



AERONOTES

Our Mission: To interpret aviation, particularly that related to New York State, with exhibits and programs that educate, entertain and excite the public

Volume 29, Issue 3

Fall 2019

ESAM CELEBRATES 35TH ANNIVERSARY

On Saturday July 27th, the Empire State Aerosciences Museum celebrated its 35th Anniversary with a plethora of special attractions at the museum and in the community.

The day started with a special ESAM breakfast.

At 10 am **ESAM President Peter Russo** led the Opening Ceremony for the celebration. Dignitaries in attendance included **US Congressman Paul Tonko** who presented a proclamation honoring the event. Also attending were two members of the British parliament, **Sarah Champion** and **David Linden**.

Bob Secreti provided his excellent services as Master of Ceremonies and Announcer.

The **109 Airlift Wing** provided a C-130 for static display.

Special activities included open cockpits, tours, the **Adirondack Soaring Club**, a bouncy bounce for kids and discounted admission.

A series of musical acts provided live music all day. The acts were the **SUNY Choraleers**, **Martin Wakesburg** playing acoustic folk rock, **Erin Powers** playing classic country rock, **Kevin Wayne's** rockabilly and **Kurt Siegel** playing pop folk rock.

Because the celebration coincided with the 50th Anniversary of the first moon landing, the museum's own **Kevin Millington** made a presentation on the Apollo 11 moon landing flight, complete with the museum's image of the Apollo 11 logo signed by **Neil Armstrong**, **Buzz Aldrin** and **Michael Collins**.

Food was available courtesy of the **Restoration Team**.

Helicopter rides were available from **Independent Helicopters**.

Vintage aircraft were on display including Chinese and French trainers.

The documentary **Return to Hardwick** about the 93rd Bomb Group in World War II was shown at the **Scotia Cinema** on Saturday and Sunday (although the Sunday showing was cut short by a severe thunderstorm that knocked out power to the theater and many other buildings in the area). The film's Producer and Director **Michael Sellers** attended and provided insights about the film.

All in all it was a grand celebration. Thanks to the many volunteers and businesses who supported it. Support was provided by **Ed Kosier**, **Hannaford**, **Russo Entertainment**, **Scotia Cinema** and **Wal-Mart**.

PRESIDENT'S COLUMN

Dear Fellow Members,

As a valued member of ESAM, I am asking for your help.

As you may know, we are working in partnership with Schenectady County to implement a long-term plan for a needed revitalization of the museum, a major part of which is rehabilitation of the Hangar Building. To this end, I have been working with **Anthony J. Jasenski, Sr., Chair of the Schenectady County Legislature**, and the County subsequently provided a \$50,000 grant for preparation of plans intended to make this a reality. Through the grant, we have retained *Re4orm Architects*, a prominent local firm, which is now actively preparing these plans.

As the implementation of these plans will likely require considerable funding, your support is essential to communicate this need. I am asking that you communicate this need, in writing, to County Legislative Chairman, Anthony J. Jasenski, Sr. at 620 State Street, Schenectady, NY 12305. The larger the expression of support, the more likely we will realize a positive outcome. In this regard, I think at least 150 letters of support from our members are needed, hopefully many more.

I am thanking you in advance for your help. The future of our museum can be a bright and fruitful one with your help.

Sincerely,
Peter Russo, President

Suggested form for letter to Schenectady County:

Dear _____:

September __, 2019

As a member of ESAM (Empire State Aerosciences Museum) I would like to voice my support for the future of the museum. Since the property is owned by the County, I think that it is their responsibility to endorse the program for improving the structure of the main hangar and the proposed renderings by James T. Pollard of Re4orm architecture.

I look forward to seeing this happen in the very near future.

Sincerely,



Peter Russo



Architectural Rendering of Revitalized Main Hangar

AeroNotes

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 Glenville, NY 12302
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Lawrence McArthur

ESAM is a registered
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 chartered by the N.Y.S.
 Department of Education

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THE VIETNAM HELICOPTER EXPERIENCE

On June 15, 2019 **Jay Fuller** made a presentation at the ESAM Fly-In Breakfast about his experiences as a helicopter pilot in Vietnam. Jay was attached to the 101st Airborne Division flying UH-1 Hueys. Hueys served many purposes in Vietnam including combat assault (Slicks), gunships and medevac. His unit's primary missions were air insertion and air resupply. His tour in Vietnam lasted from December 1967 through December 1968.

