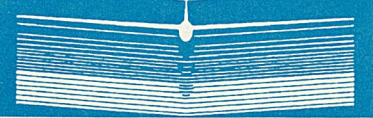


# NEWS

Newsletter  
of the  
NATIONAL  
SOARING  
MUSEUM



National Soaring Museum



Spring 1994

Vol. 4 No. 2

*More encampment weekends are planned for Sept. 30 thru Nov. 12, 1994 at the NSM; Call for details or to reserve your youth group today!*



The encampment program is made possible by grants from The Community Foundation, Chemung County, the Daniel family and Dr. Frank Gross.

## Girl Scouts invade the Museum for 18 hours of soaring camp

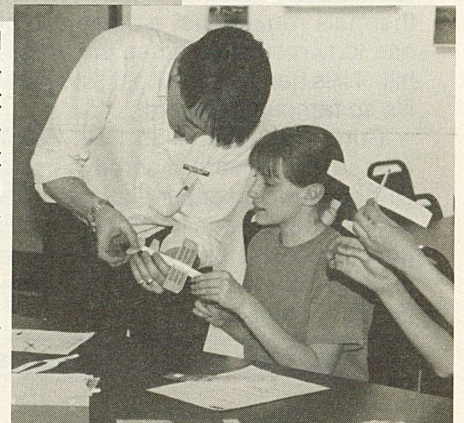
Left, the troop gathers on the NSM steps. Below, the girls assemble their balsa gliders.

After spending the entire year studying Space & Flight, Hendy Avenue Girl Scout Troop #384 from Elmira experienced their grand finale at the National Soaring Museum. The NSM's premiere overnight campout was a novel way for them to experience soaring flight.

"It gave all of us a better appreciation of the soaring museum," said Girl Scout leader Pat Dobranski from Elmira.

The 17 5th-grade girls piled their sleeping bags and backpacks on the Museum front steps just before dinner on Friday, April 15th. That was just the beginning of 18 hours packed with activities on meteorology, aerodynamics, sailplane design and construction and soaring history.

NSM Executive Director James Swinnich distributed packets of soaring information and led a fire drill before the girls sat down to a chicken dinner. Following cleanup, Swinnich led the group to Restoration to demonstrate the art of building sailplane ribs. Each girl took a turn assembling her own five-foot



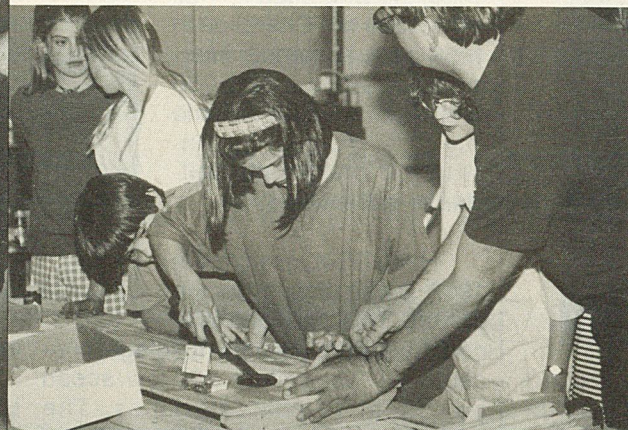
rib and proudly carried it home as a reminder of her encampment experience.

The girls took a tour of the Museum and learned how to make paper helicopters. They leaned over the lobby balcony and released their twirlybirds to the exhibit floor in an exciting contest. The evening wound up with a showing of "Running on Empty" in the Edward A. Mooers Community room and a talk on local soaring history by Paul A. and Virginia (Ginny) Schweizer.

Stacy Duink especially enjoyed Ginny's talk, "It was interesting listening to her story." The girls all crowded around Ginny at the conclusion to learn more about her

**Continued on Page 2**

Left, "Look, Mom, I'm a sailplane pilot!" Below, the rib building sessions were a favorite with the scouts.



Cont'd from Page 1

experiences as one of the first women soaring pilots. Girl Scout leader Mary Tucker said of the Schweizers, "I feel like I've met a legend."

The girls spread their sleeping bags out on the community room floor and fell asleep watching movies. Being awakened to a delicious french toast and sausage breakfast, the girls were eager to learn more.

