



Aviation Trail, Inc.

Experience the Birthplace of Aviation!

A non-profit corporation in partnership with the National Park Service to promote Aviation Heritage in the Dayton region

Visit the historical sites that tell of man's conquest of the air.

News and Updates from "The Trail"

"The Flight Log" -

AVIATION TRAIL MAIL



"Preserving the Past & Promoting the Future"

PRINT VERSION: this file is a print version of the e-mail newsletter that is sent out on a free subscription basis. To get on the e-mail subscription list go to the Aviation Trail website at www.aviationtrailinc.org and subscribe by using the "Subscribe Now" button on the footer of each page. This version is more suited for printing hard copies than the e-mail version and is available on the Aviation Trail website "Newsletters and Brochures" page: <http://www.aviationtrailinc.org/newsletters>.

Aviation Trail Visitor Center • Wright-Dunbar Interpretive Center • Dayton Aviation Heritage National Historical Park

Corner of W. Third & S. Williams Sts., • 16 S. Williams St., Dayton, OH 45402 • (937) 225-7705

Print Version

September 2024 ISSUE

09/01/2024

This "Flight Log" highlights some of the stories and events featured on the Aviation Trail website: www.AviationTrailInc.org

Champaign Aviation Museum Event

Free Lecture: The Manhattan Project
September 19th at 11 AM

Presented by Robert J. Mergel, P.E., P.S. (Ret.)

Join us in the CAM Library to learn about the top-secret United States government program conducted during World War II as our country raced to be the first produce nuclear weapons. This presentation will cover a general overview of the program, and will also address the science, the multi-nation Atomic Race, the engineering, the gadget, the delivery system, the mission, and the aftermath.



Meet our speaker: In 2012 Robert (Bob) Mergel retired from Columbus State Community College and was awarded the title of Professor Emeritus. Upon retirement he held the position as professor and coordinator of Civil Engineering Technology. In 2018 he retired as a senior lecturer at the Ohio State University College of Engineering teaching undergraduate civil engineering and surveying courses. In 2019 Bob retired his registration as a Professional Surveyor and a Professional Engineer. He holds a Bachelor of Science degree in Civil Engineering from the Ohio State University, Master of Education Degree from the Ohio University, and a Master of Science Degree in Geodetic Science and Surveying from the Ohio State University.

ALSO UPCOMING at Champaign Aviation Museum:

Saturday, September 14th: **B-25 Champaign Gal Rides** at Champaign Aviation Museum/Grimes Field (I74)

RESERVE YOUR SEAT AT: <https://champaign-aviation-museum.square.site>



Champaign Aviation Museum
1652 N. Main St., Urbana, OH 43078
937-652-4710

ChampaignAviationMuseum.org

Champaign Aviation Museum is Site #13 on the Aviation Trail

AFTER DARK: COSMIC CAMP

Air Force Museum Foundatyon Event
September 7, 2024 at 6 PM



Blast off into an intergalactic evening of music, dancing, and fun at the National Museum of the U.S. Air Force™!

Choose your vibe and immerse yourself in a cosmic wonderland unlike any other at our silent disco.

Experience open aircraft, space-themed games and crafts, fun photo ops, artifacts from the Museum's collection not normally on display, trivia with prizes, characters from a galaxy far, far away, and much more. Enjoy stellar hors d'oeuvres and a beverage from one of our cash bars.

Event is for adults only (ages 21+). Tickets are just \$40 and benefit the Air Force Museum Foundation, a 501c3 nonprofit that raises funds and awareness for the Museum.

TO ORDER TICKETS see:

<https://airforcemuseum.centeredgeonline.com/movie/buyticketswithdate/117>

Save the date for more upcoming 2024 After Dark events:
Nov. 2 - Bombers & Brews

Air Force Museum Events
Air Force Museum Foundation
, WPAFB, OH 45433
<https://www.afmuseum.com>



The National Museum of the United States Air Force™ is site #5 on the Aviation Trail.