Initially he was stationed in the Mekong delta. Subsequently his unit was reassigned to the Hue area to the north. Operations were very different in the two areas. In the flat delta of southern South Vietnam he would often fly in large formations of helicopters. In the mountainous areas of northern South Vietnam he would often fly in trail positions with one helicopter at a time landing and taking off from the objective area.

During his presentation Jay covered the aircraft, missions, geography and living conditions. In regard to living conditions he was grateful for having the luxury of a tent over his head at his helicopter bases. He was normally on duty from 7 am to 7 pm seven days a week. Most missions were an hour or more in duration. His maximum number of landings in a day during his tour was 17 landings.

Thanks to Jay for his excellent presentation.



ESAM's UH-1 on display in the Agneta Air Park

SUMMER AVIATION CAMP A HUGE SUCCESS

by Kevin Millington

The Museum's Summer Aviation Camp, a 5-day-long program held from August 19-23, was once again a HUGE success, our finest hour! In the five years we've conducted this education program, it has grown steadily, and this year's was our largest ever – 42 students enjoyed a week of aviation classes and experiences. Classes were provided on the history of aviation, the physics, or forces, of flight, and in the preparation of flight plans, and much more – we enjoyed presentations from **Larry McArthur** on Naval Aviation and flight gear and from **Yves Nollet** on gliders and soaring, visited Stratton Air Base and boarded an LC-130 Hercules, AND each student got an actual flight, compliments of volunteers **John Baldosaro** and **Joel Glickman**.

Rachel Rourke once again developed and oversaw the program, and she did her usual wonderful job. The program is undertaken in partnership with **Schenectady County Community College's Office of Work Force Development and Community Education**, and many thanks to **Maria Kotary** of that office. Partnerships are so important to our success, and SCCC is certainly among our best partners.

The program could not have been undertaken without our great volunteers – **John Baldosaro, Lynn Chevalier, Gary Davis, Michael Dreibelbis, Gary Gershon, Joel Glickman, Rachelle Meerschaert, Yves Nollet, and John Panoski**, as well as the Young Ambassadors, many of whom previously were students, including **Sean Claesgens, Marisa Dreibelbis, James Emmick, Isaiah Gershon, Ashlyn Hunter, George Hunter, Robert Hunter, and Luke Hunter**. Thanks also to **Joyce Newkirk** and **Pat Barrot** for all their help, to **Peter Hunter**, who again generously provided a bus and transported folks to and from Stratton Air Base, to **Stewart's**, who once again provided funds to support the program, and of course to my colleagues on the Board of Trustees, who could not be more supportive.

We concluded the week on Friday with a "graduation" party for the students, their families, and volunteers, which included a visit from **Senator Jim Tedisco**, who recognized the students and ESAM, and who continues to be such a strong supporter of ESAM, as well as remarks from **President Peter Russo**.

I was so happy and proud to be affiliated with such a wonderful program.



(Left) Airborne! (Right) Graduation with Senator Tedisco



(Above) Flight Planning
(Below) Inside a NY Air National Guard C-130 Hercules
(These photos and the Airborne! Photo on page 4 courtesy of ESAM Trustee Lynn Chevalier)





35th Anniversary Events

1. (left to right) Alfonzo DiBlasio, John Panoski, Kevin Millington, Sarah Champion (UK Parliament), US Congressman Paul Tonko, David Linden (UK Parliament), and ESAM President Peter Russo pose in front of ESAM's Concorde model.

2. The SUNY Choraleers perform (photo courtesy of Lynn Chevalier)

3. Director Michael Sellers advertises his production of Return to Hardwick at the Scotia Cinema.

MAKING WAY FOR THE CONCORDE

On August 24th the Glasair that has adorned the front lawn of the museum for many years came down to make way for the Concorde! As Restoration Chair **Rich Bievenue** commented at the time, "We've removed the Glasair from the post in front of the museum. We're ready to break ground on the Concorde foundation this week. Things are gonna get real now."



