FROM THE MUSEUM BOARD ROOM

Since the passing of our Museum Founder, George Applebay, the Museum Board has been busy identifying new initiatives and programs for moving the museum forward. To assist in this effort, and a byproduct of George's passing, the flood gates of donated gliders opened.

We have recently acquired a Diamant 16.5, a Schredere HP-12A, a Grob 103 Twin Astir, an Applebay Zuni II, an Applebay Zia, a Scheicher KA 6 CR, a Balnik L-13 and the Nemesis NXT World Record Racer (more about the Nemesis later). The Zia was in the Museum but it technically belonged to George; it was given to the Museum upon George's passing as was the Zuni II.

Besides a few more aircraft added to the inventory, Docent Pete Pankuch and Board Member Bob Leonard have been building, from scratch, a full size replica of the original 1902 Wright Flyer. When completed this will be the first image one sees when entering the collection.

Assisting with our projects and initiatives is Gene Tieman, the Museum has been most fortunate to have him available each year from April until October (the rest of the year Gene winters in Mexico). Gene fills the role of unpaid Museum Director and has been extremely instrumental in moving the Museum forward. For instance Gene oversaw the addition of a beautiful awning that protects our visitors from the effects of adverse weather. As part of the project, wheelchair access was designed in so that our visitors who previously had problems getting into the Museum now have a smooth transition. He added security camera capability...
to the four external entrances as well as security lighting systems. Gene also has several new initiatives in the works which we will present in a future newsletter issue with a complete chronicle on our efforts.

The World Famous Nemesis NXT racer (see www.nemesisnxt.com) was donated to the Museum from owners, builders, and racers Jon and Patricia Sharp. The idea was for the Museum to take over caretaker status of this world record holder and eventually donate it to the Smithsonian Museum. For just babysitting the aircraft we get to put the Museum's name on the aircraft where it will be seen by literally millions as it sits on display in Washington, DC. Bottom line is we get free advertising and exposure at the Smithsonian...how cool is that!

Probably the most exciting new initiative we are rolling out soon is the Southwest Soaring Hall of Fame. Museum member Renny Rozzoni is the master mind behind this project and there is another article on this elsewhere within this newsletter.

Also in the works is a visual display that will explain Lift Over Drag (L/D). This display will show how different gliders react to their wing design in movement over the ground. The plan is to educate non flying visitors with how it is we are able to travel such distances in an engineless aircraft. This idea came to us by way of our newest Board Member, Colleen Koenig. (See more about Colleen later in the newsletter).

Colleen, in conjunction with Gene Tieman, is the mastermind of an effort to offer a program where a potential docent, who wants to escape winter and get in some fine winter soaring can come and reside for free in the Moriarty area and docent twice a week and can fly the remainder of the week. Watch this newsletter as we work out the details.

Now you should be up to date on the great things that your Museum Board is doing to keep George's dream alive. Hope to see you soon at the Southwest's premier museum dedicated to the sport...no, to the art of soaring.

Bob Hudson, President

If George builds it they will come (to steal and modify the saying from the book and movie Field of Dreams)

Moriarty is a sleepy high desert town located off of Interstate 40 forty miles east of Albuquerque. It is a town with 1,700 residents and three truck stops. Yep, it's out in "nowhere" but as you know it is home to the United States Southwest Soaring Museum. Even though we are semi isolated we still manage to get visitors from all over the world who come to see our unique collection of soaring artifacts. Why just in the quarter of October thru December we had visitors from Orphelines, France; Canberra, Australia; Lausanne, Switzerland; Ankara, Turkey; Torino, Italy; and Hawkes Bay, New Zealand. But our salute for the quarter has to go out to Johnson Gavin from Johannesburg, South Africa.

It is amazing that these people seem to find us and all say the visit was a highlight of their trip. When was the last time you visited the Museum?
NEW MUSEUM BOARD MEMBER-
COLLEEN KOENIG

With all the changes taking place within the Museum one change that has turned into a super addition is the adding of Colleen Koenig to the Board of Directors. Colleen brings to the Board years of experience as an accomplished glider pilot and someone who has the ability to see the needs of our unique museum.

