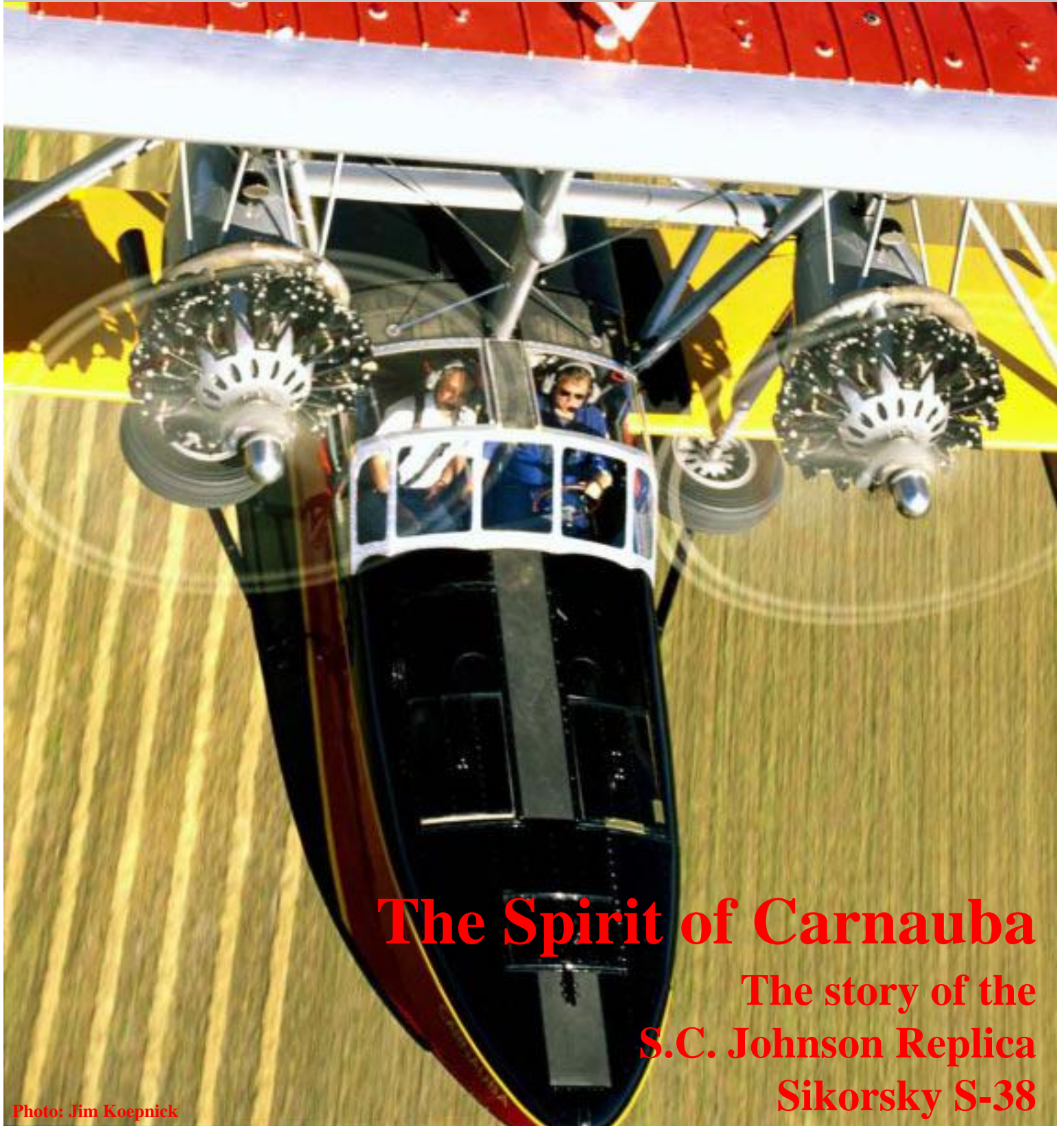


# Sikorsky *Heritage*

Published by the Igor I. Sikorsky Historical Archives, Inc. M/S S578A, 6900 Main St., Stratford CT 06615