(Above) Celebrating the removal of the Glasair are the museum volunteers who made it happen. From left to right: Charlie Wiessand, Fred Bloomstein, Alfonzo DiBlasio, Jeff Smith, Dave Tripp, Karl Groves, Michael Sweeney, Peter Bergendahl, Joyce Newkirk and John Panoski. On the ladder, Gary Davis.



And in fact, ground was broken for the Concorde foundation on August 27th!

OUR VOLUNTEERS

FLIPPING THE WING

Restoration Team work continues on readying the Concorde for display. Recent focus has been on preparing the “model” for painting. Having finished prep work on one side of a wing, on August 6th the team flipped the wing to facilitate prep work on the other side. Pictured below in front of the wing are Restoration Team members **Mike Sweeney, Peter Bergendahl, Bill Maetta, Karl Groves, Fred Bloomstein, Fred Fink, Dave Tripp, Gary Davis, Alfonzo DiBlasio** and **Tom Urquhart**.



MODELS FOR KIDS

If you come to ESAM’s monthly Fly-In Breakfasts you may have noticed a small table holding some basic airplane models and a sign saying they are free for kids.

Volunteer **Bob Vore** makes this happen. As part of his role on the museum’s Curatorial & Acquisitions Committee, Bob culls through the multitude of models that are donated to the museum, recommending that the better ones be placed into the museum’s inventory, identifying some for sale in the Gift Shop and choosing some that are appropriate for kids as toys. He often makes repairs to the one’s designated for the kids and makes sure they are placed on the give-away table at the breakfasts. Thanks, Bob, for this unique service to the museum.

LETTERS LIKE THESE WE LIKE TO RECEIVE

April 2, 2019

Ms. Patricia Barrot
Empire State Aerosciences Museum
250 Rudy Chase Drive
Glenville, NY 12302-7135

Dear Ms. Barrot,

Please know how grateful we are for your generous in-kind donation in support of St. Peter's ALS Regional Center, Lewis Golub MDA/ALS clinic. You may be assured that your special donation will benefit a fundraising event and will help St. Peter's, and the staff of the ALS Center, to continue to touch the lives of those living with Lou Gehrig's disease...

Sincerely,

Shannon Galuski
Executive Director
St. Peter's Hospital Foundation

Karen Spinelli
Operations Manager
St. Peter's ALS Regional Center

Melissa Morrison
Foundation Associate
St. Peter's Regional ALS Center

April 16, 2019 email

Dear Kevin and ESAM team,

Thank you so much for welcoming our Rise High students last Saturday. It was a great visit that nicely complemented our module on the Science of Flight, and they certainly had a lot of fun accessing the airplanes and simulator. I know the kids, and we adults, learned a lot while also having fun.

We have posted about our visit on Facebook where we also tagged ESAM... The same summary and pictures will get posted on our website soon (updates underway): <http://rise-high.org/blog-news/>

Thank you again, and we hope to be able to work together again in the future.

Best,
Omayra L. Padilla De Jesus, PhD, MBA
Executive Director
Rise High, Inc.

Dear Kevin,

Thank you so much for the WONDERFUL job with the kids from my son's school in Harlem. I know they enjoyed it & they asked a lot of questions! You had a lot of patience. I know Henry, their teacher, and I appreciated all you did to make their visit one I'm sure they'll remember!

Thank you,
Ronnie Quinn

2019 ESAM ANNUAL DINNER MEETING

OCTOBER 16, 2019

RIVER STONE MANOR

1437 Amsterdam Rd, Glenville, NY 12302

I would like to make reservations for # ____ ESAM Members and Guests at \$35 per dinner \$ ____

I cannot attend but I would like to make a donation to ESAM. \$ ____

AMOUNT ENCLOSED \$ ____

HORS D'OUVRES and CASH BAR at 5:30 pm

Assorted Cheese and Crackers

Focaccia Bread with Caramelized Onions, Fontinella Cheese and Roma Tomatoes

Fresh Fruit Display

DINNER at 6:30 pm

Fresh Garden Salad, Warm Dinner Rolls

Entrée Choice of:

- Harvest Breast of Chicken filled with Cranberry & Apple Pear Stuffing, served with a Grand Marnier Cranberry Glaze
- Roasted Top Sirloin, served with a Cabernet Demi Glaze
- Salmon Classico delicately seasoned and expertly grilled, served with a Lemon Dill Sauce

