

German photographs highlight Otto Lilienthal

The Hilton Honors Gallery at the NSM came alive this spring with the installation of a series of 15 extraordinary 50-inch by 32-inch sepia photos. The montages pay homage to the "father of flight," Otto Lilienthal, who died 100 years ago during his efforts to prove that air would support winged human flight.

Lilienthal completed 2,000 successful flights from 1891-1896 before his fatal crash, leaving a wealth of information for later pioneers like Octave Chanute and the Wright Brothers.

German photographer Angelika von Stocki created the images by superimposing historic photos of Lilienthal's labors with Renaissance drawings and engravings of the Greek mythological figure, Icarus, whose fatal flight brought him too close to the heavens. Von Stocki blended these images with photos she took of various sky effects to create the magnificent visions displayed now at the NSM.

This traveling exhibit first appeared in the United States in March at the 1996 Houston FotoFest in Texas. It can be seen at the NSM through September 30, 1996 before it returns to Europe. It was shown previously in Berlin, Munich, and Vienna.

The artist and her husband, Heinz-Werner Nitsche, were in Elmira for the gala opening of the exhibit on April 13th. She unveiled the photos for a group of museum trustees, advisors and friends on April 12.

She started composing photo series nearly a decade ago, with an Egyptian theme. She created several others including "The Fall of the Wall" in Berlin and "People in Africa." Her 15-year-old daughter, Natalie, has posed for her, and her son,

Konstantin, helps produce the books that accompany each exhibition.

Von Stocki started taking photos as a child with a box camera. "My biggest wish was to go to Munich to a school for photography and film," she said in her charming accent. But her father didn't agree, so she went to school for mathematics, physics, and law. "But I always



BEFORE

AFTER

Above, NSM Volunteers Betty and Frank Hurtt line up the exhibit photos as NSM staff members Jaye Fish and Mary Flaspahler discuss the placement. Bottom, Bill Gallagher, NSM Curator of Education, describes the background of the exhibit to the reception crowd while von Stocki, at right, photographs the event.

made photos," she said.

She became a math teacher in high school, but continued to take photos of her children. Her husband is also a math teacher and a guidance counselor. He supports her hobby by helping write letters for funding and publicity.

Von Stocki uses a Leica camera today. "No automatic camera," she says. "That's important!" She has a small laboratory and dark room in which she processes the small photos. Natalie has been following in her footsteps and enjoys taking her own photo series.

This was von Stocki's first trip to the U.S. She visited many museums while she was in the country. "I'm interested to see other people's works," she says. Houston impressed her as a city of tall buildings. "I was very astonished about the richness there."

She stopped at the Museum for Women in the Arts in Washington DC and the Whitney Museum in New York City

(Continued on Page 3)

Inside this issue:

Ginny Schweizer receives award...pg 4-5

Teenage girls campout at NSM pgs. 4-5

Meet the new Development Director...pg 6



Above, NSM Development Director Jaye Fish, left, and Angelika von Stocki visit during the exhibit opening.

NSM dedicates its eighth landmark

The National Soaring Museum, Elmira, NY, is dedicating the eighth commemorative National Landmark of Soaring Plaque in a nationwide program on Saturday, July 27, 1996 at 12:30 p.m. in Marquette Park, Miller Beach, Gary, Indiana.

This bronze marker, sponsored by the Chicagoland Glider Council, is dedicated to Octave Chanute and his assistants whose gliding experiments here helped make sustained flight a reality.

Chanute arrived at Miller Beach on June 22, 1896, to perform gliding flight experiments on the dunes just west of the site of the Aquatorium. Over 700 successful flights provided him with significant aerodynamic data. Chanute then willingly shared his data, enabling the Wright brothers and other pioneers to develop powered flying machines.

Dr. Tom Crouch, Chairman, The Department of Aeronautics, National Air & Space Museum, Smithsonian Institution, will be the featured speaker.

A flight demonstration and a landing along the beach will be done by Walter Gleason in a Schweizer 2-33 with a pouch of souvenir mail. Dignitaries from the City of Gary as well as the State of Indiana, Trustees from the NSM, Directors of the SSA, and members of the

Chicagoland Glider Council will be attending.

