



A photograph, taken in New York City in 1935 or 1936, showing many then-members of the infant S.S.A. With apologies for omitted names—designated thus (?)—and misspellings, we present: Front row (seated): Charles H. Gale, Wm. Placek, George Placek, Emil Kaunitz, (?) Seated on floor: (?), Doug Morgan, Bob Kidder, Al Rosse, Antony Liccese, Steve Orban, Eugene Dwyer, Howie Burr. Second row (seated): Alex Dawydoff, Arthur Hoffman, Al Berwyck, (?), (?), Don Hamilton, Ralph Barnaby, Dr. Karl Lange, Earl Southee, Mrs. Warren Eaton, Wolfgang Klemperer, Stan Smith, Bill Kolb, Seymour Henig, (?). Third row (standing): Unknown gentleman in light suit, Mal Schenot, Youston Sekella, George Casey, Arthur Ramer, Jack Brookhart, Ernie Schweizer, Arvo Thurman, Paul Schweizer, Wm. and Mrs. Sullivan, (?), Frank Apgar, (?), Dr. John D. Akerman, Gus Scheurer, Frank Zaic, George Hanna, Henry Orzechowski, (?), Steve Faynor, Milton Stoughton, Hans Groenhoff. Back row: (?), Edward Miller, Bill Rodenberg, Charles Broadhurst, (?), Les Barton, J. Barton, (?), Stan Hruszinsky, (?), Ben Badenoch, (?), (?), Emerson Melhose, Percy Pierce, John Hulstrunk, Emil Lehecka, (?). If you can fill in any of the missing names, please let us know.

## A THIRTY-YEAR BACKWARD LOOK

RALPH S. BARNABY

While reading the report for the January, 1966, SSA Directors' Meeting I recalled that I had in my files the SSA Ledger Book for the years 1935 and 1936, years which I served as President by election, and Secretary-Treasurer and Editor and Publisher of the *Gliding and Soaring Bulletin* by expediency.

I was stationed at the Naval Air Station, Pensacola, Florida, at the same time and, because of its remoteness from the other elected officers and the centers of soaring activities, it seemed easiest to handle all the SSA affairs from there.

It occurred to me that a comparison of the December 31, 1935, membership and finances with those for the end of 1965 might be of interest. In reviewing the records I found that as of the end of 1935 the Soaring Society had 88 paid-up members. Seven of these were Life Members. Life membership could be bought for \$50.00 in those days. As I recall, I took out mine because the Society needed \$50.00 to defray some current bills. Contrasted with the above I note that the total membership as of December 31, 1965, was 5,032 with a Life Membership total of 138.

During 1935 the Society took in \$638.28 and spent \$320.13. This income included a \$100 contribution from Mrs. Eaton and the sale of soaring bibliographies and training pamphlets as well as dues. The expenses were principally for stationery and postage for SSA correspondence, and for the stationery, pos-

tage, subscription to foreign magazines, and other costs of getting out the monthly *Gliding and Soaring Bulletin*, a mimeographed publication. No labor costs were involved as my Navy secretary performed the services of cutting the mimeograph stencils and running off the copies. My mother and I did the assembling, stuffing, addressing and mailing. From the SSA Treasurer's 1965 Report I note that the Society's income for that year was \$82,642.96 and the expenditures \$80,693.90.

Just for the fun of it I have also assembled the figures for 1936. During that year the membership rose to 197. This included a Life Membership taken out by Lew Barringer. Group memberships rose to eight. Income was \$518.55 (there were fewer Life Memberships) and expenses were \$189.14.

Among the Life Members of SSA in 1935 were those responsible for soaring's earliest trophies. There was Mrs. Warren E. Eaton who later established the Warren E. Eaton Memorial Trophy in memory of her husband, the Soaring Society's founder and first President, who died in a glider accident in the fall of 1934. Lewin B. Barringer, the Society's first General Manager, and an important record holder, was also a Life Member. Lew, who was in charge of the Army Air Corps glider program under General Hap Arnold, was lost on a flight to North Africa in connection with the glider invasion of Sicily. The Lewin B. Barringer Memorial Trophy, provided for