

NSM NEWS

SPRING 2023

Official Newsletter of the National Soaring Museum

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SSA Convention at Reno 2023

Held this year from February 23-25, the Convention was a little more of an adventure than usual - largely to the very unfriendly weather conditions. We encourage you to read an excellent blow-by-blow description presented in the spring issue of the Vintage sailplane Association's *Bungee Cord!*

The National Soaring Museum booth was staffed by board members, Ann Lafford and Mike Koerner, who additionally tried to lure in potential new museum members by offering new basic memberships for \$20. As usual, the primary attractant to our booth was a supply of fudge provided by NSM board member, Steve Leonard - always a hit!

The NSM booth was flanked by the VSA and 1-26 Association booths, so there was quite a bit of the in-person collaboration that we have been missing. SSA Region 11 Director, Jay McDaniel, was responsible for getting approximately 24 sailplanes and trailers, plus a huge two-drum winch, and 34 exhibitor booths safely into the exhibition hall and positioned in an accessible way - no small feat!



Doug Fronius brought his "Robin" to display for the event.



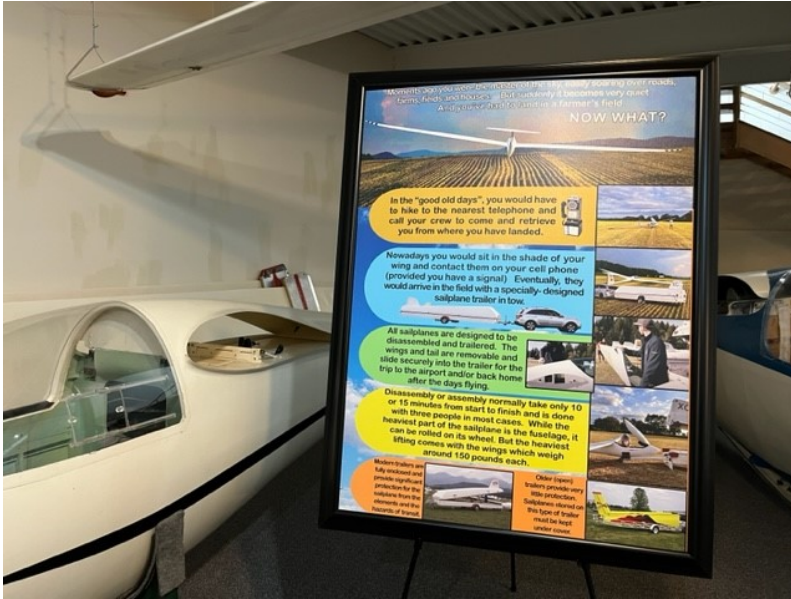
51 Soaring Hill Drive
Elmira, NY 14903

607-734-3128

info@soaringmuseum.org
www.soaringmuseum.org

Sailplane Transport Exhibit - Traff Doherty

This exhibit is now complete and consists of two components – a disassembled Ka-6 - and a panel that provides explanation through the use of text and photos. I came to the conclusion that the presentation needed to be very bright – and colorful. We don't have the capability to produce something like that so I farmed it out. Most of you have seen our Neil Armstrong panel exhibit; the same guy, local artist, Brett Steves, did this latest one – and did a great job. I placed it on an easel between the Kirby Gull and the Ka-6 and it wasn't 5 minutes before a visitor stopped by and read the whole thing.



DONATIONS - ANYONE?

We are soliciting donations suitable for use in our upcoming Silent Auction and Raffle for our September 9th Gala. We have all been to these fun events, so you probably have an idea already - anything of interest will do. Soaring memorabilia and/or items are of particular interest, but any items in good silent auction condition will be gratefully received. We have been promised a special piece or two of natural turquoise and sterling silver jewelry designed and created by Gleb Derujinsky to put in the silent auction. That will be a real treat!

Contact Jean Doherty: 607-734-3128 with any questions.



WELCOME NEW BOARD MEMBERS!

We are pleased to welcome new board members: **Jennifer Bauman, Josh Knerr and Neal Pfeiffer.**

Jennifer is from Tehachapi, CA and is a graduate of California Polytechnic State University in San Luis Obispo, CA in Aerospace Engineering. Today she works for Virgin Galactic and Stratolaunch in the flight sciences department. She owns and flies a 201 Libelle.

