

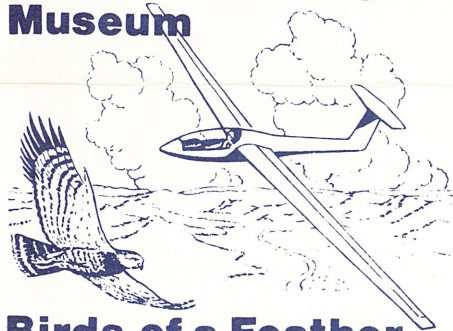
The National Soaring Museum is bringing 1984 to a close with the outstanding announcement that the Museum is the recipient of a \$200,000 grant from Ralph and Margaret Barnaby to endow an Archive Chair. Most of you are aware of the following facts, but to refresh your memory, Ralph Barnaby is Honorary Vice President of the National Soaring Museum and The Soaring Society of America, and is definitely "Number One" in U.S. soaring history, having earned the first U.S. soaring license by flying for 15 minutes, 6 seconds at Truro Beach, Cape Cod in 1929 and breaking Orville Wright's gliding record set in 1911. Captain Barnaby is a man of many talents, Naval aviator, aeronautical engineer, artist, choir director, aviation history authority, (especially on the Wright Brothers), author of several books and many articles on soaring, and is a sculptor of note. He did the bas-relief of the Wright Brothers which The Soaring Society of America erected at Kitty Hawk, NC. A duplicate is exhibited in the lobby of the National Soaring Museum.

Captain Barnaby who is 91 said, "I've made this grant because I don't want soaring history to be lost and hope that the associated programs will inspire young people of this and future generations. They cannot know the Wright Brothers as I did, but they can be a part of technological history yet uncharted. A place like the National Soaring Museum allows them to test their wings. It can launch them into any one of a number of the scientific and technological fields which need them".

The income from the gift will be used to cover the cost of the Archive Chair, including salary of an archivist and supporting services. If you are interested in applying for the position, please watch for a notice in the professional journals, in SSA's publication SOARING, or contact the Museum.

We are sending you BULLETIN No. 4 as the balance of our 1984 journals are at the printers, but won't be ready until the first of the year and I wanted to review the year's activities for you, as well as pass along the great news about the new Archive Chair.

National Soaring Museum



Birds of a Feather Soaring Birds and Sailplanes

was our exhibit focus for 1984. I have to admit that it was quite different to hear little ones enter the lobby, gasp, and cry-out, "Birds!" instead of, "Airplanes!" That was due to the sight of the beautiful replica of the Great Bald Eagle donated by Bill and Mary Ellen Feldbaumer, Warrington PA, and Yale University's Erwin Hauer's five life-sized California Condor sculptures positioned in the center of the exhibit hall. Photos in the Spring issue of the NSM give the exhibition justice. I tried to put it into words, and have to admit that I can't. The bronze sculptures of soaring birds, a special exhibit by R.E. Barber, Arvada, CO was a success with the Museum acting as agent for the sale of several of his works. The surrounding wall panels were

covered by entries from local artists in our first-ever Art Show. There was one section devoted to explaining how sailplanes and soaring birds use the same elements to stay aloft. The support from the Cornell Ornithology Laboratory was outstanding with the loan of artwork by Karen Lynn Allaben-Confer depicting the University's Peregrine Falcon Program and the loan of the artwork "Golden Eagle with White-Tailed Ptarmigan" by Louis A. Fuertes.

Last year's exhibit focus "World War II Military Gliders" was so popular that we retained the exhibit highlights by adding photograph wall panels behind our CG-4A cockpit and the TG-2 donated by Les Arnold.

Speaking of Les, this beloved gentleman from Brownsville, CA and equally special, Ted Sharp, from North Hollywood, CA were inducted into The SSA's U.S. Soaring Hall of Fame during the festivities at the Museum over Memorial Day weekend. Dr. Harner Selvidge, Sedona, AZ told anecdotes of Ted, and Bernald Smith, Fremont, CA told anecdotes of Les.

Through the Summer and Fall there were thematic programs for the local Audubon Society, school groups, and service organizations. On August 24th Jennifer Heyworth, Executive Director of Tanglewood, a local nature center, gave a presentation on Soaring Birds. The fact that she is a soaring pilot added the art to her technical report.

On November 10th with the expertise of Sharon R. Smith, the Texas Soaring Association sponsored the 11th Annual Ralph S. Barnaby lecture in Dallas. The speaker was Oran Nicks, former Deputy Director of NASA Langley and presently with Texas A & M University, College Station, TX. His topic was, "There's More to Come" and is being published in the Fall issue of the NSM. It was inspirational and a true challenge for technical advancement in soaring.

On December 14th, the Museum's Community Soaring Committee will host a luncheon to thank the attendees for their support and to honor exceptional local volunteers. We will review the 1984 activities and tell what is ahead for 1985.

Our exhibit focus for 1985 is "Hawley Bowlus; a man of many facets". There will be a special exhibit depicting "U.S. Soaring Sites, Clubs, and Chapters". Hawley's widow Ruth and his many friends are helping us to mount our exhibit to honor this pioneer of aviation.

Watch for future events listed in the NSM, but you could mark your calendars for Memorial Day and Labor Day weekends, for a starter.

The Officers of the National Soaring Museum Board of Trustees for 1985 are:

President	John C. Lincoln, II, Paradise Valley, AZ
Vice President	Archer N. Martin, Horseheads, NY
Secretary	Bruce H. Hardy, Elmira, NY
Treasurer	John B. Hintz, Elmira, NY

More good news!!! The Museum has just added Bill Gallagher to the staff as Curator of Education and part of his responsibilities will be to assist with the Museum publications.

In closing, I wish to take this opportunity to thank our Museum members, volunteers, archive and artifact contributors, our Trustees and Advisors for their valued support. The National Soaring Museum is growing through these combined efforts and is reinforcing that the heritage of motorless flight will be preserved for tomorrow and enjoyed by all future generations.

Best wishes for happy holidays!

Shirley Sliwa, Director
National Soaring