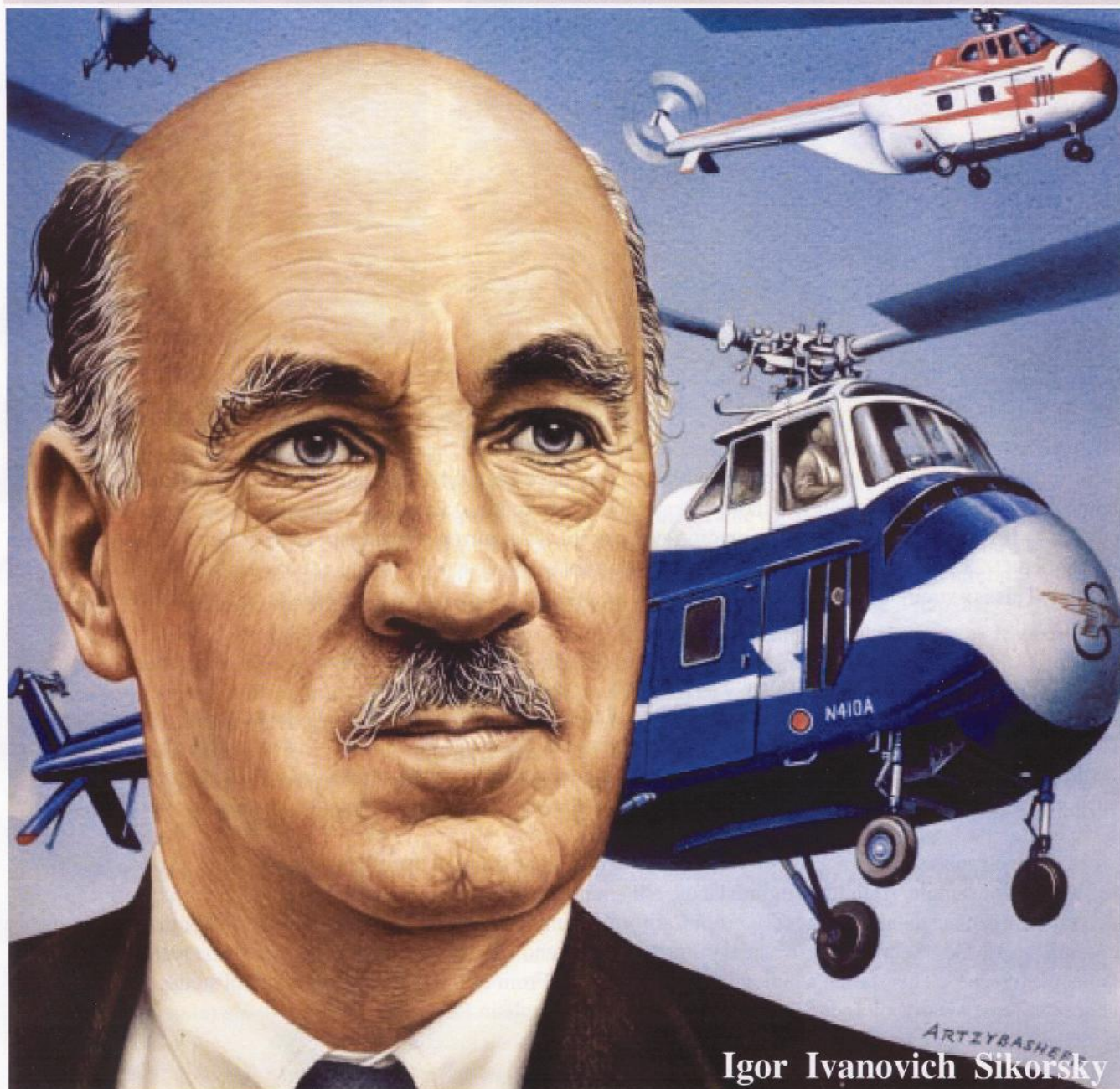


Sikorsky Archives News

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



Igor Ivanovich Sikorsky



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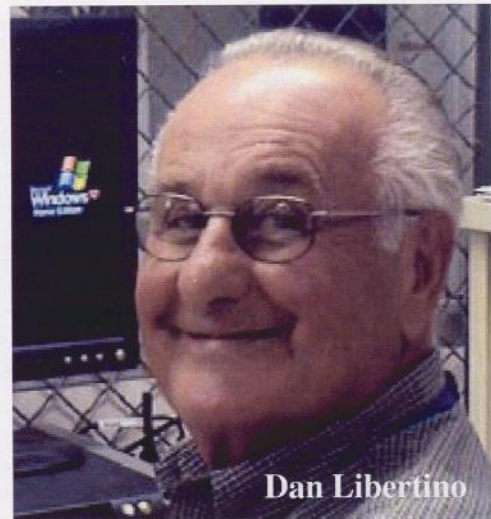
Dear Members,

Since becoming your president more than 16 months ago this seems an appropriate time to highlight our accomplishments and future direction.