Concours d'Elegance at Carillon Park

Sunday, September 15, 2024 at 10:30am-4:00pm



Concours d'Elegance: Held each September, Concours d'Elegance is Dayton's premier antique and classic automobile and motorcycle show. Guests travel from across the map to witness this breathtaking display of "art on wheels"—some of the finest vehicles in the country.

Dayton Concours at Carillon Historical Park features around 200 antique and classic automobiles and motorcycles, and vehicles are judged for around 30 awards. While the theme changes year-to-year, nationally-recognized automotive artists, hand-built model cars, and other auto-themed attractions are standard for this acclaimed event.

Concours d'Elegance occurs on Sunday, but the weekend kicks off the night before with the Concours d'Elegance Preview Party—a casual, public event on the grounds of Carillon Historical Park. The Saturday evening gala previews select Concours automobiles and feature an automotive art pavilion, music, silent auction, food, and beverages.

Admission
\$20 per adult (In Advance) • \$25 per adult (At the Door) • \$10 per child (3-17)

FREE to Dayton History Members and Children 2 and Under
Location - 1000 Carillon Blvd., Dayton, Ohio 45409
Parking - **FREE parking** available at Carillon Historical Park
For More Information (937) 293-2841 • See more at <https://www.daytonconcours.com>

For ticket purchases see this Dayton History link: <https://www.daytonconcours.com/tickets.php>



Carillon Historical Park
1000 Carillon Blvd.
Dayton Ohio 45409
937-293-2841
daytonhistory.org/OH45042
(513) 702-3062
<http://www.bcwarbirds.com>

Carillon Historical Park is Site #4 on the Aviation Trail



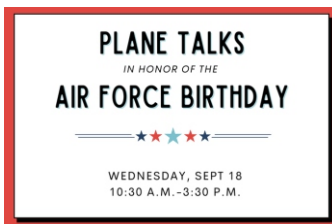
PLANE TALKS IN HONOR OF THE AIR FORCE BIRTHDAY

September 18, 2024, 10:30 a.m. - 3:30

Celebrate the Air Force's 77th Birthday with "Plane Talks" on Wednesday, Sept. 18 from 10:30 a.m. - 3:30 p.m..

Visitors are invited to listen and interact with subject matter experts located throughout the museum's galleries as they speak about their unique experiences serving our nation's Air Force, and learn more about the artifacts and aircraft located in the museum.

Plane Talks occurs a few times a year, bringing to life the development and service history of the aircraft and exhibits on display at the museum. Various subject matter experts will be stationed in the galleries near the aircraft or exhibit that relates to their expertise. Experts include veterans, active duty, former pilots, crew members, engineers, navigators, and more. Plane Talks programs often occur in conjunction with the anniversary of a significant Air Force or military event.



National Museum of the U.S. Force
1100 Spaatz St,
Wright-Patterson AFB, OH 45433
www.nationalmuseum.af.mil

The National Museum of the United States Air Force™
is site #5 on the Aviation Trail.



Dawn Patrol Rendezvous World War I Era Fly-In

Sept. 13-15, 2024 at Springfield Beckley Airport

Where WW1 People, Planes, Pilots, and Cars all meet!

We are excited to announce planned dates and events for Dawn Patrol Rendezvous, taking place in Springfield, Ohio, September 13-15, 2024!

Come Join us for WW1 replica static and flying planes! WW1 reenactments, WW1 flying and static radio controlled planes, and SO MUCH MORE!

Springfield-Beckley Municipal Airport,
1251 W Blee Rd, Springfield, OH 45502-8896, United States.

<https://dawnpatrolww1.com>

https://www.facebook.com/events/391118136994494/?ref_source=NEWS_FEED&paipv=0&eav=AfYzL-CMwv1antR8v2jbmE8jfs-CdrhdRT_58ZQhE7IzK5DC8n8gxKlHY6kV5hNpxsQ&_rdr



Wright "B" Flyer Museum Event

Hops & Props - September 21, 2024

5:30 - 7:30 pm (VIP Admission 4:30 pm)

Dayton-Wright Brothers Airport, Wright B Flyer Hangar/Museum
Hosted by the Centerville-Washington Foundation



Join us for the inaugural Hops and Props beer tasting event. Featured will be local microbreweries and many food trucks. The museum and tarmac will be open and viewing of the Wright B Flyer planes will be available for all. Attendees will receive a commemorative glass beer cup and 10 beer sample coupons. Food trucks will be available for food purchase.

