



# NEWS

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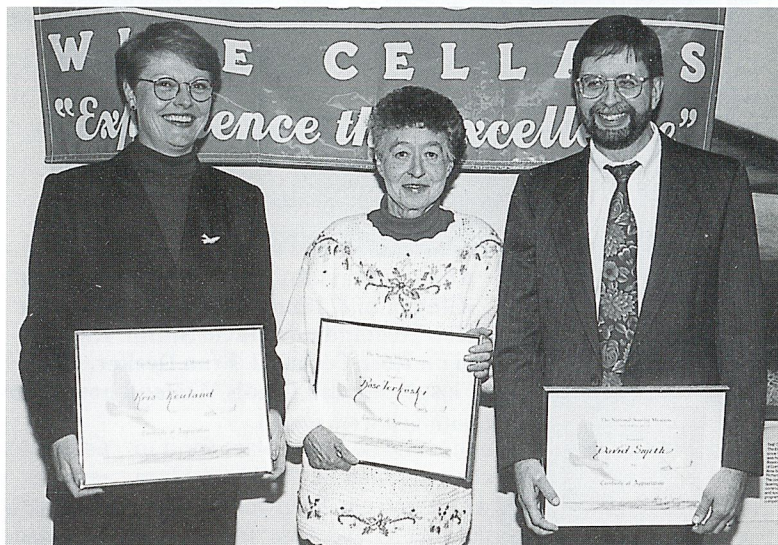
## Volunteers honored for their dedication

Kris Reuland, David Smith and Rose Terkoski were honored as special volunteers for 1997 at the National Soaring Museum's annual Community Soaring Luncheon held December 5, 1997 in the Edward A. Mooers Community Room at the NSM.

NSM Executive Director James Swinnich introduced Kris and David, both BOCES School to Work Specialists, by describing how they had initiated the successful Eileen Collins Aviation Camp in 1996, then turned it over to the NSM in 1997.

This year the camp ran for two full weeks of aviation activities (one week for boys and a second for girls). Kris and David both enthusiastically helped the NSM guide the new day camp last July.

Kris told the luncheon gathering of over 100 people that one of the original 1996 Eileen Collins campers, Mary Beth Klinger, has gone on to join the Harris Hill Soaring Corporation junior organization and soloed in a glider last



Left to right, Kris Reuland, Rose Terkoski and David Smith.

summer. A second camper, Diana Winebold, also joined HHSC and plans to solo next spring.

"This is proof positive that education can be fun for the students

and the teachers," said Kris.

David spoke of Eileen Collins as the camp's namesake, "I can think of no greater American hero to

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## KiteCitement Flies!

See pages 4-5

Huge colorful kites of all shapes and sizes decked the halls and classroom at the NSM during the 6th Annual Community Soaring Day's KiteCitement contest on

September 20, 1997 on Harris Hill. The kites were part of the "Bailey collection."

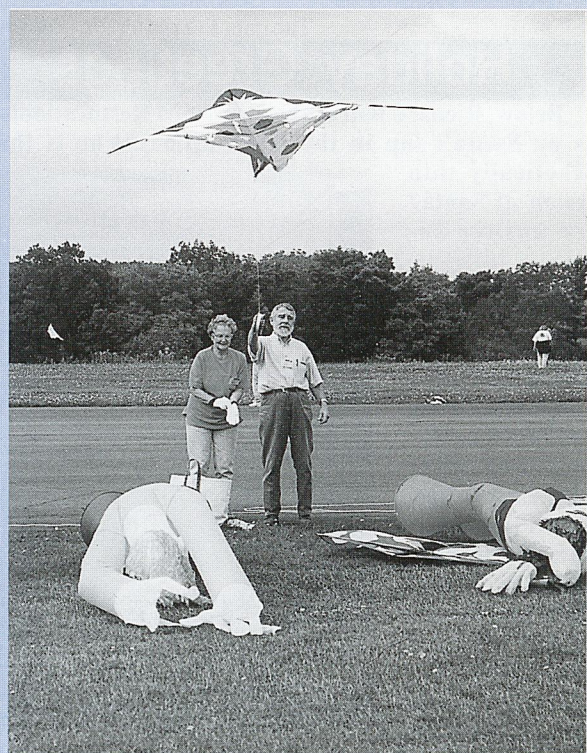
Oscar and Sarah Bailey, former Elmirans who now live in North Carolina, brought a couple dozen of their unique kites to entertain the audience. The balmy weather, which held out until just after the contest winners were announced, enticed over 100 people to come out and enjoy the morning kite fly.