Our Administration building opposite the Barrett House is now fully operational and utilized regularly to greet and introduce visitors to our activities, hold our Board meetings and staff meetings as well as providing a relaxed area to do research.

As we went to press, we learned that the Sikorsky Historical Archives is to receive the J.J Schneider Historical Achievement Award for 2006 from the American Helicopter Society.

To provide a better feel for the facilities we occupy and the volume of material we hold, this issue features the Archives at work, and includes some of our most dedicated volunteers.



Dan Libertino

Highlights

Our membership continues to grow and is currently at 296. The growth is due mainly to our Newsletter and word-of-mouth generated by our outside presentations.

Our web site continues to be very active and may have been driven by our efforts to update the site. The home page has been redesigned to a more "user friendly" approach to access the volumes of data that the site covers. This was made easier by utilizing drop-down screens organized by category groups. Records over the 60 day period (1/21 – 3/21/06) indicates we are averaging an impressive 413 visitors per day, viewing 827 pages per day. This is extremely impressive, and we hope you will take the time to visit the site and provide your comments.

We have invested capital for the purchase of computer systems to upgrade our computer capabilities including unique software and broadband capabilities.

The preservation of the circa 1920 – 1930 vellum drawings is well underway. We have 15 large drawings (all with Igor Sikorsky's signature) on a purchase order with Northeast Document Conservation Center in Andover, Mass., for preservation and encapsulation. We will continue to pursue the selection and preservation of such important drawings within our capital restraints as the process is fairly expensive, averaging approximately \$350 each.

Our e-mail activity continues to increase with questions from all over the world covering a full range of requests. For example, from the Virgin Islands, : "I am interested in building a flying scale model of the S-43, do you have dimensional drawings?": From California, " my Father was the Captain of the Barge that went aground at Penfield Reef, Conn. in a heavy storm in 1945 and was rescued with an R-5, the first recorded civil helicopter rescue". This started a dialogue on memorabilia, From Ireland: "I am a high school student and choose to write a paper on Igor Sikorsky and his helicopters role in Rescues. Can you provide reference material?" We were later advised that she received the highest grade in the contest.

As you can appreciate the cataloging of the volume of material we hold is a major ongoing effort. We have engaged a part time consultant to develop a searchable data base to facilitate accessibility. Once the full range of data sources is understood we are anticipating recommendations on the type of data to be collected and data search software package that is best for the Archives.

Continued overleaf

Report, Contd.

During the past six months the Archives has given eight presentations on the Three Aviation Careers of Igor Sikorsky to various clubs and retiree organizations, including the local Rotary and Kiwanis Clubs, GE and Sikorsky Retiree Clubs, Beacon Falls Historical Society, Y'smen of Meriden Men's Group and Congregational Church Clubs of Milford and Orange, Conn. They have been well received and further requests continue to come in. This is a great forum for pitching the organization.

We continue to maximize the limited space we occupy by organizing our files and utilize outside storage areas for bulky material. Once the layout is standardized we'll be able to create a map of the area to facilitate location of the research material.

In October we initiated a two- year loan agreement with the Cradle of Aviation, Long Island, NY to display our 1/7th scale model of the S-38. This will be the feature in a planned display of Long Island's early aviation history (1920-30's) highlighting Igor Sikorsky's beginning in Long Island and his last aircraft built, the S-38, before moving to Stratford in 1928. This is another opportunity to promote the Archives.

As you can see we have been very busy and have accomplished much with the current 18 dedicated volunteers. Increasing our volunteer staff remains our major goal but it continues to be difficult. Our recent letter campaign to local area members (approx. 125) to solicit volunteers with some computer experience so far has not been as successful as we had hoped. The only way we can increase our hours of operation is to expand the volunteer force. If you have any interest, please contact us.

Finally, our Quarterly Newsletter is for you our members and we hope you enjoy it. We would appreciate you taking the time to contact us and tell us what you would like to see in future publications.