Wear your best craft beer t-shirt and take a picture with our Photo Booth to enter the "Best Beer T-shirt" Contest!

VIP Admission tickets - \$75 include early admission at 4:30pm
Regular Admission tickets - \$50 for 5:30 entry

ORDER TICKETS at: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/hops-props-hosted-by-the-centerville-washington-foundation-tickets-952929296177?aff=oddtcreator>

Tickets only available pre-sale, no tickets will be sold at the event. Must be 21 or older and show proof of age at entry. No outside food or drink is allowed at the event. No children including babies in strollers. Tickets may not be shared or transferred.

All proceeds will benefit the **Centerville-Washington Foundation**. The primary mission of the foundation is to support local non-profit organizations for a wide array of charitable purposes in the areas of education, poverty, environment, arts, health, diversity, and social services.



Wright "B" Flyer, Inc.
10550 Springboro Pike
Miamisburg, Ohio 45342
Phone: (937) 885-2327
<https://www.facebook.com/WrightBFlyer/>
<https://www.wright-b-flyer.org>

Wright "B" Flyer Museum is Site #9 on the Aviation Trail



Warbird Flying Showcase

September 28 @ 3:30 pm - 6:00 pm
at Tri-State Warbirds



Festival of Warbirds! Showcasing more than 10 flying WWII aircraft!

The Tri-State Warbird Museum proudly presents the Warbird Flying Showcase happening on September 28, 2024. This year's Festival of Warbirds will be showcasing more than 10 flying WWII aircraft! This family friendly activity brings history to life. Food trucks and beverage stations will be on-site to offer food and drinks available for purchase. Be sure to bring your own folding chairs or a picnic blanket to sit on our lawn in front of the runway!

Doors will open at 2:30P and wheels up at 3:30P

General Admission \$50
Veteran Admission \$30
Member Admission \$45
Kids are FREE! (17 years and younger)

What will be flying?

- Curtiss-Wright P-40M Kittyhawk
- North American P-51D Mustang – “Cincinnati Miss”
- North American B-25 Mitchell – “Yankee Doodle”
- Grumman TBM Avenger
- Beechcraft C-45 Expeditor
- Piper L-4H Grasshopper
- Piper J3C Flitfire
- Boeing PT-17 Stearman

Buy Tickets at: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/tri-state-warbird-museum-2024-warbird-flying-showcase-tickets-966396216097>

Frequently Asked Questions: <https://www.tri-statewarbirdmuseum.org/support/fundraising-events/2023-warbird-flying-showcase/warbird-flying-showcase-faqs/>

Ticket Holder acknowledges that the following items are not permitted on show premises: Generators, Glass containers, Pop-Up or Pole Tents, Beach Umbrellas, Grills, BBQ Equipment or open flames of any type, Animals & Pets – except for certified service animals, Golf carts, ATVs, Bicycles, Skates, Skateboards, and Roller Blades, Drones, Kites, Alcohol, Narcotics or other Illegal Drugs or Vaping Products, Guns, Firearms or any other weapons. No Drug Use, Smoking or Vaping is allowed anywhere on show grounds.



Tri-State Warbird Museum
4021 Borman Drive
Batavia, OH 45103
513) 735-4500
<https://www.tri-statewarbirdmuseum.org>

Tri-State Warbird Museum is Site#15 on the Aviation Trail



WACO Vintage Fly-In

Friday Sept. 20th to Sunday Sept. 22nd, 2024 - 9 am to 5 pm

Come visit the planes and pilots of a bygone era, with many vintage WACO aircraft and more. Activities include Bi-plane rides, the WACO Museum, displays and exhibits, food trucks, kids activities. Bring your camera for photos* of these beautiful planes on the ground and in flight!