Coffee & Tea

Plated Dessert

I have special dietary needs _____

Name(s) _____

Address _____

Telephone _____

Please indicate your choice of entrées: ____ Chicken, ____ Top Sirloin, ____ Salmon

DEADLINE FOR RESERVATIONS: OCTOBER 4, 2019

Please make check payable to ESAM and send it along with the completed form to:
ESAM Annual Meeting, 250 Rudy Chase Drive, Glenville, NY 12302

Spouses and friends are welcome

Proxy Form for Annual Meeting

Dear ESAM Member,

The purpose of the Annual Meeting of the Empire State Aerosciences Museum (to be held on October 16, 2019) shall be to elect Trustees of the Corporation, to report on all significant activities of the Corporation during the preceding fiscal year and to conduct such other business as may properly come before the meeting. The Record Date for eligibility to vote at this meeting has been fixed at September 30, 2019. Every member as of September 30, 2019 is entitled to vote and may authorize another person to act for such member by written proxy. To insure a quorum at the Annual Meeting, please date, sign and return the Proxy Form below. The ESAM Board Secretary will be custodian of proxies. Every proxy shall be revocable at the pleasure of the member executing it. These signed proxies will be available at the Annual Meeting, and may be retrieved by those members who will be voting in person that night.

Please send to or leave your proxy with ESAM, 250 Rudy Chase Drive, Glenville, NY 12302, Attention: Proxy Custodian

PROXY FORM

I _____ a current member of ESAM hereby authorize my proxy to
(please print name)
be voted at the Annual Meeting on October 16, 2019 by:

Please check one:

- () ESAM Proxy Custodian on recommendation of the Board of Directors
() Member designated to represent me

Name of designated member (designated member must attend to vote this proxy)

Proxies will be used to determine a quorum. Members present and planning to vote in person are asked to rescind their proxy before the meeting by registering with the Secretary.

Signature

Date

Printed Name

| ESAM THANKS THE FOLLOWING PEOPLE WHO HAVE ESTABLISHED OR RENEWED THEIR MUSEUM MEMBERSHIPS | | |
|---|------------------------------------|----------------------------|
| | VIP Galaxy Club | |
| | Mr. Kevin Millington | |
| | | |
| | VIP Supporting | |
| Mr. William Gilbert | Mr. & Mrs. Carl Linkinhoker | Mr. & Mrs. Larry McArthur |
| | | |
| | VIP Contributing | |
| Ms. Sarah Adams | Mr. Alfonzo DiBlasio | Mr. Nicolas Filippone |
| | Mr. Frederick Fink | |
| | | |
| | Business Supporter | |
| Hildt Aviation Bennington | Russo Entertainment | |
| | | |
| | Family | |
| Ms. Michelle Bezdecny | Mr. Juan Garcia | Mr. Karl Groves |
| Ms. Melinda Kinney | Ms. Nicole Foley | Mr. Ryan Lambert |
| Mr. Justin Lynam | Mr. Joshua Nagy | Mr. & Mrs. Stephen Ruggles |
| Mr. & Mrs. Robert Secreti | Mr. Ray Varrone | Ms. Susan Vazal |
| Ms. Lisa Winglosky | Messrs. Stephen & Billy Wattemburg | |
| | | |
| | Library | |
| | Voorheesville Public Library | |
| | | |
| | Individual | |
| Mr. James Conlon | Mr. Collin Simmons | Mr. Fred Sirois |
| | | |
| | Senior Citizen/Student | |
| Mr. Arthur Arro | Mrs. Gloria Bartowski | Mr. Ken Bartowski |
| Mr. Gary Beadnell | Ms. Deborah Beranek | Mr., William B. Bibby |
| Mr. Roger Farley | Mr. Thomas Fusco | Ms. Susan Gaddor |
| Mr. Peter Harvey | Ms. Theresa Lozier | Mr. Michael A. Maddalone |
| Mr. Charles W. Marshall | Mr. Donald A. Morrett | Mr. Thomas Stephany |
| Ms. Paulette Stoddard | Mr. Michael Sweeney | Mr. Frank Wicks |
| | Mr. Donald Williams | |

