

In this issue:

- ▶ The Soaring Community Mourns the Loss of Paul MacCready
Page 1
- ▶ Steve Fossett Missing from Nevada
Page 1
- ▶ 2008 Convention Speaker List Taking Shape
Page 1
- ▶ Mifflin Co. Airport to Honor Soaring
Page 1
- ▶ Barnaby Lecture Sept. 29 in Elmira
Page 2
- ▶ Contest Rules Comm. Election Underway
Page 2

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Turnpoint

by Denise Layton
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An aviation giant has passed away. Dr. Paul MacCready left a great legacy that will be remembered through the years. His innovations are too numerous to mention in the space of this column, but he will be honored in the pages of SOARING Magazine by people who knew him best. Simine Short has authored an article through her philatelic work, which honors the man. Certainly other people who knew him will share information about his great accomplishments in the pages of SOARING. Not only is the soaring community mourning this loss, but so is the entire aviation world.

As this column is being written, there is a well-known aviation person who has been reported missing. Steve Fossett was in Nevada and out on a pleasure flight several over a week ago and has not been seen since that time. We all hope this great adventurer is found unharmed soon.

A preliminary list of topics and speakers has been received from Leo Benetti-Longhini, who is in charge of this important part of our 2008 Convention. A few for you to look forward to are: The Perlan Project – Einar Enevoldson; Aeronautical Decision Making – Russell Holtz; Pre-Worlds in Germany – Rick Walters; AOPA presentation – Shelly Dezevallos; JS-1 Revelation Aerodynamics – Johan Bosman. There will be a full slate of awesome topics and speakers and I hope you are making plans to attend. This is your chance to see the latest in the sailplane industry, as well as meet new and old friends. The SSA will not host a convention in 2009, so don't miss out in February, 2008 in Albuquerque.

Another note about our CARS donation program – It is going great. We have been notified that yet another vehicle has been donated. Roger Curtis of Los Angeles, California, we thank you for your donation and your support of the SSA.

I just received a call from the airport authority in Mifflin County, Pennsylvania. The gentleman advised that soaring contests had been held there for years and the airport authority decided it was time to show their appreciation to the soaring community for their patronage. They are in the process of making a sign to hang over the airport entrance showing the many years soaring contests have been held there. What a great idea, and perhaps more airports would be interested in showing their appreciation of soaring.

If you haven't made plans to go to Elmira, New York for the Barnaby Lecture, you still have time. This year's presenter will be Einar Enevoldson, who will talk about the world altitude record setting Perlan Project. This will

Turnpoint from Hobbs continues on page 2

Turnpoint

Continued from page 1

also give you the opportunity to visit the National Soaring Museum . The Barnaby Lecture will be held September 29th so don't delay in contacting the NSM to make your reservations.

If the staff in Hobbs can be of any assistance to you, please do not hesitate to contact us. We're here Monday-Friday to serve you.

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[SSA Contest Rules Committee Election](#)

The annual SSA Rules Committee election is underway at <http://adamsfive.com/survey/surveys.php>. Everyone on the SSA Pilot Ranking List can vote. Candidates for the 4 year term are John Cochrane, John Godfrey, Richard Maleady, and Tim McAllister. Current members are Dave Cole (chairman), Hank Nixon, Garret Willat, and Ken Sorenson. The seat previously held by Dave Mockler is up for election. The election is open until September 23.



Courtesy of Mickey Gadhoke