There will be a demonstration flight of two Chanute biplane replicas - one made with classical materials by Paul Dees of Seattle, WA and the other made by Kevin Kochersberger and Rochester (NY) Institute of Technology students and constructed of modern composite materials.

The Chanute Aquatorium Society will cap off the day's events with a dinner/dance at 7:30 p.m. Checks for \$50 for this annual fundraising event should be made payable to The Chanute Aquatorium Society and mailed to: 607 S. Lake St., Suite A, Gary, IN 46403.

For questions on the National Landmark of Soaring call the NSM at 607-734-3128, Simine Short at 708-963-9813 (evenings) or check www.crown.net/~sspicer/chanute/chan_ind.html.



RIT students and their professor, Kevin Kochersberger test their Chanute re-creation.

SHA will meet at NSM

The NSM will host the Eastern Sailplane Homebuilders Workshop July 26-28, 1996. The annual meeting will coincide with this year's opening of the 1996 Designer/Builder Exhibit series featuring Irv Culver and Jim Maupin.

A fond farewell...

On May 1st we said goodbye to a beloved friend of the Museum - our first Volunteer Coordinator, Jim Reinsmith. Jim moved to South Carolina following his May wedding to an old high school chum with whom he became reacquainted at last year's 50th class reunion.

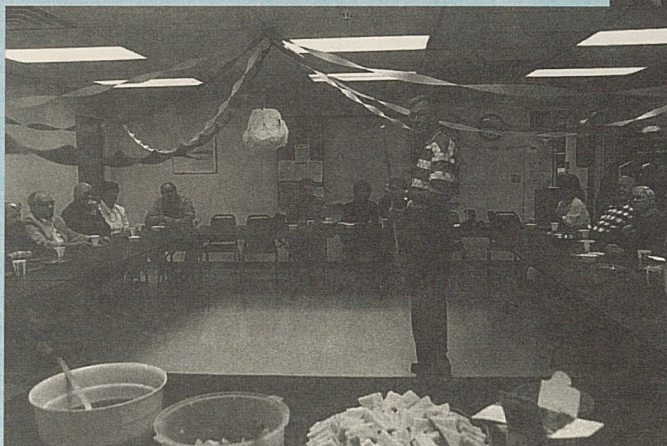
Numerous museum volunteers arrived for our May Day celebration and to wish this dear man a happy future. The classroom was full of laughter for one of our best parties yet!

Jim recounted the story of how he met his bride-to-be, Shirley, last year. They were looking for his brother's name on a golf plaque at the country club where the reunion was being held. Jim and Shirley finally found it - in the men's locker room! "Then we drank sparkling water 'til midnight," Jim reminisced.

Jim came to the NSM through a referral from the city's RSVP (Retired Senior Volunteer Program) following his retirement. He showed up to check out the Museum on one of our busiest days - the 1st Annual Community Soaring Day. With the staff rushing around tending to the activities, they first said "tell him to come back later," but NSM Trustee Nelson Mooers van den Blink said, "No! Don't do that. We need him!" She personally went

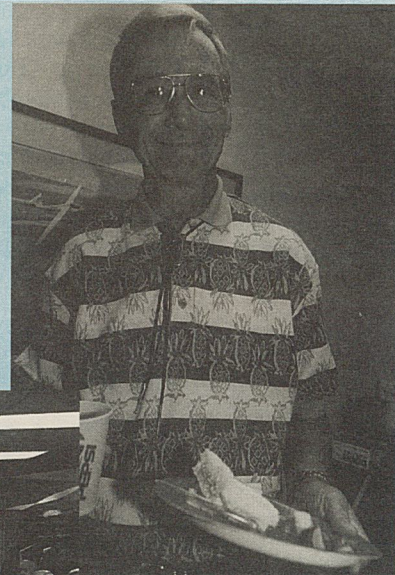
out and talked to Jim and made him feel welcome. Jim came on board and went on to become a very integral part of the new Executive Director's volunteer program.

"He brought great ideas from Buffalo," Jim said of the NSM Executive Director James Swinnich. The volunteer list had deteriorated, so the two Jim's planned recruiting sessions and brought on several strong volunteers that



are still with us today. "I enjoyed calling the people and scheduling them," Jim says. "Sometimes I couldn't get off the phone!"