RECENT ACQUISITIONS

- **David Murphy** donated an altitude correction computer, a Boeing 747 tie tack, five issues of Recognition Journal from 1944, two albums of World War II era photos and miscellaneous aviation-related books.
- **Thomas Aitchison** donated PCs, monitors, software and ancillary equipment for use as flight simulators.
- In a separate donation, **Thomas Aitchison** donated four plastic model aircraft and two plastic model aircraft carriers circa World War II, all on display bases.
- **Sherley Hannay** donated a wooden presentation desk model of a C-130.
- **Richard Murphy** donated 61 books and approximately 100 CDs and VHS tapes.
- **Haeja Corrigan** donated miscellaneous aviation-related books.
- **Richard Fullam** donated a balsa wood model airplane, model airplane plans and 6 aviation-related books.
- In memory of **Kenneth J. Male, Captain USAAF** and World War II P-51 pilot, **Paul K. Male** donated a large poster of a P-51 Mustang in flight, a wooden model of a P-51 on a stand, a plastic model of a B-17 on a stand with clock and sound effects, a pewter model of a P-51 and a student pilot handbook.
- **Lynn Trudell** donated a souvenir document from a July 30, 1931 Inter-Cities Airways Service flight from Schenectady Airport.
- **Chuck McGaffin** donated three models: a B-17, a Stuka and a TBF Avenger with markings for the USS Tulagi. The markings are those of an Avenger flown by **LCDR William VanAlstine** of Halfmoon, NY.
- **Joseph Palko** donated miscellaneous aviation-related books and magazines.
- **Ray Davis** donated two books: First on the Moon by Rod Pyle and Hidden figures by Margot Lee Shetterly.
- **John Deaton** donated a framed print of a flying boat.
- **Alexander Yatsevitch** donated various aviation-related books.



**Wooden model of a C-130 donated by
Sherley Hannay**



**Souvenir of July 30, 1931 commercial flight from
Schenectady County Airport
donated by Lynn Trudell**

The Empire State
Aerosciences Museum is
supported in part by:

Business Benefactors

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Wal-Mart

Friends of ESAM

The Agneta Family
The Family of Carl Battaglia*
Sanjay Correa
Raymond Davis
Robert Eggleston
Mr. & Mrs. John Ericson
Frank Hackert
The Family of Roger Hannay
Chester & Ann Matthews*
Chester (Bud) & Katie
Matthews
David Montana
Mrs. Charles (Mardy) Moore*
Mr. & Mrs. Robert Newkirk
Mr. & Mrs. Marvin Weiss
Mr. & Mrs. Maurice York

Galaxy Club Members

Edward & Roberta Barili
John Hackert
Dr. Philip Kennicott
James Liguori
James LaDolce
Kevin Millington
John Panoski
Ralph Rosenthal
The Family of Jansz Vander
Veer*

*ESAM Charter Member

OUR SUPPORTERS

ADOPT-AN-AIRPLANE PROGRAM RETURNS IN 2019

ESAM's Adopt-an-Airplane program has entered its second year. Again, as in the first year, all of the planes available for adoption have been adopted and the adopters have started helping to wash and maintain them.



(Above) Larry McArthur (right) and his grandson Ian Thompson (left) wash the A-7E Corsair that the McArthur family adopted.

(Below) John Murphy (right) from Malta, NY washing his adopted MiG-15 along with Gary Davis, ESAM's Adopt-an-Airplane Coordinator



FREE, FREE, FREE

Thanks to **Jack Keem** and **Bob Lavery** who manage activities in Gallery II, a magazine rack containing material that is free to the public has been mounted on the wall just inside the door to Gallery II. And thanks to the **Research Center** that is providing the magazines.

ESAM HOSTS THOMAS CORNERS FIRE DEPARTMENT CARNIVAL

From June 4-10 (including set up time), the front lawn of ESAM was filled with rides, popcorn machines, arcade games and other carnival paraphernalia.

The museum was pleased to host this event for our local fire department.

"MY GLOBE GIRDLING ADVENTURE"

At the September 21st Fly-In Breakfast, pilot **Dale Thuillez** will make a presentation titled "My Globe Girdling Adventure in My PC-12".

The presentation will be an illustrated talk on his 14,000 nautical mile adventure in his PC-12. Thuillez is an Albany attorney working for Thuillez, Ford, Butler & Monroe, LLP.