Again, thank you for your support in the preservation of the legacy of Igor I. Sikorsky,

Dan Libertino

Can you help?

The Archives is seeking assistance from the membership, especially those who live close to the North Main Street plant. A great deal of work organizing the thousands of documents and photos still lies ahead. We are open from 8:00 AM to 12:00 midday on Tuesdays and Thursdays. If you can spare even two hours a week to help, it would be appreciated. In any case, members are always welcome to drop by and see our displays at the Barrett House.



The Barrett House. Home to the Archives

Visit us at Sikorskyarchives.com.

Contact us at iisha@snet.net.

Sikorsky Archives to receive the AHSI John J. Schneider Award.

The Archives has received a letter from Kim Smith, American Helicopter Society International Deputy Director, informing us that we have been selected for this award.

“Established in 2003 in memory of vertical flight historian John J. Schneider, this award is given in recognition of distinguished achievement in encouraging appreciation of, and enhancing access to, the history and legacy of vertical flight aircraft. The selection of the award recipient is based upon a significant achievement or sustained record of accomplishment in the documentation, preservation, analysis and illumination of historically significant events, prominent pioneers and /or technologies, designs and uses of vertical flight aircraft. The recipient will receive a scale model of Leonardo da Vinci’s “Aerial Screw” on an inscribed mount, and a book selected from the list of titles available through AHS International. “

In Memoriam.

Theodore E. (Ted) Dumont died unexpectedly on Nov. 2, 2005. Ted served in the Army Air Force during WWII filling varied engineering roles and in 1946 joined the CAA (now FAA). Ted was recalled in 1951 when the Korean War started and served in the USAF as liaison officer assigned to Sikorsky Aircraft. In 1955 Ted went to work for Sikorsky where he worked for 30 years until his retirement. He was involved in the civil certification of the S-55, S-58, and S-58T, S-61 series, S-62 and S-64 helicopters.

Ted was actively involved with the Archives from its inception as well as holding the most respected position of “Special Advisor to HAI”. He was a meticulous record keeper and many of his files have been turned over the Archives and will be invaluable for future research.

Frank J. Delear, former Director of Public Relations for Sikorsky Aircraft from 1957 until his retirement in 1977 passed away on Jan. 25, 2006 following a brief illness. Frank was a Trustee and active participant on the Board of the Sikorsky Archives from its inception.

During his career at Sikorsky Aircraft he wrote the acclaimed “Igor Sikorsky – His Three Careers in Aviation”, as well as “Famous First Flights Across the Atlantic”, “Helicopters and Airplanes of the U.S. Army” and “The World of Helicopters”. His books are used regularly by the Archives as research references.

An avid letter writer; he corresponded with many, including “Pappy” Boyington, Charles Lindbergh, Igor Sikorsky and Sergei Sikorsky.

Both Ted and Frank are deeply missed by their associates at the Archives.

Visit us at Sikorskyarchives.com.

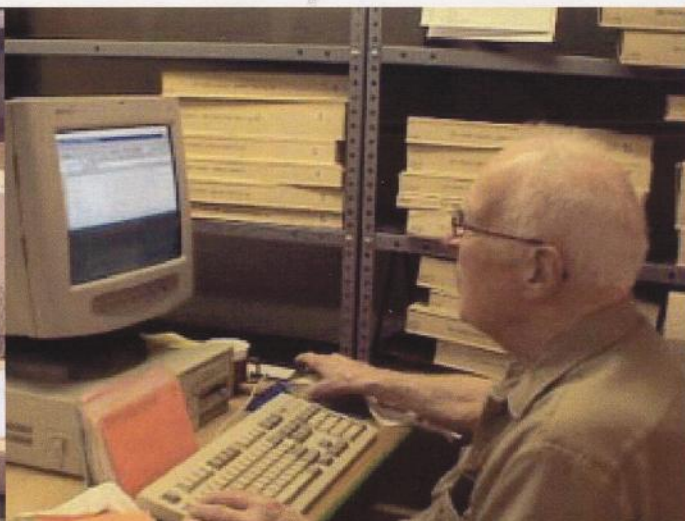
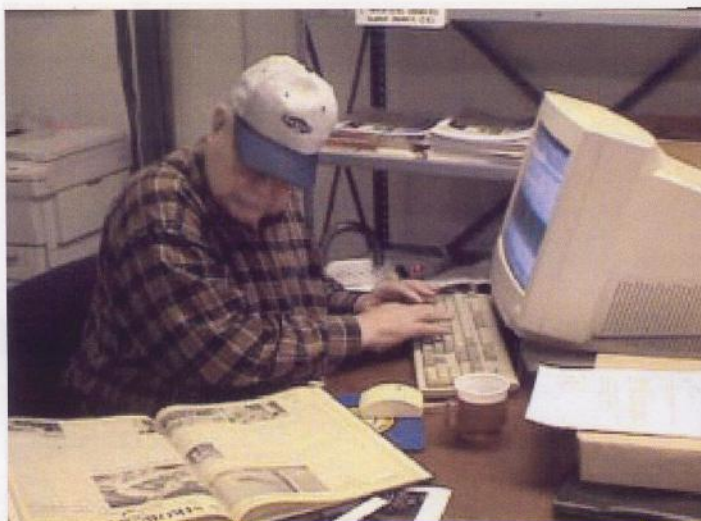
Contact us at iisha@snet.net.