Jim says his experience in management

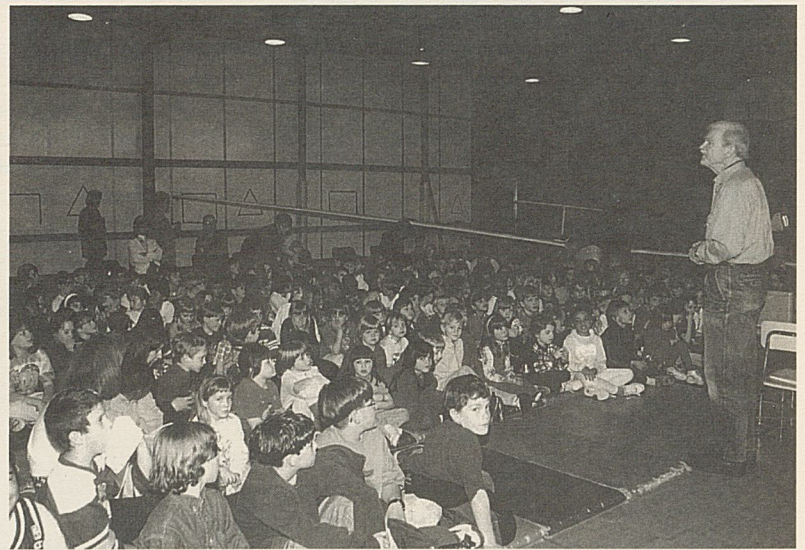
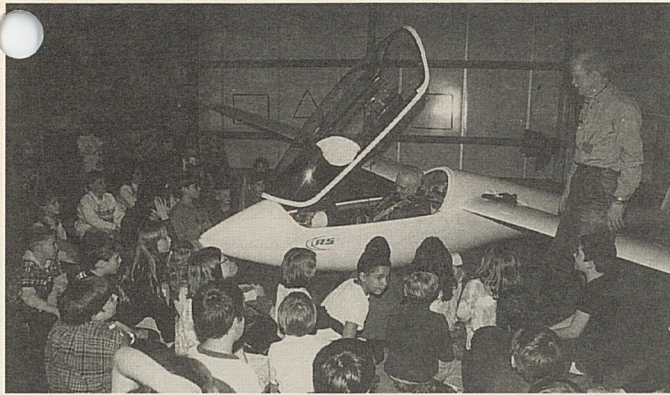


Above, Jim serves up some goodies at his going away party. Left, Jim prepares to break open the "wedding bell pinata" as guests look on.

worked well with Jim Swinnich ideas for organization. Jim placed the volunteers on his computer and developed several husband-wife "teams" that the

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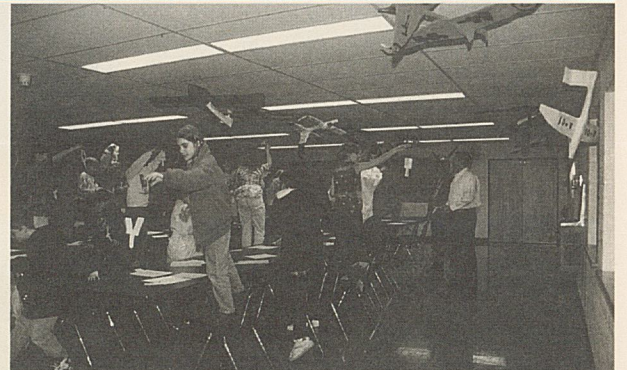
The NSM's educational program goes on tour



Right, Bill Gallagher describes the principles of aerodynamics to 300 Erwin Valley Elementary School students in Painted Post, NY. The school set up an entire aviation day including the NSM, hot air balloons, Schweizer Aircraft Corp. and the Glenn H. Curtiss Museum. Above, NSM Trustee John (Corky) Gill demonstrates the controls of his sailplane to the group. Corky, Bill and NSM Volunteer Dale Gustin set up the sailplane inside the school's gymnasium.