The presentation is scheduled for 10 am.



Pilatus PC-12

ESAM Membership Application

Please check one: NEW MEMBERSHIP ____ RENEWAL ____

ANNUAL DUES:

INDIVIDUAL/FAMILY

- ☐ Senior Citizen \$35
☐ Student \$35
☐ Individual \$45
☐ Family \$60

VIP:

- ☐ Contributing \$80
☐ Supporting \$135
☐ Sustaining \$285
☐ Galaxy Club \$500
☐ Friend of ESAM \$1,000

BUSINESS

- ☐ Supporter \$285
☐ Patron \$500
☐ Benefactor \$1,000
☐ Not for Profit/School/Library \$60
☐ Small Business \$100

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone: Home (____) _____

Work (____) _____

E-mail address _____

Please make your check payable to ESAM

**Mail to ESAM, 250 Rudy Chase Drive,
Glenville, NY 12302**

If your company offers a matching gift program, please contact them with the amount of your gift.

Matching Gift Company _____

Empire State Aerosciences Museum
250 Rudy Chase Drive
Glenville, NY 12302

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PERMIT # 793



HAPPENINGS AT ESAM

MUSEUM HOURS

Winter Hours: Friday through Sunday 10 AM to 4 PM

Summer Hours: Tuesday through Sunday 10 AM to 4 PM. Summer hours ended on September 3, 2019

General Museum Admission – \$8 per adult; \$6 per senior and military; \$5 age 6-16; under 6 free when accompanied by an adult

Blue Star Program runs from May 24th through September 2nd:
free admission to active duty military personnel and up to 5 family members

Simulated Reality Vehicle (SRV) – Ride: \$5

Jansz Vander Veer Research Center/Library Hours – Friday 9 AM to 12 noon & Saturday 10 AM to 12 noon

September 15, Monday - Board of Trustees Meeting: 7 PM. ESAM Community Room

September 21, Saturday - Pancake Breakfast: 8:30-10:30 AM. All you can eat: \$8 (\$5 for kids under 12). Menu varies with pancakes or French toast, sausage, eggs, applesauce, juice and coffee. The public is invited to attend.

Pilots: Tower Frequency 121.30; Ground 121.90. Land at Schenectady County Airport and taxi to Richmor Aviation North. Browse the Museum beginning at 10 AM. Museum Admission: \$8 per adult; \$6 per senior and military; \$5 age 6-16; under 6 free when accompanied by an adult.

September 21, Saturday - Angel Pilot Dale Thuillez: “My Global Girdling Adventure in My PC-12”. At the Pancake Breakfast

October 16, Wednesday - ESAM Annual Meeting: 5:30 PM. River Stone Manor, 1437 Amsterdam Rd, Glenville, NY 12302. \$35 per person.

October 19, Saturday - Pancake Breakfast: 8:30-10:30 AM. All you can eat: \$8 (\$5 for kids under 12). Menu varies with pancakes or French toast, sausage, eggs, applesauce, juice and coffee. The public is invited to attend.

Pilots: Tower Frequency 121.30; Ground 121.90. Land at Schenectady County Airport and taxi to Richmor Aviation North. Browse the Museum beginning at 10 AM. Museum Admission: \$8 per adult; \$6 per senior and military; \$5 age 6-16; under 6 free when accompanied by an adult.

October 19 and 20, Saturday and Sunday - Glenville Weekend: Free admission to Town of Glenville residents

November 16, Monday - Board of Trustees Meeting: 7 PM. ESAM Community Room

November 18, Saturday - Pancake Breakfast: 8:30-10:30 AM. All you can eat: \$8 (\$5 for kids under 12). Menu varies with pancakes or French toast, sausage, eggs, applesauce, juice and coffee. The public is invited to attend.

Pilots: Tower Frequency 121.30; Ground 121.90. Land at Schenectady County Airport and taxi to Richmor Aviation North. Browse the Museum beginning at 10 AM. Museum Admission: \$8 per adult; \$6 per senior and military; \$5 age 6-16; under 6 free when accompanied by an adult.

November 18, Saturday - Doug Lonnstrom, Professor at Siena College, will talk about his book on the John F. Kennedy, Jr. accident

December 16, Monday - Board of Trustees Meeting: 7 PM. ESAM Community Room