Josh works full time as chief pilot for a charter operation. He also owns and flies a 1968 standard class Libelle, K8b and BG-6. He has been involved in several restorations, some of them along with Jeff Byard.

Neal holds a B.S. in Chemistry, a M.A. in Mechanical Engineering and a PhD. In Aeronautical Engineering. He worked for Boeing and others as an Applied Aerodynamicist and is currently attempting to be semi-retired while doing engineering consulting. Neal owns several Schleicher sailplanes which he has restored and is working on several others.

IVSM 2024

It's not too early to begin making plans to attend IVSM next year. In addition to the usual IVSM activities, the Vintage Sailplane Association will be celebrating its 50th anniversary.

Jerry Wenger's beautiful Minimoa was the basis for our poster, created by world-famous aviation artist, Ted Williams. Examples of Ted's precision aviation art is currently on display in the National Soaring Museum.

Online registration on the NSM website for IVSM 2024 will open November 1.

↓ Minimoa on tow at IVSM 2021.



**IVSM
2024**
International
Vintage
Sailplane
Meet

JULY 6-13, 2024
NATIONAL SOARING MUSEUM
HARRIS HILL, ELMIRA, NY

2024 IVSM is sponsored by the National Soaring Museum,
Harris Hill Soaring Corp., and Vintage Sailplane Association.
info@soaringmuseum.org

WWW.SOARINGMUSEUM.ORG 607-734-3128

MUSEUM GALA

Down Memory's Runway

September 9, 2023

*Catering by
Infinity Management*

*Music by
the Starlight Band*

Drinks & hors d'oeuvres

Silent auction & raffle

Invitations will be sent in
August



Another Soaring Game from the Archives

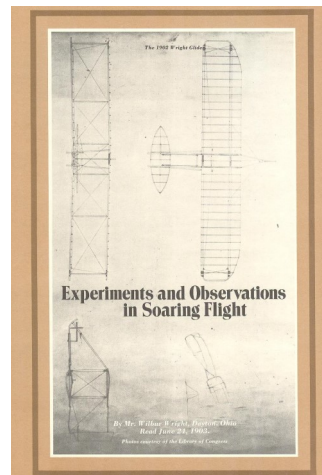


This one is called, **Schweizer Segelflug Schule** (Swiss Soaring School) in German. The title line is in French: *Ecole Suisse de Vol à Voile*. So we have a German title, a Swiss subject and all the directions are in French. The game is similar to *The Game of Life*, the players are “students” and the goal is to earn the “C” badge. Dice are rolled and the playing pieces are small metal gliders.

Chaque eleve doit essayer d'obtenir le brevet C le plus rapidement possible, c'est-a-dire d'atteindre le numero 100. Celui, qui le premier, atteint avec son avion la dernier case est vainqueur. Translation: Each student must try to obtain the C badge as quickly as possible, that is to say, to reach the number 100. The one who first reaches the last box with his plane is the winner.

Experiments and Observations in Soaring Flight

Wilbur Wright presented his paper, “Experiments and Observations in Soaring Flight”, to the Western Society of Engineers on June 24, 1903. This is the second of two papers that Wilbur presented to this group - the first was presented in 1901 and is entitled “Some Aeronautical Experiments.” Wilbur’s second paper is presented here, along with a commentary by Ralph Barnaby, providing a summary of both papers. Readers will be very impressed by Wilbur’s descriptions of the various challenges they faced through the course of their gliding experiments. Anyone with an interest in the history of soaring and the role that the Wright brothers played in it, will want to read this booklet.



Experiments and Observations in Soaring Flight is available in the Museum Gift Shop for \$2.00 - a real bargain!