The Baileys started the event with their bigger-than-lifesize people windsocks which were attached to their kites string. "Notice their bellbottoms," Sarah said. "These are hippie people. It lets the wind in better." She said that it took them 18-20 hours to build the "people socks." At the end of the string containing the three windsocks was a stacked delta - five deltas in a cow pattern, appropriately named "The Holstein." (see photo on page 4)

Oscar began making kites in the 1930's out of paper and sticks and moved on to fabric kites in 1974. Sarah joined in the hobby in 1975. The two collaborated on their Jacksonville Skyline Kite at the 1991 AKA Convention and won the People's Choice Award. Both retired teachers, their colorful designs have been exhibited at nine art galleries and museums. KiteCitement is the first event they

Continued on page 4

Right, Sarah and Oscar Bailey of North Carolina stand between their "people windsocks" as they fly their Christmas tree kite.



Volunteers Honored



Above, previous campers Mary Beth Klinger and Diana Winebold talk with Kris Reuland and David Smith. Right, (l to r): Rose Terkoski, Fran Decker, Mary Flaspahler and Gladis Wieland pose following the luncheon. Far left, Tom Cassetta speaks for HHSC.



Continued from page 1  
 honor and no better place for it to continue than the NSM - a place where you can keep your head in the clouds and your feet on the ground!"

Mr. Swinnich congratulated Rose for her many hours at the Museum particularly because she has a mini telephone tree of other volunteers that she usually calls and brings with her.

Chemung County Executive Thomas J. Tranter, Jr. told those

assembled that 1997 was a terrific year for the county. He noted the successful relocation of the National Warplane Museum, which will be mutually beneficial to the NSM and the Curtiss Museum to create an aviation mecca.

"We consider Harris Hill the County's primary tourist attraction," said Tranter. "Now we'll have two. It's a partnership with the private not-for-profits that really makes a difference in our community."

Harris Hill Soaring Corporation member Tom Cassetta highlighted the club's accomplishments for 1997 for the audience. Two major events held on their field included the Radio Controlled Model weekend in June and the Region 3 contest in August. "Two groups of individuals donated

sailplanes to help the junior members (those ages 14-21). They let the juniors fly them at little or no cost. We are really excited about that."

Cassetta also praised junior member Liz Schwenkler who represented the U.S. in a German soaring contest in August. Two others from the U.S. also attended. "She placed highest of all the Americans who went over," Cassetta said. "We're really proud of her."

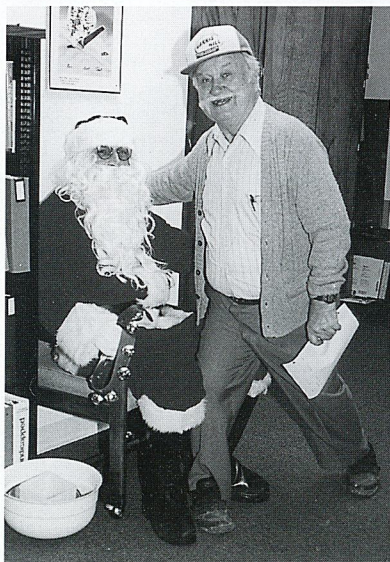
He said in 1998 the club is looking to grow the junior organization, to expand the flight center and sailplane storage facility and host the 1-26 Contest.

The Museum staff treated their guests to a festive Christmas decor and their traditional chili and sandwich buffet.

Holiday Greetings!

Below, Richard Kurzenberger, NSM Restorationist, sits on Santa's lap in the NSM office. Who is that pathetically thin version of Santa? (See answer below)

Lower right, the NSM staff gathers in the Exhibit Hall prior to the Community Soaring Luncheon. Seated, left to right: Carla Page, Mary Flaspahler, Dianne Storch, Richard Kurzenberger. Standing, left to right: James Swinnich, William Gallagher, Mike Mikolas, Jaye Fish and Richard Henrich. The entire NSM staff wishes each of you a very happy holiday season.



Answer: Jim Stuart, Harris Hill caretaker.

