School and taught there for many years. In 1992 Han became an Episcopal Priest, having formerly been an ordained Presbyterian minister. He was an Associate Priest at Grace Episcopal Church in Elmira and finished his career as the Priest at St. Paul's Episcopal Church in Troy, PA. Han received many honors and awards for his work over the years, including being a Diplomate and past President of the American Association of Pastoral Counselors, and received several teaching awards at Colgate Rochester. In 2001 he became the Chaplain General of the Society of the Transfiguration in Cincinnati, OH, a position that was very special to him.

Han's hobby was flying sailplanes and he enjoyed soaring with family and friends for many years. He first soloed in the Netherlands in 1951 and flew often at Elmira, on Harris Hill and at the Schweizer Soaring School.

Han became a US citizen in 2004, as he said, it is "a country which has given me so much, where I married the love of my life, where my children and grandchildren are, and where I have lived and worked with so much pleasure and personal and professional satisfaction."

MEMORIAL DONATIONS

In Memory of Han van den Blink

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