September 2001



## The Spirit of Carnauba

The story of the  
S.C. Johnson Replica  
Sikorsky S-38

Photo: Jim Koepnick





# Building the Replica



H.F. Johnson

It all began with HF Johnson, President of the S.C. Johnson Wax Company of Racine, Wisconsin. It was his idea to make an aerial tour of the regions in Brazil that were home to the canauba palm trees, the source of wax, obtained by beating it out of the palm fronds. In 1935 he bought an S-38 from Sikorsky, and made his idea reality. The trip was very successful, and he said to his son Sam "I hope you will be able to make the same trip some day".



Sam Johnson

Photo: Jim Koepnick

In 1997 Sam and family members spent time in the Pacific looking for the remains of that machine sold to Shell Oil, and subsequently lost in an accident but without success. In 1998, Sam had Born Again Replicas of Racine WI build an S-38 replica.



"Buzz" Kaplan

Photo: Jim Koepnick

The idea of a replica started one day when R.W. "Buzz" Kaplan, retired CEO of Owatonna Tool Company and Sam Johnson were trading stories about their flights. Sam mentioned that he was planning to fly to Brazil from Racine Wisconsin following the same route as his father. To cut a long story short, Born Again Replicas embarked on construction, with the help of numerous enthusiasts, and Sikorsky Aircraft. Sergei Sikorsky and his brothers Nikolai and Igor Jr., pitched in to locate drawings and information as did Graham Tuke and others in Sikorsky Customer service, and Phil Spalla of Engineering. It made a maiden flight on August 13 1998, and landed on water for the first time at the end of that month.

The following year, along with his son Fisk Johnson, they retraced the route of the original tour as closely as possible, accompanied by the S. C. Johnson S-76.