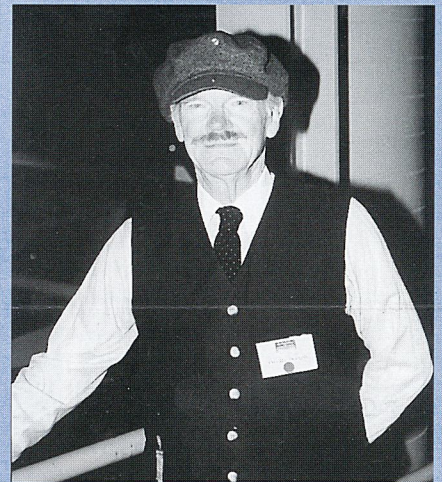
# Hall of Famer visits NSM

George and Suzanne Moffat stopped to visit the National Soaring Museum enly on their way home to Massachusetts from visiting her parents, Dr. & Mrs. Francis Bundy in Ohio. George Moffat, who was inducted into the U.S. Soaring Hall of Fame in 1963 with NSM Trustee Floyd J. Sweet, was anxious to see the Museum. "It's beautiful from the balcony," he said as he first walked in. He talked about his HP-8 currently in the NSM collection (donated to the Museum by Fred Hefty). "It held more world records than any other ship at that time," he said, adding that he had done four of the world records in it himself.

Below, the Moffats visit the restoration shop while at the Museum. Left to right are: George Moffat, William Gallagher, Richard Kurzenberger, Suzanne Moffat; foreground, left to right: Mary Flaspahler, John "Corky" Gill. Right: the Moffats visit with the NSM staff.



## Orville Wright entertains Aero-Historians



## NSM acquires Batwings

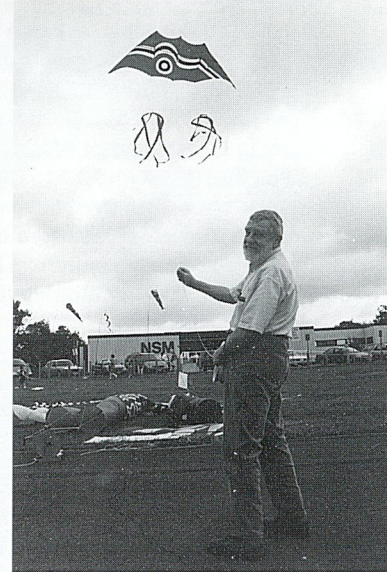
The NSM recently accepted an interesting historical object from the Croff family in Tonawanda, NY for the Museum. For details, see the *NSM Historical Journal*, 1997, Vol. 19, No. 2. Below, left to right are: Suzanne Beatty holding Richard Beatty, Nina Croff and Richard Croff with the Batwing donation.



William Gallagher treats visitors to real life history at the October 10-13, 1997 Aero-Historians Meeting at the NSM. For more on this event see the *NSM Historical Journal*, 1997 Vol 19, No. 2.

# Design!

Below and right: Oscar and Sarah Bailey fly their magnificent kites.



Continued from page 1 have attended in two or three years following a series of medical problems.

"Katman," the long black and white cat design pictured to the left, was a hit with both young and old. Oscar said it belonged to George Peters, a friend who owns a kite manufacturing business in Colorado that he met at a kite event. "We like each other's stuff," he said.

The day's strong winds were a help to some of the kite flyers, but a hindrance to other younger contestants who struggled to get their kites aloft. Twelve-year-old Anna Swinnich rolled her kite out 1,100 feet and stood there holding it

for the duration of the contest. "And it's just one of the free kites," she said. It did take her a half hour to reel it in, however.

Four-year-old Micayla Cuomo of Elmira began to get nervous as her kite started dancing in the wind and pulling at her string, "It's heavy!" she screamed. The theme of the day could definitely be labeled, "Just hold on!"

Local kite champion Bill Connors, Horseheads, again helped children assemble their free kites given by the NSM in the Museum's Edward A. Mooers Community Room. He also offered tips to those on the flying field for successfully launching their kites into the air.



Contest winners below are: front row l to r: Alan Brown, Pine City, 11-18 yrs old - 3rd place; Alec Immerman, Elmira, 11-18 yrs old - 2nd place; Aaron Bartoo, Painted Post, 5-10 yrs old - 3rd place; Christopher Brown, Horseheads, 5-10 yrs old - 1st place. Second row l to r: David Smith, judge; Susan Dean, Ithaca, 19-adult - 3rd place; Brian Harrison, judge; Garrison Kollhoff, Lindley, 19-adult -2nd place; Vincent Sodano, Elmira, 19-adult - 1st place; Sarah Burnett, Horseheads, 11-18 yrs old - 1st place; Clara Schaeffler, judge; Milt Adams, judge. Back row: James Stuart, judge; James Swinnich, judge and Bill Gallagher, judge. Not pictured: Chris Nichols, Horseheads, 5-10 yrs old - 2nd place.