From top left clockwise: Joe Keogan, Bob Brady and Ed Arva with an S-62 wind tunnel model, Bob and Jack Kochis looking over the library, restored S-64 Flying Crane wind tunnel model, Ed Arva, Harry Hleva, and Joe Keogan with one of his wall displays.

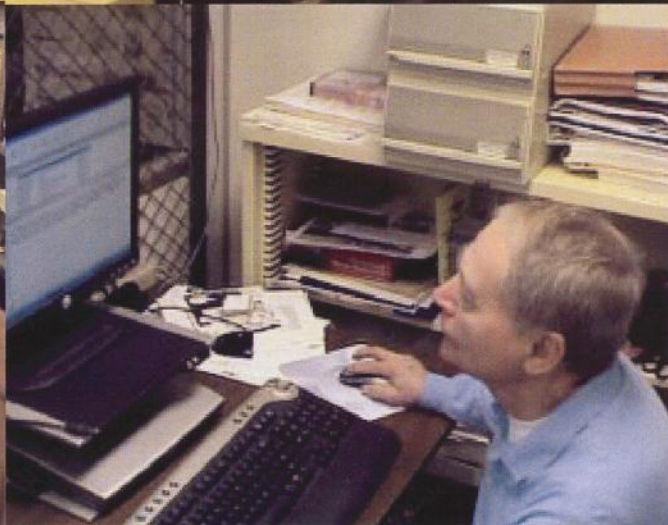


Have you joined the Archives as a member?