Severn School turns education into an exhibit

The Severn Elementary School in Corning, NY, made paper mache gliders this past semester as part of their aviation study. Small groups designed and built the two-foot-wide models. The colorfully and creatively painted models were hung in the Edward A. Mooers Community Room for display during April and May. In the photo at right, the students finished their segment with a visit to the National Soaring



to a fine friend

(Continued from Page 2)

museum could use for everything from mailings to preparing encampment meals. Jim, himself, often pitched right in. "Cutting pickles is what I remember," he laughs.

It was Jim's love of flight that first made the Museum sound like a good place to volunteer. "I wanted to be a pilot," he says. He went to Penn State and enlisted in the Army Air Corp so he could wear a "pair of silver wings." But World War II was ending and the need for pilots was over.

So Jim went to three technical schools. He learned how to service electronics equipment for weather balloons, went to Jamaica, and worked at New York City's Weather Observation Center. But every chance he got, he asked if he could ride along when there was flying involved.

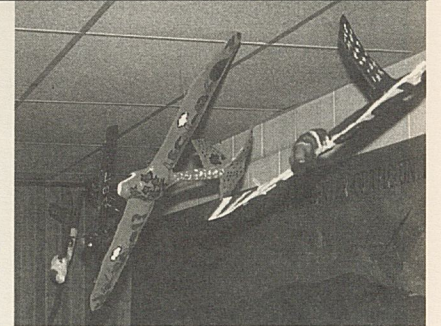
After the military Jim finished an industrial engineering degree at Penn State. He worked as an industrial engineer in Pennsylvania and then moved to Corning Glass where he switched to personnel work. These personnel skills were the reason the Museum felt he would make a good Director of Volunteers.

Jim has three grown children, Randy in Alaska, and Liz and Rick, both in Michigan. Shirley has three children and eight grandchildren, all in South Carolina. The new couple both enjoy church activities and traveling. Jim says they were the third couple from the class of 375 who had "re-found" each other later in life.

The location may have changed, but Jim will still be involved in volunteer work - both in South Carolina and in Arizona where he has his winter home. Those organizations will be getting a real gem - the National Soaring Museum is going to miss Jim very much.

Museum. Above, the kids stand on their chairs to fly their paper helicopters following the aerogami session with Executive Director James W. Swinnich, right, underneath their suspended models. At right, a closeup of the creations, which were later moved back to their school lobby for permanent display.

Executive Director James W. Swinnich, right, underneath their suspended models. At right, a closeup of the creations, which were later moved back to their school lobby for permanent display.



Lilienthal at the NSM

(Continued from Page 1)

and says she would like to display some of her work at these venues. Central Park captured her attention for four hours as she snapped some 60 photos of American people. She was especially moved by the different cultures of people available to photograph. At night she took photos of the twin towers of the World Trade Center in their colorful glory.

The high school in which von Stocki teaches is in "Lichterfelde," the same district in which Lilienthal lived. That inspired her photos on the subject. She currently has four new photo ideas taking shape including a 100th anniversary of her school.

Von Stocki said she yearned to come to America at age 15. Her husband spoke of this trip as "a reality of an old childhood dream."

The Museum joins other local aviation resources to challenge teenage girls

The National Soaring Museum's youth encampment program became one leg of a pilot Aviation Camp for eighth grade girls this spring. Fifty middle school students from eight area schools wrote paragraphs on why they wanted to participate in Aviation Camp to earn a place in this new endeavor.

The 30 winners started their five-day expedition at the NSM's youth encampment followed by sailplane rides for each of them at the Harris Hill Soaring Corporation on Day Two. The succeeding days included hot air balloon rides, remote control model flight, an airport and ground school tour, power plane rides, a tour of the Schweizer Aircraft Corporation and a luncheon/interview with women who work in aviation-related careers.

Sponsored by the Schuyler-Chemung-Tioga Board of Cooperative Educational Services (SCT-BOCES) and funded by a \$7,800 gender-equity grant awarded through the New York State Department of Education, the camp was named after Eileen Collins. Collins, the first woman pilot in the nation's space program, grew up in Elmira, was first impressed by the gliders on Harris Hill and learned to fly here. She epitomizes the ultimate that young girls can achieve in careers.

