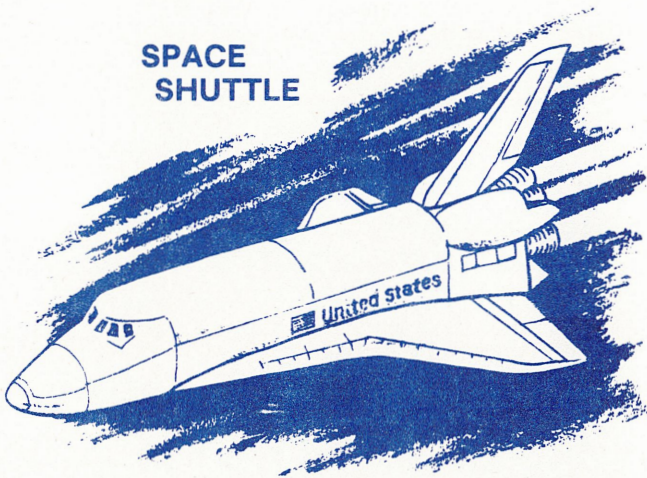


SPACE SHUTTLE



As 1981 draws to a close we thought it important to give you a report on the year's activities and our plans for 1982. The next mailing of the NSM Journal, with ALL issues to bring us up to date, will be in a few weeks, however, we're bursting with good news and couldn't wait. This past season was the best ever and with the activities planned for the 1982 celebration of the Soaring Society of America's Golden Anniversary, we expect to supercede this year's record visitation count.

Our exhibit theme this year was "Chanute to Shuttle". Gustav Scheurer, Toms River, NJ, built and donated a replica of the Herring-Arnot (Chanute type glider) to replace the original, lost in the Harris Hill Administration Building fire in 1977. The new glider was suspended over the Shuttle exhibit which was created through the cooperation of NASA, Rockwell International Corp., the National Geographic Magazine and many volunteers.

NASA Astronaut Dr. Story Musgrave was the featured speaker at the United States Soaring Hall of Fame Banquet. This year the inductees were Victor M. Saudek and Karl Striedieck. During the weekend Vic conducted an oral history forum which was taped and added to the Museum's archives. At the annual Trustee meeting, Ralph S. Barnaby announced the creation of a NSM Archivist Chair for the care and preservation of the rich heritage on the history of motorless flight. Edward A. Mooers, Elmira, was elected NSM Trustee Emeritus at this same meeting.

On June 13th the 1st National Landmark Plaque was dedicated to commemorate Ralph S. Barnaby's record flight establishing an American gliding record and simultaneously becoming the first American to qualify for an International Soaring Certificate. The ceremony took place at Corn Hill Beach, Truro, MA, where Capt. Barnaby's 15 min., 6 sec. flight on August 18, 1929 broke Orville Wright's motorless flight at Kitty Hawk, NC, of 9 min., 45 sec. This National Landmark project was the 1st in a series of planned memorials to commemorate significant events, sites, and/or people relative to the history of soaring.

During Labor Day weekend the museum hosted the East Coast SSA Sailplane Homebuilders' Workshop. Again, much enthusiasm and a rewarding time had by all. The Vintage Sailplane Association also held their annual Regatta and meeting. Observing their beautifully restored ships flying over Harris Hill was an inspiration to many.

In October, the Chicagoland Glider Council hosted the annual Ralph S. Barnaby Lecture meeting. The speaker was Tom Page, Urbana, IL. At the dinner a photo of the Eric Sloane painting, "Pink Dawn at 8,000 Feet" was exhibited. This oil has been donated to the Museum for resale to subsidize future Barnaby Lectures.

During the course of the year, we made some progress in organizing our photo collections, our library and archives. Wish more time could be spent in these areas. The Trustees adopted a major 5 year plan outlining the Museum's objectives and plan of work. The Museum Member category was elevated to twenty dollars to cover rising costs. However, the Chapter Membership, (every member of a club or assn.), remains the same, at ten dollars each. The Trustees have mounted a fund raising effort to eliminate the building debt. It is hoped to erase this burden during 1982.

Many activities celebrating SSA's Golden Anniversary are planned for 1982. The highlights are the dedication of a Memorial Wing Pylon, the United States Soaring Hall of Fame weekend with historic and competition seminars in conjunction with SSA's East Coast Safari Fly-In and VSA's Annual Regatta, the dedication of a Founders' Gallery and a sculpture designed by Ernest Schweizer, Horseheads, NY commemorating the Anniversary. We also plan to dedicate two National Landmarks during 1982 and there will be several commemorative glider mail flights. All of this following what appears to be a super SSA Convention planned in Houston, TX. Hope to see you there!

The 1982 Officers of the National Soaring Museum are:

President	Lee L. Robbins, Horseheads, NY
Vice President	Dr. William C. Feldbaumer, Warrington, PA
Vice President	John C. Lincoln, II, Scottsdale, AZ
Vice President	Philip J. Baugh, Lexington, KY
Secretary	Bruce Hardy, Elmira, NY
Treasurer	Archer N. Martin, Horseheads, NY

I'd like to take this opportunity to thank the Trustees, our volunteers, museum members, and contributors to our Building and Phase II exhibit development programs for their continuing support. There is no question that we have an outstanding group of dedicated people who care and I want you to know that it is appreciated and inspiring.

Best wishes for happy holidays!

Shirley Sliwa, Director
National Soaring Museum