OPERATION PACKRAT...

Operation Packrat is the culmination of over two years of planning and preparation for the initial phase of identification, tagging, and storage of over 275 boxes of parachute equipment, documents, film media and instruments donated and acquired over the last 40+ years.

Under the auspices of the Curations Committee, 30+ volunteers gathered at Sun Path Products in Raeford, NC, to begin this historic endeavor. The end result exceeded our wildest dreams in completing this initial phase and proving the viability of the software database program and processes in handling and identifying over 1,500 individual items.

These artifacts will provide the museum with the beginning of designing the displays and telling the story of our sport. It also proves to the world that we have a solid foundation to build on going forward to the next phase of designing the actual museum facility.

Thank you to Pat Thomas, owner and president of Sun Path, for her unqualified support, as well as Travis Flint, Bruce Wicks, Nancy (Kemble) Wilhelm, Tom Sanders, Jan Works and all the other team volunteers for their tireless hard work in pulling off one of the best and most successful operations I have had the pleasure to work with.

Sandy Reid
Curator & Chief Packrat

In the beginning, the warehouse area with pallets of boxes (approximately 275).

End Result. Completed display equipment boxes awaiting the final bar code labels. The end result of a successful operation.

The purpose of the International Skydiving Museum & Hall of Fame™ is to recognize and promote the sport of skydiving through public education and awareness; recognize the contribution to skydiving by its participants, suppliers and supporters; capture forever the history of the sport via its events, equipment, and personalities; and enhance aviation safety.
Supporter Appreciation Breakfast

Many loyal supporters and members of the Hall of Fame attended a breakfast Saturday morning during the Hall of Fame celebration. This breakfast was an expression of the museum’s appreciation and an opportunity for those attending to be briefed on the exciting plans for the museum exhibits, galleries and facility. The response was broadly enthusiastic.

That’s right!

One hundred avid supporters have become Ambassadors for the International Skydiving Museum & Hall of Fame. You can join their ranks. All you need to know is at:

www.skydivingmuseum.org/support/our-ambassadors

A Message from the Chair of the Building & Exhibit Design Committee

While Operation Packrat continues to inventory, evaluate and categorize the wealth of artifacts collected by the museum over the years and the fundraising programs proceed in earnest, the museum’s Building & Exhibit Design Committee grinds away in the background. Many in the international skydiving community have now seen architectural renderings of both the building and the galleries. But now, based upon the work of the Curations Committee and Operation Packrat, our design team has gone from macro to micro, as we begin to populate the exhibits.

The design concept phase is now in the rear view mirror, as the museum and its design firm, Dimensional Innovations, advance into schematic design and design development. Under the current contract, the museum/DI team has prepared a Content Guide which lays out how we approach each gallery and exhibit in terms of objectives, target audiences, messages, educational goals and more. With that in hand, we have delved into the Content Outline, which is the document that begins to address what we display in each exhibit and gallery, and how we go about it.

For example, what do we put into the Barnstorming Era exhibit? Tiny Broadwick’s container, Smitty the Jumper’s canopy, the first ripcord? A lot, of course, depends upon what our Curations Committee determines we have on hand and what might be out there which we can find. And part of process includes evaluating technologies which are both available and affordable in order to best tell our story and capture the imaginations of our visitors.

The Design Committee’s goal for now is to focus on exhibit content while we all raise funds and await the final selection of our North Orlando site and the configuration of the building and the land upon which it will be built.
Board of Trustees Welcomes Cindi Bagley

As a present to herself for completing her Bachelor’s Degree from the University of Utah, Lucinda (Cindi) Bagley made her first jump at the Utah Sky Ranch Parachute Center on Sunday, October 13, 1985.

Jumping out of that airplane proved to be a pivotal, life-changing event that forever influenced the course of her life. With guidance from her instructor, Larry Bagley, she successfully completed her first static line jump under a Para Commander. The original plan was to jump once, cross it off her bucket list, and move on to the next adventure. Little did she know that jump would define her life’s journey, introduce her to the love of her life, offer worldwide travel adventures and provide happiness and joy beyond measure.

Professionally, Cindi started working at the Utah Sky Ranch Parachute Center packing parachutes, manifesting loads, videotaping students, and managing the finances/bookkeeping. In 1988, she received her AFF instructor certification. On a personal note, she married Larry (Bagley) in 1988, honeymooning in Seoul, Korea, where he was a member of the 1988 Olympic Skydiving Exhibition Team that performed during the opening ceremonies of the games.

In 1990 (to present day), Cindi became a flight attendant for Delta Airlines, which has allowed her to travel the world extensively and participate in numerous skydiving events.

Cindi plans to continue her involvement with the Hall of Fame Celebration events in which she has played a role since the event’s inception.

USPA Becomes Host Country Affiliate

We are thrilled to announce that the United States Parachute Association has been officially designated the Host Country Affiliate of the International Skydiving Museum & Hall of Fame. After receiving an update briefing on the museum’s plans and significant progress, the Directors determined at their summer meeting that the USPA should be a significant part of this extraordinary project. The museum’s Board of Trustees is tremendously appreciative of the USPA’s vital support.

Now Accepting Nominations for the 2019 Hall of Fame . . .

Only nominations received at the International Skydiving Museum’s headquarters by December 31, 2018, will be considered for induction into the Hall of Fame Class of 2019. The committee will deliberate at its meeting in February 2019 in Dallas.

The Hall of Fame recognizes and honors those who, through leadership, innovation and/or outstanding achievements, have defined, promoted, and advanced skydiving at the highest and sustained levels such that they have made it possible for generations of skydivers to enjoy the sport.

If you would like to nominate someone, please visit our website for further details and a nomination form or contact Nancy (Kemble) Wilhelm, Museum Administrator. All nominations will be kept confidential.

Chuting Times is a biannual newsletter for museum supporters and volunteers.

Editor: Nancy (Kemble) Wilhelm

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Visit www.skydivingmuseum.org
Since the first broadcast in 2015 of the International Skydiving Hall of Fame Celebration at Connecticut Parachutes Inc, Skydive TV™ has been an important partner in our efforts to achieve many of the long-term goals of the museum.

Capturing the spirit of the event, the people and activities that happen during the weekend and broadcasting them worldwide to the skydiving community adds tremendous value to the museum’s efforts. Their involvement this year in Operation Packrat and the Celebration at Skydive City ZHills again demonstrates that through the professional quality production of Skydive TV™ we continue to reap benefits that add depth and breadth to our efforts.

To watch the video broadcast of Operation Packrat and this year’s Celebration go to www.skydive-tv.com. You can view on all modern browsers, tablets, smart phones and more.

Be a part of skydiving history . . . make your donation today!

___ Friend of the Museum (amounts up to $4,999).
___ Ambassador Program ($5,000)—please call for more information.
___ I’d like to purchase a STARWall brick @ $1,000. Please send me the memorial brick form to complete.
___ Other—please indicate amount: $_________. (Please indicate if donation is in memory/honor of a loved one.)

For donations above $5,000, please contact the museum office directly.

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Mail contributions to the International Skydiving Museum & Hall of Fame, 1648 Taylor Road, Suite 514, Port Orange, FL 32128.

Donations can also be made online at www.skydivingmuseum.org.

Visit www.skydivingmuseum.org