Kris Reuland, SCT-BOCES School-To-Work Specialist, said she hopes the camp will inspire young girls to tackle math and science courses and to choose non-traditional, technical careers. "Our dream would be that we could do this every year," Kris said. Many of the girls wrote on their applications that they wanted

to be pilots or that, like Eileen Collins, they've often watched the soaring sailplanes over Harris Hill.

The girls enjoyed their hands-on classroom. Led by NSM Curator of Education Bill Gallagher, they got serious about their aerogami lessons. With paper and green straws in hand, they were set loose to create

the most operational paper airplane. The results were creative and exquisite, as they flew their inventions in a race.

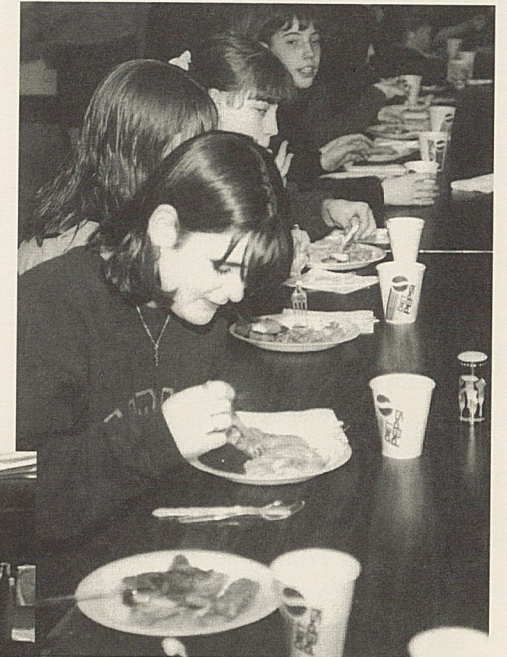
Ted Burris described thermal winds to the young aviators in the meteorology class. Volunteers Erwin Jones, Dale Gustin, and Ralph Gernert helped the girls

construct their own wing ribs from the 1902 Wright Flyer in the NSM's restoration room.

"We have received a lot of feedback from the campers," Kris said when it was all over. "In developing the camp we believed that Eileen and the many aviation resources available in our region would inspire our campers to do well in math, science and technology. We also believed that their experiences during the camp would give them the confidence to 'soar among the clouds,' no matter what career they ultimately choose. We pledge to make the Aviation Camp an annual event."



The Aviation Campers gather outside the Museum with their wing ribs.



Above, the girls enjoy the traditional encampment meal: chicken, potato and corn, at the NSM. Left, Dale Gustin guides one of the campers in building her wing rib. Below, Ted Burris shows the group the Wright 1902 Flyer in Restoration, and Bottom, Bill Gallagher demonstrates the art of aerogami - paper airplane construction.

Ginny Schweizer to receive the Katharine Wright Memorial Award

The National Soaring Museum is proud to announce that Virginia (Ginny) Schweizer has been selected as the recipient of the 1996 Katharine Wright Memorial Award. Nominations were solicited from over 500 individuals and organizations in the United States. Ginny was chosen by the National Aeronautic Association, whose primary mission is to advance the sport and science of aviation and space flight, and the Ninety-Nines, the world's oldest and largest organization for women pilots.



Ginny Schweizer

Ginny will be traveling to Oklahoma City on July 13 with her husband, Paul A. Schweizer, to receive the award at the Ninety-Nines' Annual Awards Banquet.

The Katharine Wright Memorial Award is presented annually to a woman who has provided encouragement, support, and inspiration to her husband and thus was instrumental in his success, or who made a personal contribution to the advancement of the art, sport and science of aviation and space flight over an extended period of time.

Ginny has satisfied both of these requirements with her accomplishments. In 1947 she became the first American woman to do cross-country soaring and later that year was the first American woman to

earn the FAI "Silver C" award. She began to fly in soaring competitions and was the National Women's Champion in 1946 and 1947 during which time she set SSA and FAI National Women's Records for both altitude and distance to a goal. In 1971 she was inducted into the U.S. Soaring Hall of Fame.

She married Paul in 1967, became his crew chief and assisted him in his efforts to form the National Soaring Museum in Elmira. The Museum is now widely considered the most complete soaring museum in the world. In the past decade she helped Paul in his eight-year effort in writing *Wings Like Eagles*, the definitive history of soaring published by the Smithsonian Press. The Schweizers still attend soaring contests, meetings and events all over the world.