Joe Saban, an instructor at Elmira Aeronautical Corp. in

Elmira, explained to the group how cumulus clouds create thermals. When these thermals run against a steep hill they can rise to two or three times the height of the hill. "Hills here are the right size - that's why it's so famous," he said.

Curator of Education Paul Prunier discussed the concept of aerodynamics as the girls constructed paper airplanes. They then flew their creations in both indoor and outdoor contests. Lauren Lowman said, "I learned how to throw it lighter, and it goes further. I liked the contest."



Ready, Set...Release!

The day wound up in Restoration around the cockpit of a Schweizer 1-23 sailplane. Harris Hill Soaring Corporation Board Director Linda Baker explained the instrument panel in the cockpit. She discussed the types of decisions the sailplane pilot must make while in the air. The girls listened in fascination and then each took a turn in the seat of the cockpit.

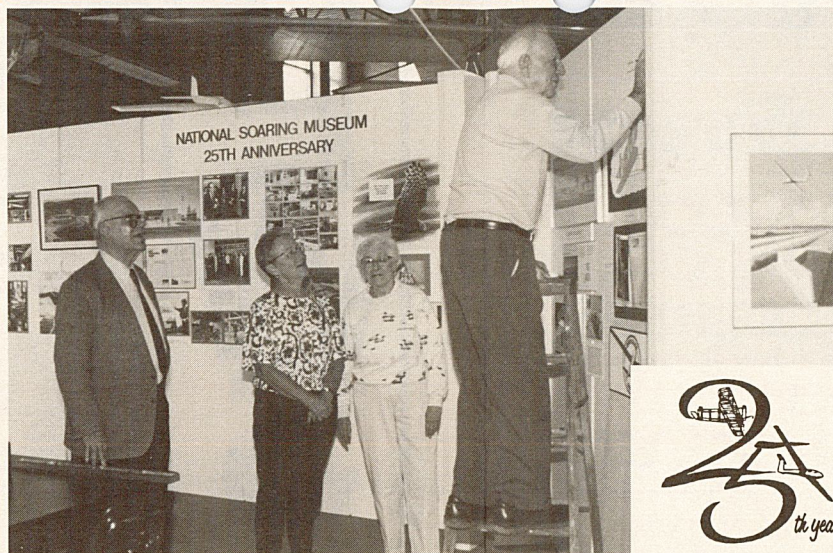
The inaugural run of the encampment program was deemed a huge success - partly because of the well mannered group in at-

tendance and partly because of the organization of events by Swinnich.

Camper Lindsey Holden said, "It was downright fun!" Tucker added, "This is fantastic - all top notch. It was very well planned - we've never been so 'on time'!"

Leader Alleyne Hartnett said she visited the Museum last fall. She thought the NSM was a small building, but when she got inside and saw all the sailplanes, she was astounded. (Perhaps this new encampment program will be just the thing to show more people all that the NSM has to offer.)

## 25th Anniversary is on display



An exhibit depicting 25 years of preserving the history of soaring is now on display in the Exhibit Hall. Designed by NSM Advisor Franklin Hurtt, the exhibit continues the celebration of the NSM's silver anniversary.

Hurtt also designed the anniversary logo shown above that is currently being used on all NSM letterhead, envelopes and advertising.

The highlight of the year's celebration will be held on September 24, 1994. The Museum will com-

bine its 3rd Annual Community Soaring Day on Harris Hill with a special reception featuring anniversary speaker Paul B. MacCready at the Clemens Center in Elmira. The day's events will include the annual KiteCitement contest, \$1.00 Museum admission, workshops, films and discounted glider rides.

The renowned MacCready will focus on concepts which link nature, motorless flight and soaring and what the future applications are for those ideas.

## NSM volunteers are the best!



Clara Schaeffler, one of the Museum's industrious volunteers, was recently nominated for the Chemung County Senior Volunteer of the Year award in Elmira.

## Stan Hall - 1994 Feature Designer/Builder

As a leader in the design and construction of homebuilt sailplanes, Stan Hall is honored as the 1994 featured builder/designer in the ongoing NSM exhibit series.

The new exhibit displays Hall's pride, the Cherokee II. Hall introduced the Cherokee in 1956 as a homebuilt intermediate sailplane. With 250 sets of plans sold, it became one of the most widely constructed homebuilt sailplanes in the world.