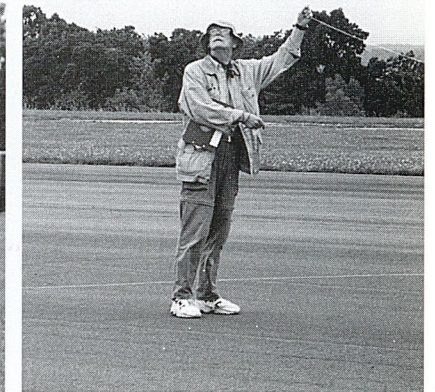
# Winning!

# Kiteflying is...

# Fun!

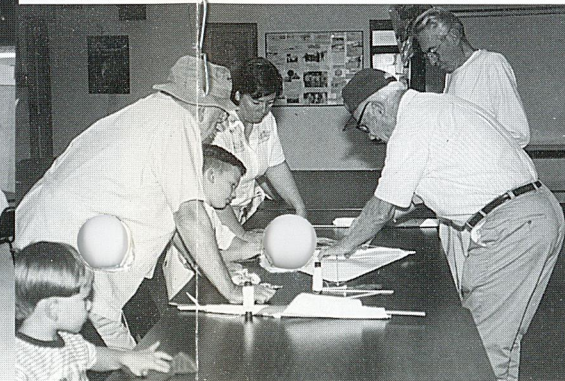
# Dance!

Managing a kite against a strong wind brings out the dance steps in us all!



# Family!

Below, Garry Kollhoff, 12, of Lindley, holds his kite while his dad, Garrison, attaches a tail. "I think that kite's 20 years old," Garrison said. "We want to put up a train, but there's a little too much wind." Lower right: Christopher Brown, Horseheads, (center) and his friends check out the kites above.



# Recognition of Friends of the Museum

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# DEVELOPMENT NEWS

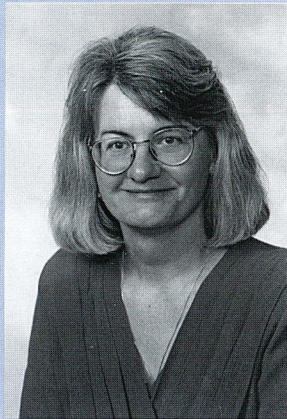
“Those Who Dared”

By **Jaye Fish**  
**Director of Development**

As the official repository of the SSA archives, the National Soaring Museum houses the U.S. Soaring Hall of Fame. We celebrate new inductees at an annual banquet, maintain the list of members, and keep biographical records of these soaring greats.

But we would like to do more. After all, the point to having records is sharing them. The stories of our soaring pioneers can inspire others to achieve—whether in the skies, science and technology, or other pursuits. “Those who dared” are part of what NSM should be sharing with the public.

This is why NSM’s plans include a special computer terminal to let visitors look up aviation pioneers right on the exhibit floor. You’ll be able to see photos of Hall of Famers, review brief biographies, cross-reference the craft they flew or designed, and their other achievements.



For some entries, gathering the information will be simply a matter of pulling it from the archives. For instance, the Museum has the complete papers of Ralph Barnaby, and the families of other soaring greats have deposited records here. For others though, we have little more than the year they were inducted. Many hours of research will be needed to make the Hall of Fame available to everyone.

You can help. First, if you have information or photos of members of the Hall of Fame (or other soaring personalities), please share them with us. As comprehensive as the archives are, we always welcome new or updated information. Contact NSM Director Jim Swinnich to see if we need what you have.

There’s another way to help the Museum complete this ambitious project. Developing and installing the exhibit will be expensive. We’ll need to pay a researcher and programmer as well as purchase computer and exhibit hardware. An additional gift, designated to the Hall of Fame exhibit, will help complete the project.

Our goal is to have the exhibit running by the Fall of 1998. We’ll continue to add biographies as the information is gathered. Your help now can move us closer to that goal. Let’s take the Hall of Fame public and give its members the recognition they earned with years of work and daring!