To start from the beginning...Colleen was born in Las Cruces, New Mexico, and she learned to soar with the White Sands Soaring Association when she was nineteen years old. She then graduated from New Mexico State University with a degree in Engineering (Electricall) and took a job with Sandia Labs in Amarillo, Texas. While in Amarillo, Colleen continued to hone her soaring skills with the Caprock Soaring Club in Littlefield, Texas, and it was while there that she bought her first glider, a Std.Cirrus.

Sandia then moved Colleen to their home laboratory in Albuquerque where she joined the Albuquerque Soaring Club and took on the task of Club Bookkeeper. She sold her Std. Cirrus and is now the half member of Al Santilli’s Libelle 301H. But Colleen was not happy to have just one Libelle as she then acquired a Libelle 201.

Colleen has two children, Nyla and Kacey. Nyla is a junior in High School and also is the Office Manager for Sundance Aviation, Moriarty’s commercial glider operation. Kacey is in the Navy going to school to be a nuclear propulsion mechanic on submarines.

When Colleen is not doing her duty with the Albuquerque Soaring Club, or her job at the lab, then she is an active member in the SSA, AOPA and Women Soaring Pilot’s Association. Besides being an accomplished soaring pilot, she can often be found riding her BMW motorcycle. In fact the next time you see Colleen, ask her about her Iron Butt.

In closing, the Museum is really pleased and proud to have Colleen on the “staff”.

THE NEMESIS NXT

As Stated previously in this edition, your Museum is the “owner” of the Nemesis NXT racing plane. Now you might ask ‘why do we have the NXT and what exactly is it? First, the answer to what “is it”. The Nemesis NXT is a “homebuilt” sport-class racing airplane built by Patricia and Jon Sharp (the winningest air racing pilot in history). The NXT is all carbon fiber and is powered by a Lycoming TIO-540 “Thunderbolt” six-cylinder engine, whose power took Jon to become the first ever sport-class pilot to “tour” the Reno racing course at over 400 mph in 2008. In the fall of 2015, Jon bought the plane to Moriarty to attempt to break six world speed records before retiring the airplane. (He broke five records and that’s where the Museum comes in. See the Nemesis web site: www.nemesisnxt.com for details.)

The NXT just back from breaking the the 3 kilometer world record at 415 mph during the “Thunder Over Moriarty” speed week.
As part of putting the NIXT to pasture Jon and Patricia wanted to donate the plane to a worthy institution. Originally he wanted it to go to the Smithsonian but the Smithsonian had some funky rules that precluded it from accepting the airplane at this time. However, by donating the plane to a tax exempt entity like the Museum, the Museum can then “loan” the airplane to the Smithsonian for three years where they will then take over ownership. Bottom line is that we babysat the aircraft and now it is going to Washington, DC, with a Museum decal on the fuselage for all the world to see. The display will proudly display on loan from the United States Southwest Soaring Museum, Moriarty, New Mexico. And now you know why we have a rocket ship in our collection.

Purpose: The purpose of the USSWSM Hall of Fame is to recognize individuals who have achieved major soaring accomplishments and/or individuals who have made major contributions to promote and support the sport of soaring in the southwest United States.

Tentative Program Guidelines:

1. Nominations would be solicited and received each year with a due date of September 30th. However the first years (2107) will be inducted on September 9, 2017.

2. Nominations will only be accepted from museum members or from other individuals as designated by the museum’s board of directors. For 2017 only members of the museum board will submit nominees for entry in to the USSWSM Hall of Fame.

3. Beginning in 2018 nominations will be accepted from any USSWSM museum member.

4. Consideration for entry would be limited to individuals that have made major contributions to soaring in the following six southwest US states: TX, OK, NM, CO, AZ, UT.

5. Each nomination must include a written statement detailing the achievements and/or contributions of the individual supporting a candidate’s election into the HOF.

6. The nominations will then be reviewed by the USSWSM board and a vote will be taken in the 4th quarter of each year.

7. Those folks who receive a majority vote from the museum board will then be inducted into the USSWSM Hall of Fame early in the following year.

8. Those new members of the US Southwest Soaring Museum Hall of Fame would be publically recognized at
a museum or board function with a certificate and HOF Award.

9. The HOF members would also be recognized at a designated location in the museum with a framed photo, year of entry into the HOF, and a brief description of their contributions.

Additional program details are still being developed and will be announced in the next newsletter.