## The Replica S-38 takes shape.

Photos :Jim Koepnick



## The Born Again Replicas Johnson S-38



All photos this page: Jim Koepnick

**Unattributed photos from S.C. Johnson files.**





# The Voyage to South America

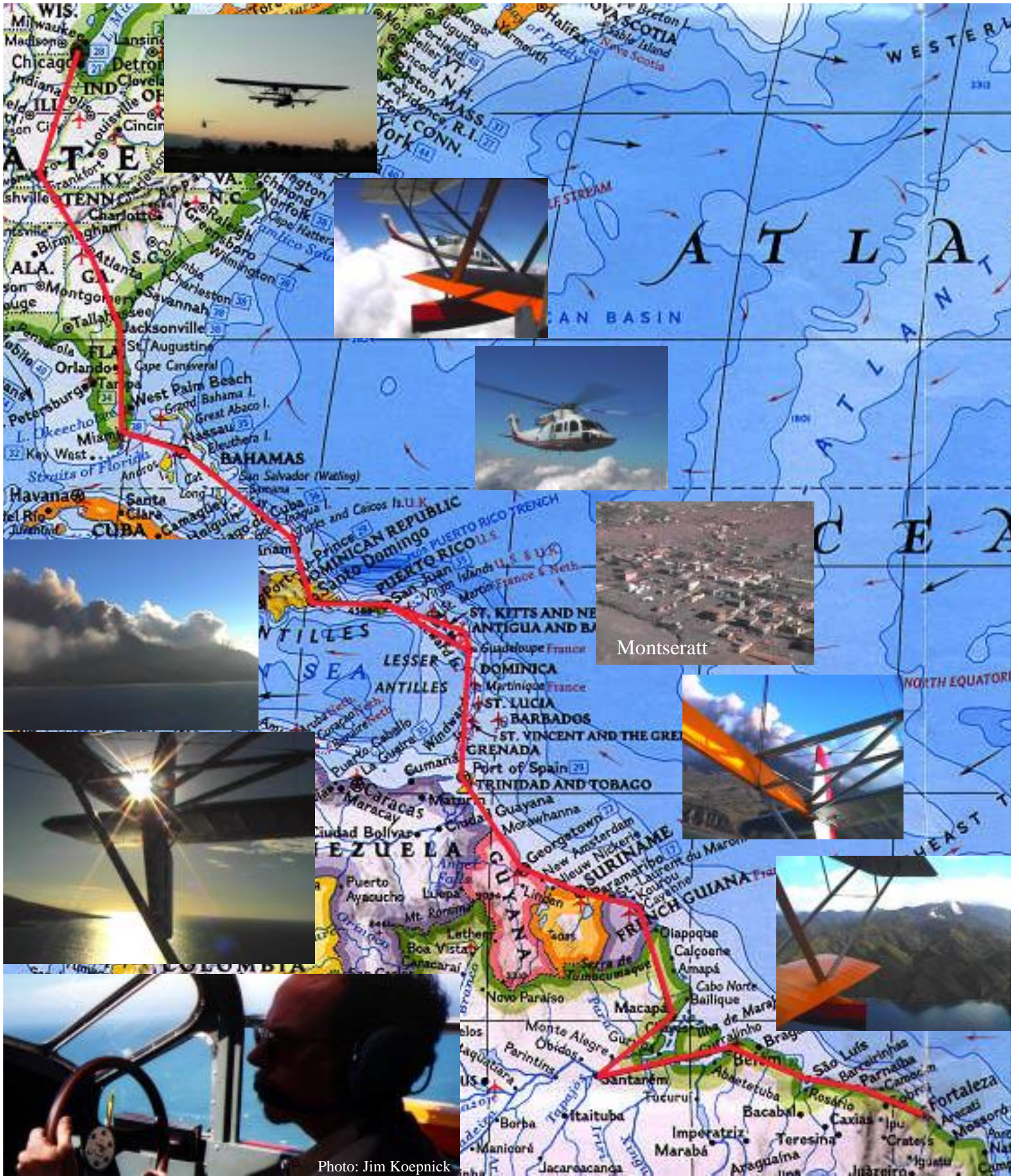


Photo: Jim Koepnick

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## Sikorsky Archives Elects New Boards

The Igor I. Sikorsky Historical Archives Inc. Board of Directors met in July and elected a new Board of Directors, and new Trustees. Those elected are as follows:

### Officers

President	Ronald Schlegel
Director	Harry Hleva
Assistant Director	Harry Pember
Secretary/Treasurer	Thomas Lawrence
Membership Chairman	Thomas Lawrence

### Board of Directors

Harry Pember	Caroline Morrisey
Harry Hleva	Joe Keogan
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Thomas Lawrence	Paul Martin
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Sergei Sikorsky Jr.	Jim Bohan
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### Trustees

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Frank Delear	William Paul
Igor Sikorsky III	Louis Knapp
Peter Savo	Bruce Vander Mark
Alyn Dobbins	Marie Aspinwall
George Sikorsky	Carl Bobrow
Tanya von York	

Items discussed during the meeting:

- The board is planning to reprint the Igor Sikorsky autobiography *The Story of the Winged S*.
- Tom Lawrence is arranging a "Brown Bag" lecture series to be held in a Sikorsky Engineering Conference Room during lunch-hour.
- The Archives will be videotaping interviews with past company presidents and other retirees.
- Joe Keogan has finished a new painting featuring the S-42 over the Stratford lighthouse during the record breaking flight of August 1, 1934.
- The Archives was able to provide assistance in the form of videotapes to the company Legal department concerning a recent lawsuit.
- The "Sikorsky Heritage" newsletter is now distributed within the company by the Communications department.

**The Archives can now be contacted direct at [iisha@snet.net](mailto:iisha@snet.net)**

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*Join the Archives today and help preserve the heritage of Igor I. Sikorsky.*

We are pleased to welcome the following new members who will help make the history of Igor Sikorsky and his achievements available to future generations:

**Ronald E. Crooker**

**Peter Wright**

**Ron Pavlucik**

**Santoisam Agostino**

**Colin Green**

**Wesley Thompson**

**Amy Curtin**

**John S. Foster, Jr.**

**Tami Tyler Slowey**

**Harold G. Murray**

**M. P. "Spike" Spigener**

**Jesse Thompson**

## JOIN THE ARCHIVES

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