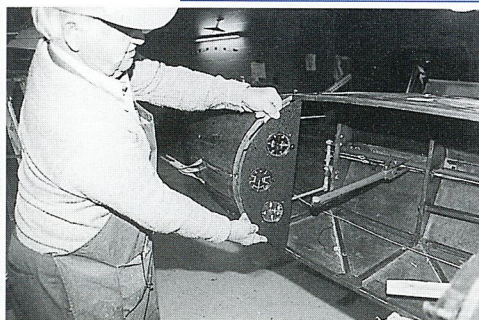
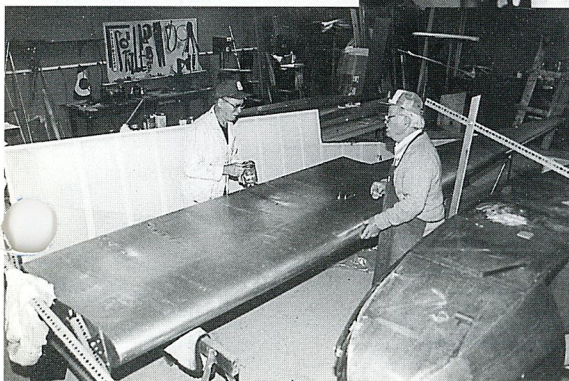
## United States Soaring Hall of Fame Members

- |                           |                        |                       |
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## Restoration crew progressing on old ships

In 1998 the Restoration crew will be building a CG-4A wing. Currently they are gathering information from the Silent Wings Museum in Texas through the use of microfilm and drawings, assisted by NSM member Lee Robbins, and from the Kalamazoo Aviation History Museum in Michigan.

Once completed the wing will be attached to the fuselage on the exhibit floor. The wing will be left without fabric so that visitors may see the workmanship.



Above center, Richard Kurzenberger displays the jig he developed to construct wing ribs for the CG-4A. Far left, Dale Gustin, left, and Richard Kurzenberger, right, begin painting the Wolf wing. Left, Kurzenberger checks the placement of his newly constructed instrument panel for the Goppingen Wolf restoration project.

## Bernard Gross makes a special flight

Right, Bernard Gross, back seat, prepares to fly with glider pilot David Graham, front seat, and tow pilot Steve Lewis, front of ship. Below, Frank R. Gross in 1929. (NSM Photo Archives)



Bernard Gross took a glider flight to honor his father, Frank R. Gross during the annual Snowbird Meet held on Harris Hill November 21-22, 1997. Frank died in July 1997, but his love of soaring lives on in the lives of numerous youth who have received the Gross Scholarship Award since its inception in 1991.

The glider pilot was David Graham, scholarship winner in 1991, and the tow pilot was Steve Lewis, scholarship winner in 1992. Both are members of the Harris Hill Soaring Corporation Junior Organization. Other previous local winners, Elizabeth Schwenkler, 1994; Cindy Williams, 1995; and Mark Glauner, 1996; also attended the Snowbird.

Bernard Gross and his wife, Gloria, were in Elmira to donate four boxes of archival material to the National Soaring Museum which document Frank's life in soaring.

## CALENDAR

February 28, 1998

**NSM Board Meeting**

*At SSA Convention Feb. 26-28 in Portland OR*

May 30, 1998

**U.S. Soaring Hall of Fame Ceremony/  
Banquet and NSM Annual Board Meeting**  
*NSM*

June 29 - July 8, 1998

**1-26 Association Championship Meet**  
*Harris Hill*

July 13-17, 1998 (Girls)

July 20-24, 1998 (Boys)

**Eileen Collins Aviation Camp  
Youth Day Camp**  
*NSM*

September 10-12, 1998

**OSTIV Sailplane Development Council Meeting**  
*NSM*

September 11, 1998

**NSM Trustee Meeting**  
*NSM*

September 12, 1998

**26th Annual Ralph S. Barnaby Lecture**  
*NSM*

### Executive Director

James W. Swinnich

### Editor

Carla Page

NSM News is published four times a year by the National Soaring Museum for all Museum friends. Address inquiries to: **National Soaring Museum**, Harris Hill, 51 Soaring Hill Drive, Elmira, NY 14903 607/734-3128 FAX: 607/732-6745 EMAIL: [nsm@soaringmuseum.org](mailto:nsm@soaringmuseum.org). Check out our web site at <http://www.soaringmuseum.org>.

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