- Summary by Susan Miller

MUSEUM OFFICERS

William Batesole
President

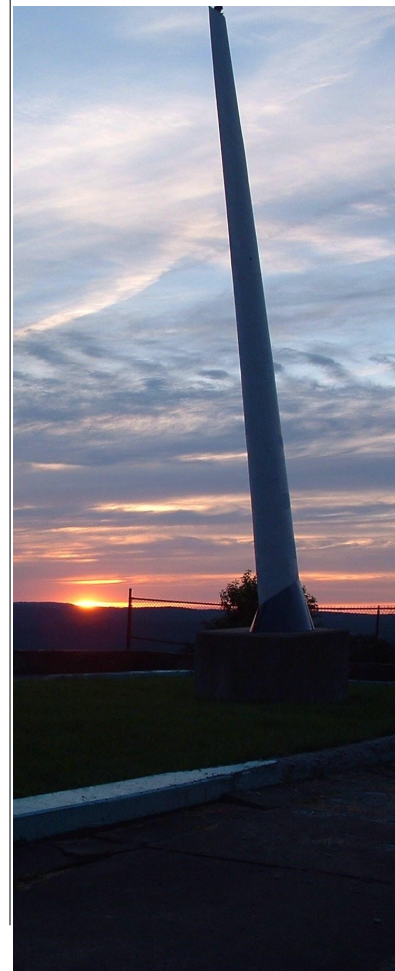
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In Memoriam

Bertha M. Ryan

1928-2023

U. S. Soaring Hall of Fame 1972

Bertha knew her life would be in aviation at the age of three when her father stopped at an airport in Massachusetts to show her, and more likely her three older brothers, an airplane up close. It was many years later, towards the end of WW II when she had her first airplane flight and first instruction at age 16, thanks to her military pilot brother who made the arrangements.



She studied math so as to qualify for some kind of an aviation profession, graduating from Emmanuel College in Boston in 1950. She started graduate school at MIT, studying part time and working full time in the math department.

As the fall term was starting, the local glider club (Aeronautical Engineering Society) wanted new members, and displayed their sailplanes in the "Infinite Corridor" at MIT. Bertha immediately joined - initially thinking it was an inexpensive way to fly until she could get back to "real" flying - but she soon learned that sailplane flying was the love of her life - she became a tow pilot and glider flight instructor - but could not operate the winch as she did not yet drive. More importantly, she also learned about aeronautical engineering from the club members and changed both her job and studies at MIT to that field of study (Course XVI).

While in New England, she became the SSA Governor for the area, published a newsletter and, along with the club, put on air shows. She helped start the New England Soaring Association and was President of the Northeastern States Soaring Association.

In 1956 she moved to Santa Monica, CA where, with the help of many friends, she built a kit sailplane - Schweizer SGS 1-26A, #44. She wrote for the *Thermal* (SCSA) and a column, briefly, for *PASCO* (*West Wind*) in Northern California. Over the years she wrote three different columns for *Soaring* magazine as well as several feature articles. She became SSA Governor for Southern California, writing a newsletter and creating a booklet of California out-landing locations.

Bertha was a scorer for many National and one World contest, all the Smirnoff Derbies and was ground contact for the Return to Kitty Hawk safari. For eighteen years she processed the U.S. National and World sailplane records as a volunteer. During this time she prepared a booklet of guidelines for record documentation (available to potential record seekers at no cost) and helped create the state soaring records. She worked with others to establish the World Distance Award and turn-point photographic techniques. In 1972, trying to figure out why so few women were soaring pilots, she initiated a newsletter, *Hangar Soaring*, for women soaring pilots which eventually became the publication of the Women's Soaring Pilots Association. She became an Associate Fellow of the AIAA (American Institute of Aeronautics and Astronautics) and arranged a list of available lecturers about soaring for their use.

She served as Treasurer and a Director of SSA and a Trustee of the National Soaring Museum (where she developed the Hall of Fame 'mini-bios' on the museum web site and made or arranged for recorded interviews with the members of the Soaring Hall of Fame). She is the author of *Soaring Beyond the Clouds*, a book about Einar Enevoldson's life as a test pilot and soaring pilot (proceeds donated to SSA). She has written non-technical articles for several national publications (in addition to her technical reports). She worked with John Leibacher (soaringweb.org) on the Index for *Soaring* magazine and continued to write about the lives of the members of the Soaring Hall of Fame as well as a monthly column in *Soaring* - Remembering the Past.



Bertha Ryan, Karl Striedieck and Frauke Elber

SSA Treasurer; World/National/Smirnoff Contest Scorer; Record Homologation; NSM Trustee; SOARING Columnist; Author.

Majewska Medal (First American) 1996; Eaton Trophy 1996; Schweizer Award 2006; Exceptional Service Award 1967, 1980; Silver #310 1958

In Memoriam

Elwin Carl “Bud” Cramer

1948 - 2023

Elwin “Bud” Carl Cramer Age 74, of Elmira. He was born September 28, 1948 in Elmira, the son of the late Alan and Leah (Sperry) Cramer, and passed away in the care of the Bath V.A. Medical Center in the morning on Thursday, May 11th 2023. Bud was a class of '66 Horseheads High School graduate. He served in the United States Air Force from 1968 to 1972, being honorably discharged at the rank of Sergeant. He worked for Schweizer Aircraft for a few years, after which he worked for St. Joseph's Hospital in various positions until his retirement. He rode motorcycles in his younger years, sometimes too fast. He loved rock and roll music and played acoustic guitar. He and Ina spent several years dancing the night away with “Studio 1262” ballroom dance group. His true passion in life was flying sailplanes with the Harris Hill Soaring Corporation. He flew commercial sailplane flights and taught the joy of soaring to the next generation as a flight instructor. During many summers, he worked there



as an additional full-time job, managing the summer operations for HHSC. Bud was awarded a lifetime membership at Harris Hill in recognition for his many decades of involvement and contributions. Bud received a diagnosis of Parkinson's in 1999; he would go on to live with this disease, enjoy his hobbies, and continue to work for many years. In his retirement from St. Joseph's Hospital in Elmira, the staff were continually amazed at Bud's work ethic and tenacity even in his last working years.

Bud is survived by his loving wife Ina (Herrington); daughter, Megan (Paul) Andrews of Horseheads, with their children Brayden and Landon; son Jason (Kate) Cramer of Arkansas, with his children Hailey, Chloe, Ethan, and Gavin; sister Sue (Rich) Maizel with their children Lexie and Josh (and their families); brother Jim Cramer with his son Warren (and his family); brother Dana Cramer; along with a host of dear friends.

Bud's family wishes to extend their gratitude to all who have supported Bud and will continue to care for his family, but especially to the staff at the Bath V.A. Hospital for their phenomenal care given to Bud for the last eight years. A graveside military ceremony will be held on Saturday, July 8th at 2:00 PM at Maple Grove Cemetery in Horseheads, followed by a Celebration of Bud's life at the National Soaring Museum. Those wishing may honor Bud's memory with a donation to the National Soaring Museum or the Harris Hill Soaring Corporation.



Bud was one of my favorite people, one of my primary flight instructors and he made a big difference in my life - Sean Murphy

Bud was one of my first mentors on the hill as a Junior. - John Fessenden

← painting—“Last Tow” by Tom Tunncliff

IN MEMORIAM

Matthew Perry
Christa Loenholdt
Suzanne Moffat
Randy McMaster

MEMORIAL DONATIONS

In Memory of

Nelson van den Blink
by
Meg Warburg

In Memory of

Bill Schweizer
by
Frederick Genung

NEW MEMBERS

Individual

Brianna McNall
Marcel Burlet
Michael O'Donnell
Kristin Farry
Judith & Doug Galbraith
George Abrantes
Sanjay Subramanian
Linda Koabel

Family

Jason & Stacey Frackenpohl

Bronze

Ellie Gross Pendleton

HHSC Senior

Brynnley Brodeur
Charles Wolfe
Howard Blair
Tyler Comstock
Frederick Deuel
Cory Bulger
Jonathan Spaugh
Linwood Hough
James Gray
Shion Enomoto
Michelle Conklin

HHSC Junior

Ryan Washburn
Nixon Byzitter
Nathaniel Woodard
Katie Woodard
Ryder Dacheux
Emma Spaugh