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**TRIBUTE TO KATHY TAYLOR**

You might have noticed that Kathy Taylor’s name does not appear in the Board of Director’s roster; well Kathy has stepped down after years of extreme dedication and service to the USSWSM. Actually, when I say stepped down that is a misnomer as she has moved over to be with the Museum’s Foundation. Most of you know that Kathy is “everything” soaring. She has a long history of instructor success, contest accomplishments, and tow pilot expertise. Kathy is an active member of the SSA and of WSPA and has held many positions of leadership in every soaring club in which she has been a member. Those of us who remain “behind” wish to thank Kathy for her many years of devotion to our museum as well as to soaring.

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**Applebay Speaker Series**

Your Museum is initiating a speaker series named after our founder, George Applebay. To this end we will host an event on September 9th, 2017, at the museum to kick off this new program. Our guest speaker will be Dr. Gary Fogel who will present us with the History of Soaring in Southern California with emphasis on the San Diego area and in particular Torrey Pines. We will precede the lecture with a wine, cheese and beer social. Also during this get together we will “roll out” our first Hall of Fame selectees. It appears to be an evening that one and all can enjoy a little fellowship, learn a little history and salute some deserving soaring contributors. Be sure to mark the 9th of September on your calendar and soon we will be soliciting RSVPs.

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**BLANIK L-13**

Recently, the Museum received the donation of a Blanik L-13 to our collection from Ron Barton of Flagstaff, Arizona. This is very important: addition as many soaring pilots learn to fly in this aircraft and therefore it is fun to see visitors tell their families that it all started in a Blanik.

The first Blanik L-13 emerged from the drawings of the Letnany Czech Aeronautical Research Center in March of 1956. Since its introduction thousands of soaring plots, from all over the world, have received their pilot’s licenses from this innovative glider. According to my research, over 2,500 L-13s have been built with approximately 2,000 of them were exported.

What made the aircraft unique was its all metal construction, which contributed to its fully acrobatic ability. This glider featured flower style flaps, DFS-type dive brakes and a semi-retractable landing wheel. Additionally, the Blanik has all metal single spar wings with an auxiliary rear spar that carries the hinges and tracks.

The semi-monocoque fuselage was constructed in two halves and then riveted together. The only non-metal parts are the fabric coverings on the control surfaces. In 1969, a small quantity
of Blanik L-13J aircraft were built using an Avia M150 Jawa 3-cylinder engine that developed 42 horse power.

**SPECIFICATIONS**

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**PERFORMANCE**

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<td>28 @ 51 mph</td>
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<tr>
<td>L/D max (dual, 1102 lb.)</td>
<td>28 @ 56 mph</td>
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<td>Min. sink (solo, 883 lb.)</td>
<td>2.5 fps @ 45 mph</td>
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<td>6-fps sink @</td>
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<td>Max speed</td>
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<tr>
<td>Stall speed</td>
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<tr>
<td>Max rough air speed</td>
<td>78 kt</td>
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Your Museum has hats and shirts for sale. Drop me (Bob) an email and we can make arrangements. The shirts are $15, plus shipping, and the hats are $16, plus shipping.

Notice the ball caps do not have the canopy busting “button” on top.

Contact Bob Hudson: bhudson964@gmail.com
USSSM Membership

During the transition to a new Museum Board, one of the things that took a backseat is the collection and solicitation of membership dues. As you are aware the Museum depends on donations and membership dues to keep our doors open. To this end we are requesting that you open up your hearts, and wallets/purses, and purchase your annual memberships.

Benefits of memberships include:
1. Free admission to museum facilities.
2. 10% discount on gift shop purchases.
3. Receive all USSSM mailings.
4. The satisfaction of knowing that you are helping to build a first-class museum.

Life members and major contributions and their minor children receive these benefits for life. Other members receive them for one year. Family, Supporting and Sustaining include minor children. Supporting and sustaining accrue toward Life membership.

Send checks to: U.S. Southwest Soaring Museum
P.O. Box 3626
Moriarty, NM 87035

New _______ Renewal _______
Individual______$35 Family_______$45 Student______$20 Supporting______$100 Sustaining______$500
Life Member______$1,000 Major Contributor______$$$

Name:__________________________________________
Address:_________________________________________
Telephone:________________________ E-mail Address:________________________
Check here if you would like to get your newsletter electronically (e-mail)   

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Moriarty, NM 87035

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED