

# NSM

# NEWS

## The National Soaring Museum Newsletter

Winter 1999-2000 Vol. 9 No. 4

*"The National Soaring Museum preserves and presents the heritage of motorless flight, and promotes, through education, a greater knowledge of soaring, aeronautics, and related physical sciences for everyone."*

On October 8, 1999, the National Soaring Museum broke ground for our 3.15 million dollar Heritage Campaign. The rich traditions of motorless flight and the role soaring has played in the development of aviation are very often overlooked. NSM, which was founded in 1969 through a unique coalition of organizations, individuals, and government entities, works to preserve soaring history. NSM holds the world's largest collection of sailplanes, and we are one of only two comprehensive museums in the world dedicated to motorless flight. However, NSM needs more exhibit space, updated visitor-friendly displays, better access to the vast resources of its archives, and additional staff support to help preserve and present the heritage of motorless flight. To preserve the entire history of soaring, the Museum goes beyond vintage gliders. NSM's collection includes more than seventy historically significant ships, from a recreation of the lost 1897 Herring-Arnot bi-wing glider to modern high-performance craft of fiberglass and carbon composites like the Marske Genesis I. The aircraft, people, equipment, photos, awards, and accomplishments of American soaring are all part of the history preserved at the National Soaring Museum.

On Page 4-5 there is a summary of the Heritage Campaign's goals. It includes building expansion and enhancement, exhibits, and endowment plans for the Museum.



Above: Campaign Co-Chair Bernald Smith hands the ceremonial shovel to NSM Board Member John Hintz.



*Above: Paul A. Schweizer signs a book  
for one of the lecture attendees*

Paul urged others to record their experiences and observations during the 20th century, so that there can be a more complete history of soaring. He is presently writing another book expanding on these subjects. (A more complete report on the text of "Soaring Thru The 20th Century" will appear in the first NSM Historical Journal of 2000).

Acting Director  
Mary Flasphaler

Editor & Production  
June Dove

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. Phone: 607.734.3128 Fax: 607.732.6745 Email: NSM@soaringmuseum.org Hours 10am to 5pm Closed Thanksgiving, Christmas Eve and Christmas Day, and New Years Day Check our web site at <http://www.soaringmuseum.org>

### CALENDAR

March 4, 2000

*Think with Arts & Sciences*  
Hands-on learning fair for kids of all ages  
Arnot Mall - Horseheads, NY

March 15-18, 2000

*SSA Convention*  
Albuquerque, New Mexico

March 17, 2000

*U. S. Soaring Hall of Fame*  
Induction Ceremony & Reception  
Albuquerque, New Mexico

March 18, 2000

*NSM Board Meeting*  
Albuquerque, New Mexico

May 13, 2000

*NSM Annual Meeting*  
NSM - Elmira, NY

May 21, 2000

*International Museum*  
*Day*  
Free admission all day

July 1-9, 2000

*IVSM (International Vintage Sailplane Meet)*  
NSM - Elmira, NY



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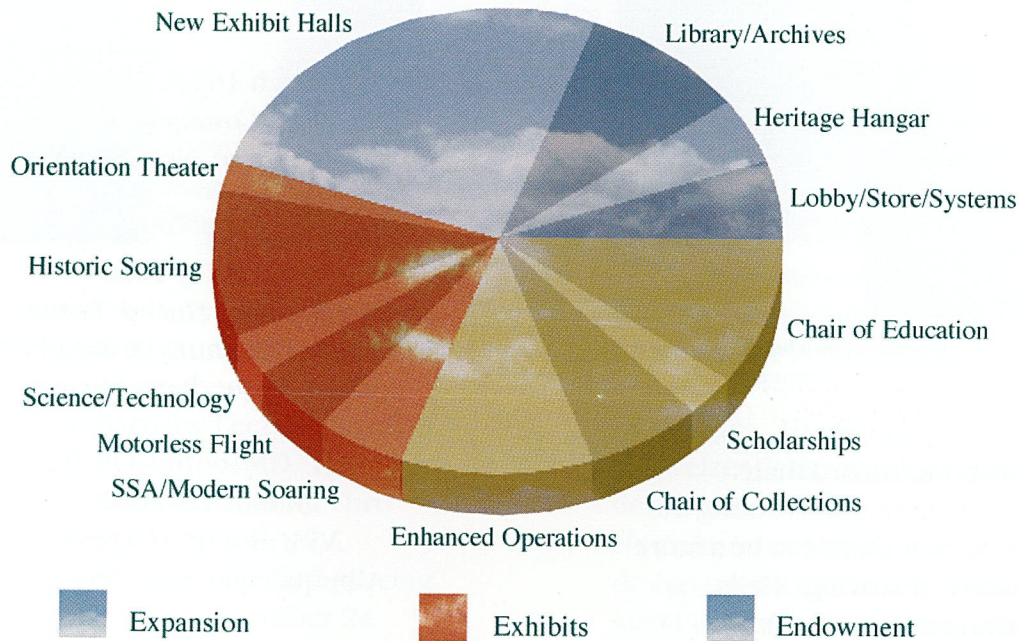
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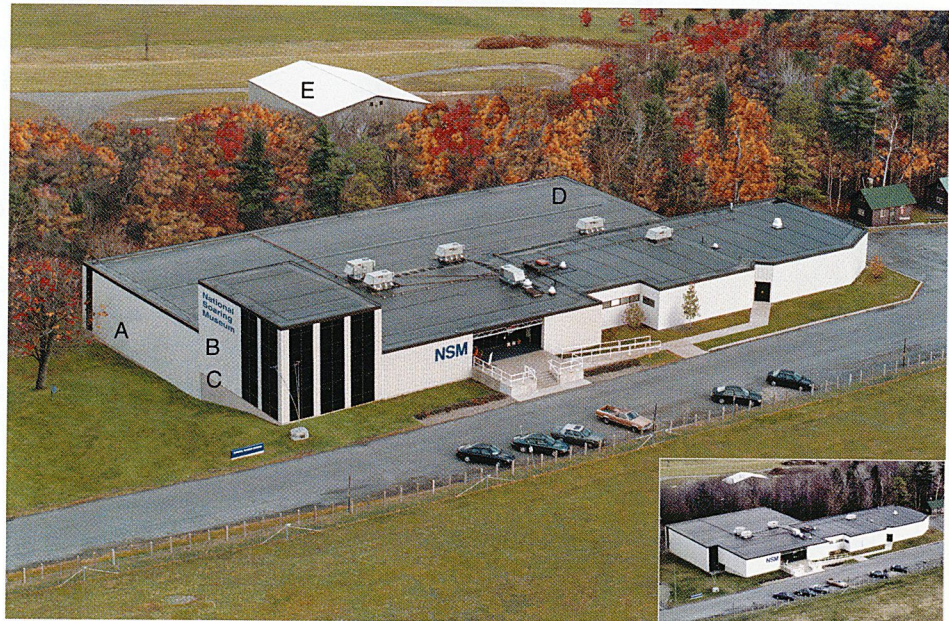
# Heritage Campaign Goal Summary

Building Expansion and Enhancement \$ 1,400,000

- Build approximately 10,000 sq. ft. of additional exhibit space
- Expand and improve access to library and archives
- Add 4,800 sq. ft. to Heritage Hangar
- Move and upgrade museum gift shop; refurbish lobby
- Modernize internal systems such as telecommunications and computing



Right: Aerial View of proposed expansion, inset shows current Museum



Exhibits

\$ 750,000

Develop exhibit master plan

Install computer-based and mechanical interactive exhibits to:

Better educate the typical museum visitor about soaring

Meet science curriculum needs of area school teachers

Improve traffic flow and interaction with exhibits

Add exhibits on topics not adequately covered, such as:

History of Soaring Cluster

Includes mythology, early attempts, Chanute, Wrights, Soaring Capital of America, Bowlus, Schweizer, military use, the move west, motorgliders, Space Shuttle, soaring spin-offs.

Motorless Flight Cluster

Includes kites, parasailing, ballooning, hang gliding, ultralights.

SSA/Modern Soaring Cluster

Includes Soaring Society of America, FAI, badges, records, trophies, competition classes, U.S. Soaring Hall of Fame, Harris Hill Soaring Corp., nationwide sites/operators.

Science and Technology Cluster

Includes airborne flora and fauna, meteorology, thermals and lift, fabrication developments, instruments, radio.

Orientation Theater

Endowment

\$ 1,000,000

Staff new Chair of Education and Chair of Collections positions

Provide operating funds to support larger facility

Enable expanded youth scholarships and aviation camps

Photo Band Right,  
Top to Bottom:

Re-created Schweizer 1-1 primary glider; NSM Archive photo of Dick Johnson and RJ-5, 1950; Rochester Institute of Technology grad students launching their Chanute-design craft at NSM's 1990 National Landmark of Soaring dedication in Indiana; making a wing rib during the Museum's Soaring Encampment; Schleicher ASK-21 taking off in front of the Museum. Bottom photo courtesy Star-Gazette.



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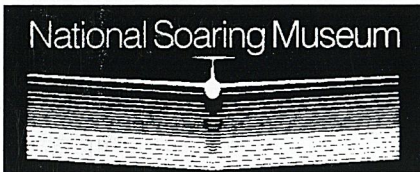
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## Heritage Campaign Progress

October 8, 1999



Left: Jim Orsillo turns a shovel to mark the groundbreaking ceremony

Right: A view of the addition to the hangar, as work progresses