Hall's IBEX, designed in 1962, is also planned for the exhibit. This sailplane was constructed to explore fuselage concept, gull-wing effect and low speed performance characteristics. The project took five years and over 5,000 hours to complete.

Hall's history in aviation began as an engineering draftsman and flight control systems designer of military aircraft and military cargo gliders. He was a flight commander of the U.S. Army glider training program in Arizona dur-

ing World War II. Lockheed quiet reconnaissance aircraft programs and accompanied QT-2's to Vietnam.

Since retirement from Lockheed, Hall has remained on as a consultant, designing an airframe of SOLAR HAPP, a high altitude, long-duration, solar-powered, remotely piloted aircraft and remotely piloted vehicles connected with their AQUILA program.

Hall has authored some 90 articles and speeches on the design and construction of homebuilt aircraft. He is past president

*The*  
**21st Annual Ralph S. Barnaby Lecture**  
will be given by  
**Stan Hall,**  
**"Father of the Cherokee"**  
**October 22, 1994**  
at the National Soaring Museum

of the Southern California Soaring Association, was inducted into the SSA U.S. Soaring Hall of Fame in 1975 and awarded the 1981 SSA Exceptional Service Award.

During 20 years at Lockheed Missiles & Space Co., Hall managed bio-astronautics programs and satellite integration activities. He led the Army/

Lockheed quiet reconnaissance aircraft programs and accompanied QT-2's to Vietnam.

## Recognition of Friends of the Museum Annual Giving 1/1/94 - 4/30/94

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Brian Burke  
Mike Cooch  
Jason Cramer  
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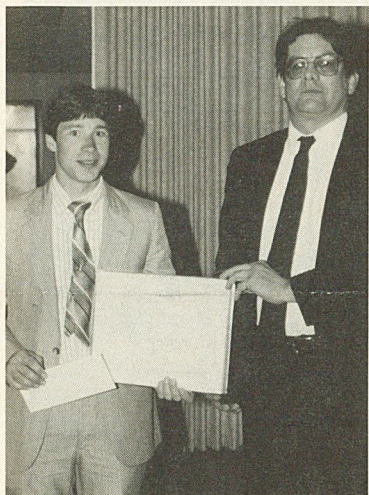
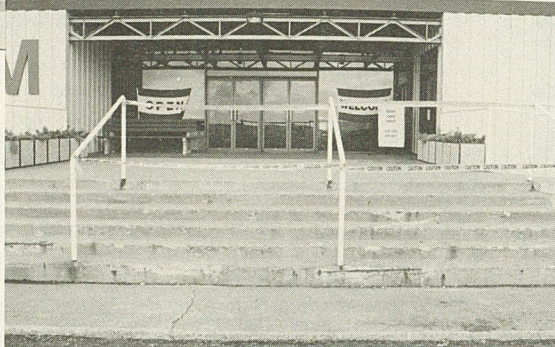
## NSM puts up a new front



The front steps leading into the National Soaring Museum took a real beating this past winter, (picture below) so Chemung County workmen took on the remodeling project. At left are the NSM Trustees standing between the new observation decks. Flowers and benches will soon complete the new entrance look.

AFTER

BEFORE



## Annual NSM awards given

Left, NSM Executive Director James W. Swinnich presents Mike Snyder's award. Right, Dr. Frank Gross announces the Youth Achievement awards.



The National Gross Sky Ghost Youth Achievement Awards for 1993 were presented to Shanon G. Udd, Kent, WA and David C. Graham, Mansfield, TX during the U.S. Soaring Hall of Fame on May 14, 1994. The Hugh Whitney Memorial Award went for a second time to Mike Snyder, HHSC senior member from Elmira.

## CALENDAR

1994

July 2-3

NSM booth at Chemung/Steuben County Airshow  
Elmira Corning Regional Airport

September 24

NSM's 25th Anniversary Celebration featuring Paul B. MacCready  
3rd Annual Community Soaring Day  
KiteCitement  
Harris Hill/NSM/Clemens Center, Elmira

October 22

21st Annual Ralph S. Barnaby Lecture featuring Stan Hall  
NSM

September 30 - November 12

Every Friday night - Saturday morning  
Youth encampment at NSM  
NSM

December 2

Community Soaring Luncheon  
NSM

July 16-25, 1995

International Vintage Sailplane Meet first time held in the U.S.  
Harris Hill

**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:  
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