"She is, without regard to gender, one of the true pioneers and heroes of aviation in the United States," said Larry Sanderson, Executive Vice President of SSA. "She is today, many decades after some of her accomplishments, still active in the Soaring Society and serves as an inspiration to us all....Throughout her own illustrious career in aviation, she has stood beside her husband Paul and his family as Schweizer Aircraft Corporation became one of the premier family owned aviation companies in America."

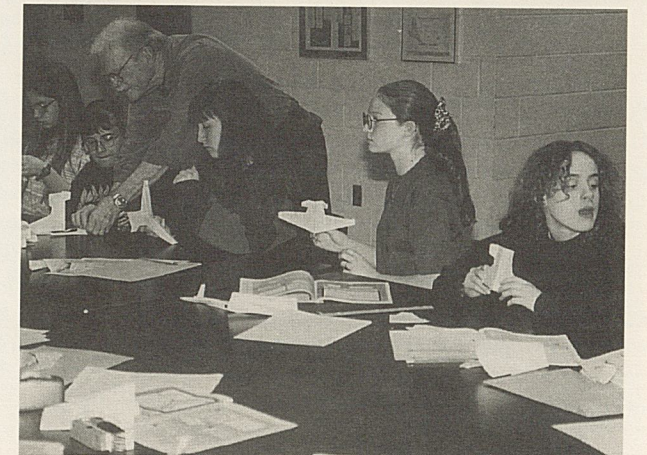
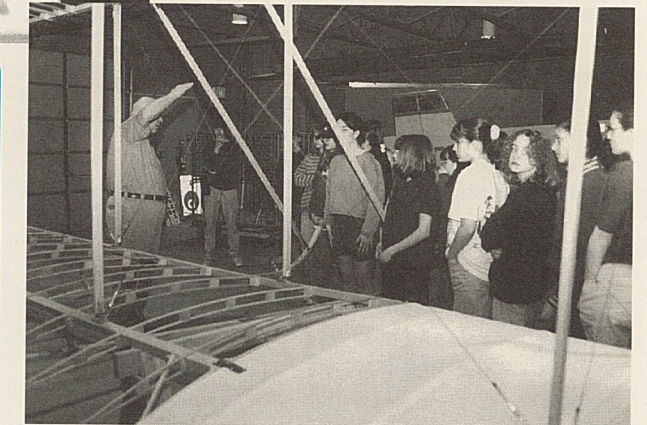
"For 25 years of my life, flying is what I lived for," Ginny says. "Once the bug bites you, it never leaves you." At the SCT-BOCES

Eileen Collins Aviation Camp (*see article above*) Ginny recounted the history of soaring and Harris Hill to the eighth grade girls. One student asked her how long it takes to learn to fly. Ginny answered, "I learned better than any of the guys! I was a generation too early!"

She told the campers that she had started flying sailplanes in 1941 with the Airhoppers Soaring Club. At the outbreak of WWII, she went to work for Grumman and then continued her support of the war effort at Republic Aviation. She was a founding partner of one of the first commercial glider schools in the United States, the Gliding & Soaring Corporation in Sanford, FL. There she pioneered the combination of single-place and two-place training to provide cost effective training for her students.

In the late 1950's, Ginny formed a partnership with Steven Bennis and Bill Terry at the Randall Airport in Middletown, NY, and operated a flight school (both power and glider), which was soon appointed one of the first Schweizer Glider Dealerships in the United States. She has been a member of the Ninety-Nines International Organization of Women Pilots since 1962.

Past recipients of the award include Moya Lear, Anne Lindbergh, Ascha Peacock Donnels, Olive Ann Beech, Elizabeth Pfister, June De Etta Maule, Nadine Jeppesen and Audrey Poberezny.



Jaye Fish has been on the job - as new Development Director for the NSM - for several months, and she just took her first sailplane ride.

"It became very real... where there was lift...looking for clouds...the roller coaster ride of the ridge of the hill," she said. "It was great being able to feel it and hear it instead of just reading about it."