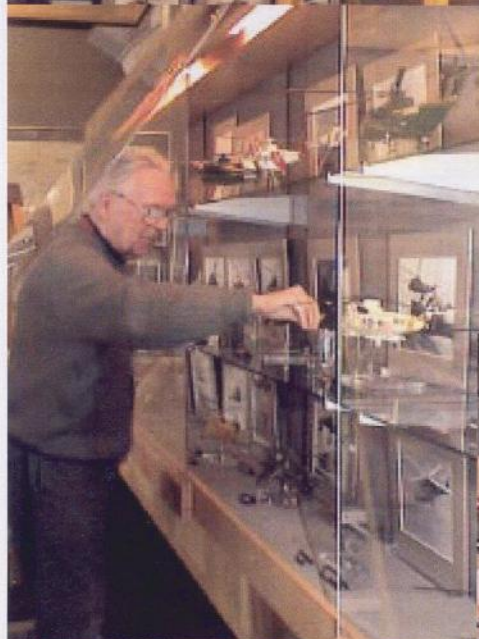
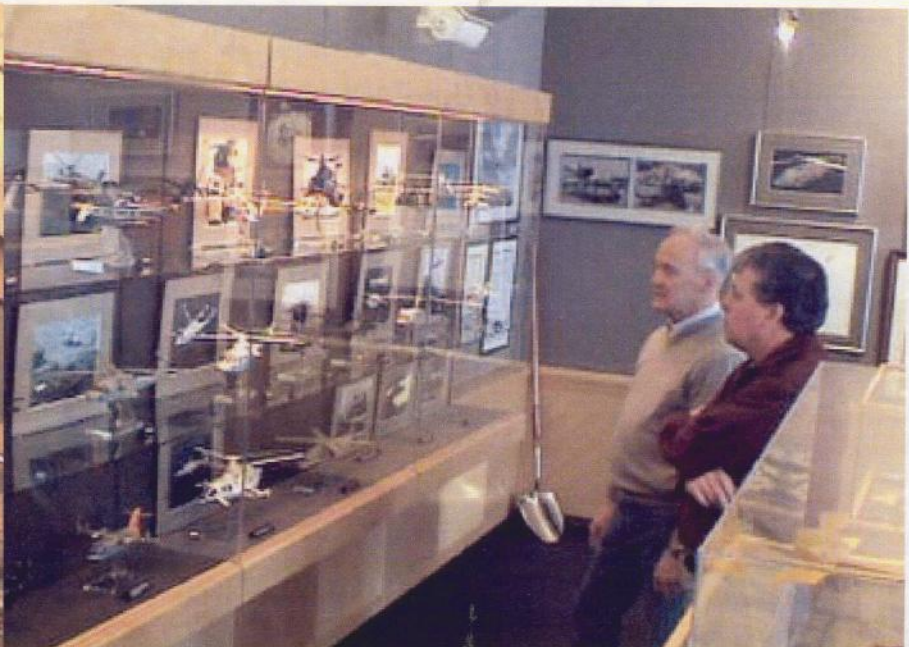
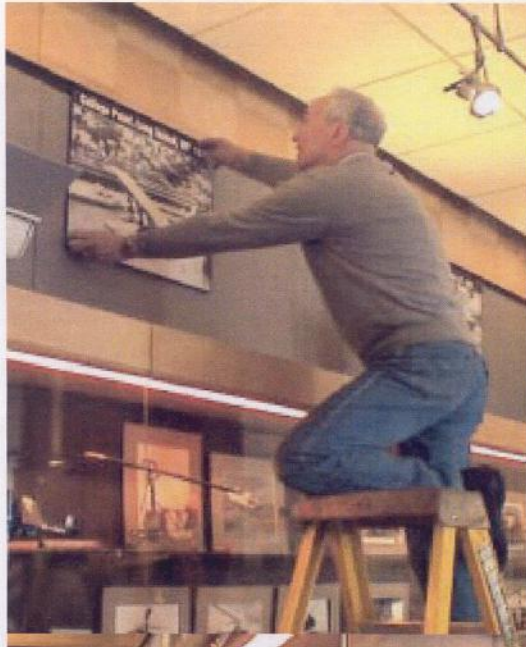


Where would we be without computers, and the volunteers who operate them? We have thousands of photos and documents all in process of sorting and cataloging.

From top left clockwise: Larry Dzialo, Wally Wanamaker, Ed Groves with Charlie Vesterman, Lee Jacobson, and Lou Havanich.



Do you have skills we could use in the Archives?



THE HERITAGE CENTER.

The Historical Archives is responsible for upkeep of the Heritage Center, a glass enclosed display area at the main entrance to plant headquarters. Joe Keogan, Bob Brady and Ed Arva conduct routine maintenance.

Have you joined the Archives as a member?

JOIN THE ARCHIVES

Igor I. Sikorsky Historical Archives Inc.
MS S 578A
6900 Main Street
Stratford, CT 06615-9129

Life Membership	\$125
3 Year Membership	\$25
1 Year Membership	\$10

Please send a check or money order (do not send cash)
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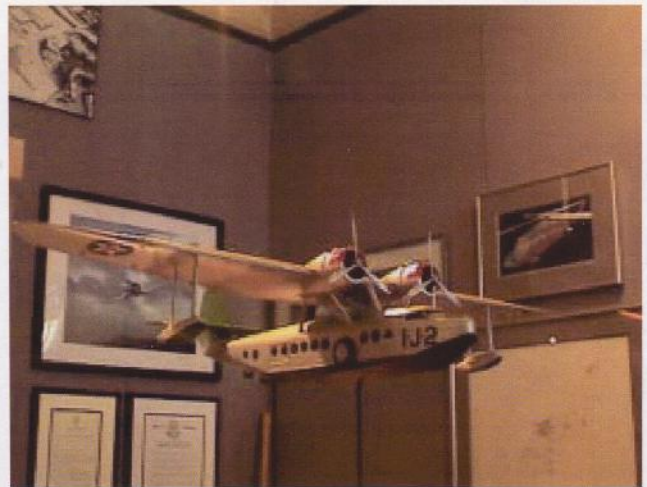
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State _____ Zip _____

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Join us today
Help preserve the legacy
of a visionary engineer.

*Have you changed your mailing address since you
joined us? If so, please let us know.*

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