In Memoriam

Einar K. Enevoldson

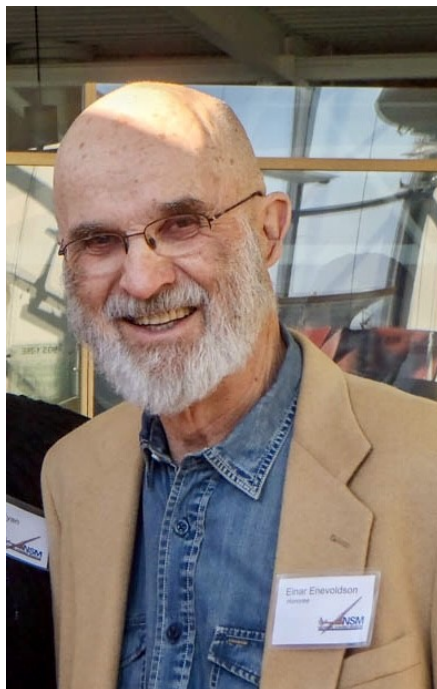
June 15, 1932 - April 14, 2021

Einar K. Enevoldson, whose vision inspired the Perlan Project, was born in Seattle, WA and died at Emeryville, CA. A Celebration of Life was held in March 2023. Einar was a civilian research pilot for NASA's Dryden (now Armstrong) Flight Research Center, Edwards, CA from 1968 until his retirement from NASA in 1986. He was involved in many research programs, including those with experimental wings, propulsion, and digital computer flight control systems. Among the NASA aircraft that he flew were the F-111, F-14, F-8 Digital Fly-By-Wire and Super Critical Wing, YF-12A, the oblique wing AD-1, Controlled Deep Stall Sailplane, sub-scale F-15 RPV spin research vehicle, and the X-24B Lifting Body.

He received his B.S. degree in Mechanical Engineering and his M.S. degree in Aeronautical Engineering from the University of Wyoming in 1963.

Einar was a jet fighter pilot in the USAF, and as an exchange officer with the Royal Air Force, he attended the Empire Test Pilot's School in Farnborough, England. Following graduation, he served as a test pilot on the Hunter, Lightning and Javelin British fighter aircraft from 1966 to 1967.

In 1974 Einar was awarded the NASA Exceptional Service Medal, for his contributions as NASA Project Pilot on the F-111 Supercritical Wing Program and on the F-15 Remotely Piloted Research Vehicle. In 1980 he was awarded the NASA Exceptional Service Medal for contributions as project pilot on F-14 stall and spin resistance tests. He was awarded a Distinguished Flying Cross and two NASA Exceptional Service Medals.



In 2006, at the age of 74, Einar and his co-pilot, Steve Fossett, set a sailplane altitude world record of 50,724', exploring the waves propagated upward by the Polar Vortex over the Southern Andes. The Perlan Project continues to carry forward his vision for high-altitude flight. The story of Einar's aviation life is told in Bertha Ryan's 2010 Soaring Beyond the Clouds: Einar Enevoldson Reaches for 100,000 Feet. Einar was inducted into the U. S. Soaring Hall of Fame here at the National Soaring Museum in May 2011

Einar was predeceased by his former wife, Ann, and survived by his wife Susana Conde, his daughters Julie Enevoldsen (Keith) and Rachel Enevoldsen (Scott), stepdaughters Ingrid Leverett (John) and Erica Leverett (Eric), and several grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

ARTIFACT DONATIONS

Peter Smith
Judah Milgram
Virgil Paggen

MEMBER CONTRIBUTIONS

Ellie Gross Pendleton
Bruce G. Bottoms
Kyle Jervis
Mary Rust
Martha Treichler
Bernald S. Smith
Mike Koerner
Chris Woods
J. R. Daniel
Steve & Nancy Sliwa
Andrew Frechtling
& Candace Faber
George Gera

MEMBERSHIP UPGRADE

Family

Al & Rhonda Tyler
Richard & Debra Swan

Bronze

Shaun & Cathy Keller
Chris & Lianne Groshel
Robert Wister
Charlie & Nancy Bauder

Silver

Elizabeth Pataki
Very Rev. John DeSocio

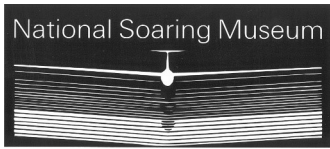
Diamond

Ken & Michelle Sorenson

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Dianne Black-Nixon
Jan van den Blink
Gregory Lincoln
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Stu & Lucy Schweizer





51 Soaring Hill Drive
Elmira, NY 14903

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www.soaringmuseum.org

607-734-3128

SPRING 2023



MUSEUM HOURS

May 1 - Oct. 31
Open daily 10-5

Nov. 1 - Apr. 30
Open daily 10-4

**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) _____
as it is to appear in printed matter : _____

Address _____ City _____

State _____ Zip _____ Home phone _____

e-mail address _____

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 & journal • Volunteer opportunities
Discounts on museum programs and events • Discounts in the museum shop