Jaye jumped right in when she arrived by promoting... and installing... this summer's von Stocki exhibit on Lilienthal in the Hilton Honors Gallery. The staff was shorthanded so Jaye simply took over and used the exhibit opening to boost local interest in the Museum.

Beyond public relations, her main duties involve increasing support for the NSM - both special needs and ongoing operations. Her goals are based on the Museum's long-range plan as well as needs identified by the Board's Resource Development Committee.

Jaye wants to begin by increasing the number of Museum members. There will soon be innovative new benefits for donors. The NSM also needs to spread information about the Museum to the public, and to plan a redesign of exhibits so visitors can understand the concepts more clearly.

Third, we need to raise funds to care for the collection. "We've got to have more room," she says, so we can again acquire significant sailplanes in later years. And finally she'll be working on the long-term stability of the museum by increasing endowed funds.

That's quite a plateful, but Jaye is ready to tackle the job. "It's challenging," she said, "You're dealing with people on a very interesting level - you're talking philosophy of life to them sometimes. Development is totally idea-driven: what DOES a donor get out of his or her gift? Giving allows a donor to become part of NSM's mission."

Jaye's husband, Grant, is a sales manager. They met at Capital University in Columbus, OH, the town where Jaye had grown up. Following college, Jaye worked for the State of Ohio as production manager of a unit that published textbooks for various trades.

She later became a permit examiner for Ohio's Department of Liquor Control. "That was the first place I ran into computers," she says.

Jaye is a novelist in the making with a two-act play and one fiction piece currently looking for a buyer and a second novel underway. She acted in and directed plays for a theater group in college with her favorite part being Cassandra in "Tiger at the Gates." She played cello and dabbled in creative writing.



Jaye and NSM Trustee John (Corky) Gill pose by the sailplane that gave Jaye her first sailplane ride.

The Fishes moved to Grant's hometown, Rochester, NY, in the late 1970's where Jaye found her first museum job - as assistant to the director for the Rochester Museum & Science Center. Following the birth of her daughter, Bethany, now 15, she went into development for Eisenhower College and later for an elder care facility, Wesley-on-East.

She finished her masters in education before being whisked off to Colorado State to be second in command of Annual Giving there. She soon assumed the top position of the 24-person annual giving office handling over 100,000 alumni. There she learned the art of telephone fundraising and earned the professional designation "Certified Fund Raising Executive."

Jaye's family missed New York so they headed home a couple years ago. Bringing her back east was a development job for the Paleontological Research Institution in Ithaca, NY, before coming to the NSM.

Jaye is excited about the National Soaring Museum because it is national in scope but also serves a local audience. "Here we have the objects that make the science and history of soaring real," she says.

She recognizes that a museum is more than its objects, however. "It's the people and how they use the objects - to present this body of information about motorless flight."

"A first-class museum can grab people's imaginations and teach them," she says. "We appeal to soaring enthusiasts, but someone who's never heard of gliding can learn something and catch some of the excitement."

The NSM has impressed Jaye with its personalities. "Some of the pioneers of soaring are still here, which is such a gift," she says. She was thrilled to meet and work with people like Paul A. Schweizer, Virginia Schweizer, Dr. Frank R. Gross, and other Hall of Famers. And then there are the serious pilots who just enjoy being up in the sky meeting new challenges. And finally there are the kids - the school groups touring the museum and the junior organization at Harris Hill and at clubs around the country "They're the future of the sport," she says. "Their enthusiasm will be what keeps soaring going."

And Jaye's enthusiasm will be a major boost

Development News

"Soaring Into the Future"

By Jaye Fish,
Director of Development

Many of NSM's friends contribute a gift whenever they can to keep our programs of education and preservation growing. For your continued support, we are most grateful.



Jaye Fish

Still, many people would like to be more generous but need to preserve their assets during their lifetimes. They find it easier to remember the National Soaring Museum in their wills.

Through a bequest, you can help ensure that there will be a financially strong Museum far into the future. You can also qualify your estate for an estate tax charitable deduction equal to the full amount you bequeath.

Bequests may take several forms. You may leave NSM a specific amount of cash, securities or other property by specifying a dollar value, naming a particular asset, or naming a fixed percentage of your estate. You may also remember the Museum in a trust established in your will.

If you're considering such a gift of remembrance or have already included NSM in your will, please remember that a vital, growing museum's activities and funding needs change over the years. It is advisable to grant the Museum the authority to use your gift wherever most needed. This guarantees that soaring will always be able to benefit from your gift.

Discussing a planned gift with NSM helps ensure that your gift is worded so that it will continue to provide benefits long into the future. Please call me in the Museum's Development Office to discuss how you'd like to help NSM preserve the history of soaring. I can be reached at (607)734-3128.

for the NSM. She has a good grasp on this new subject - and all in a very short time. We're excited to introduce our newest staff member to you, and hope you'll give her a call.

Welcome to the NSM, Jaye!

Recognition of Friends of the Museum

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Harris Hill Soaring Corp.

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Wayne McMaster
John Miller
Jeff Moersch
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Sean Murphy
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Gabor Revesz
Peter Revesz
Rene Reynolds
Frank Rhodes

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Dorianne Riggs
James F Rogers
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Keith Said
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Cornelia M Yoder
Daniel Zigas
Sidney Zigas

Juniors

C. Walter Arnold
Kevin Backer
Susanne K Beyer
Anthony Bonsignore
Julie Brush
Peter Burdulis
Brian Burke
Bill Cooch
Jason Cramer
Jon Edwards
Mark Glauner
David R Graham
William Green
Johanna Gregory
Erin Haag
Phil Hall

Chad Harris
Andy Henderson
Alison Howard
Jason Howard
Arthur Johnson
Erinn Kizis
Brian Lalor
Jeff Lapp
Marcus Lewis
Steven Lewis
Scott G Little
Joseph Manlegro
Levon Marcellus
Timothy Marcellus
Nathan Mattucci

Vince McCarty
Jason McGrogan
Randy McMaster
Dave Pangia
Kurt Peters
Justin Poet
Josh Powers
Sam Schultz
Kyle Schweizer
Elizabeth Schwenkler
Mike Soroka
Curt Spycher
Matthew Taft
Christopher Vrabel
Cindy Williams

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Donations

In Kind

Linn Buell - computer supplies
Howard E Burr - software
Jeffery Byard - printer supplies
George Nuse - computer supplies
Jan Scott - computer supplies

Hall of Fame

Bruce G Bottoms
Vera Dauman

Von Stocki Exhibit

Howard E Burr
Lee Robbins
Theodore E Sharp
Floyd J Sweet

Youth Encampment Program

Peter R & Joyce Daniel

Gifts

Michael L Shoen

Awards presented at ceremony



Above, Dr. Frank R. Gross, right, presents the 1995 Gross Restoration Award at the 1996 Hall of Fame ceremony. The winners, from left to right, are Dody Wyman, Jack Wyman, Joe Feather, and Chuck Franklin for their work on the Franklin II.



Above, NSM President Jeff Byard, right, congratulates Steve Garner, Harris Hill Soaring Corporation senior member for winning the 1995 Hugh Whitney award. The scholarship was established in 1978 for all those who have a lifelong commitment to soaring and to provide an opportunity for recipients to pursue the sport. Steve plans to get his commercial power license and instrument rating with the award. At left, Jeff presents former NSM President Jan Scott, left, with a silver bowl in appreciation for his work on the International Vintage Sailplane Meet last summer. "He was really the spearhead of the IVSM," Jeff said. "We're still seeing the momentum from that in the vintage soaring movement and here at the Museum."



CALENDAR

July 27, 1996

8th National Soaring Landmark Dedication

*Tom Crouch, speaker
Miller Beach, N. Indiana Dunes, Gary, IN*

September 21, 1996

5th Annual Community Soaring Day

NSM/Harris Hill

September 28-29, 1996

New York State International Airshow

Elmira/Corning Regional Airport

December 6, 1996

Community Soaring Luncheon

NSM

December 8, 1996

9th National Soaring Landmark Dedication

Nuuuanu Pali lookout, Oahu, HI

24th Annual

Ralph S. Barnaby Lecture/Banquet

Speakers: Ted Bellak & Herman Stigmeier

Hale Koa Hotel, Waikiki, Hawaii

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.

NSM

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