For questions, please call 937-335-9226 or visit www.wacoairmuseum.org



WACO Air Museum & Learning Center
1865 S. County Rd. 25A • Troy, OH 45373
937-335-9226

www.wacoairmuseum.org

WACO Air Museum & Learning Center is Site #11 on the Aviation Trail



Rocket Day at NMUSAF

September 28, 2024, 10 AM to 3 PM

Come have a blast with us at the Museum's 2024 Rocket Day (did we mention it's FREE?)

Kids will be able to build and launch their own model rocket with the help from the Wright Stuff Rocketeers*, test out the Bernoulli Shooter, launch paper rockets, try their hand at Rocket Trivia and MORE!



Stay tuned here: <https://www.nationalmuseum.af.mil/Upcoming/Events/> and on our social media for upcoming details and full schedule of the day's events.

Rocket builds will happen rain-or-shine, while supplies last. Rocket launches are weather dependent.

*This event is made possible through generous support from the Air Force Museum Foundation.**

**Federal Endorsement Not Implied*



National Museum of the U.S. Force • 1100 Spaatz St,
Wright-Patterson AFB, OH 45433
www.nationalmuseum.af.mil

The National Museum of the United States Air Force™ is site #5 on the Aviation Trail



Aviation Trail Event Report

Open House Celebration of National Aviation Day: Hosted by Heavier Than Air Brewing Company

AUGUST 19 ~ NATIONAL AVIATION DAY



Orville Wright, born Aug. 19, 1871

Katherine Wright, born Aug. 19, 1874

National Aviation Day is a United States national observation that celebrates the development of aviation. The holiday was established in 1939 by President Franklin Roosevelt by presidential proclamation. August 19 is the birthday of both Orville Wright (1871) and his sister Katherine Wright (1874). Part of Aviation Trail's mission is to promote Dayton's unique

contributions to aviation over the years, so this event was held as a tribute to National Aviation Day.

Thanks to all who attended the Aviation Trail open house celebration of National Aviation Day on Monday, August 19, 2024. ATI members and guests joined in honoring the birthday of Orville Wright and Katherine Wright.

And many thanks to Heavier Than Air Brewing Co. for hosting the event and for their enthusiastic hospitality. Guests enjoyed the grilled food and great craft beers along with socializing and talking aviation in this fun aviation themed facility. <https://heavierthanairbrewing.com/>



The evening was highlighted by a presentation by Aviation Trail Secretary Dr. David Bodary of Sinclair College on the historic 1924 International Air Races that were held at Dayton's Wilbur Wright Field (now

Area B of WPAFB). The presentation included a comprehensive slide show about the event.

See more photos about the event on the Aviation Trail Events website page at: https://www.aviationtrailinc.org/events-and-projects-c41p?utm_campaign=e67d397b-7637-4ebb-a98d-39eb0b576b16&utm_source=so&utm_medium=mail



Parachute Museum News

New Donation of Parachute History Memorabilia

Switlik Survival Products has been a major contributor to the Aviation Trail Parachute Museum. (See this link for a story about a previous donation). In August a new donation has added to the Switlik story. See below.



The Soltis Collection - Memories of a Parachute Seamstress:

Now the Parachute Museum has a personal interest story to tell regarding a longtime employee of the Switlik Parachute Company. Maryann (Soltis) Micai, the daughter of a longtime Switlik employee has donated some of her mother's work-related keepsakes to the Parachute Museum, to preserve her mother's memory. The late Mary Soltis worked at Switlik for 27 years, retiring in 1976. She was a seamstress, sewing the nylon material for parachutes and skilled at repairing the six-needle sewing machine when needed. She carried her own tool kit to work every day for this purpose. When Switlik started making life rafts, she also worked assembling the rubber material.

Parachute Museum News continues on next column . . .

. . . Parachute Museum News continues from previous column

See the full story on the Parachute Museum website page (under "Parachute Museum News") with photos and links to interesting documents. https://www.aviationtrailinc.org/parachute-museum?utm_campaign=e67d397b-7637-4ebb-a98d-39eb0b576b16&utm_source=so&utm_medium=mail_lp

The Parachute Museum offers it's sincere thanks to Maryann Micai, who travelled with her husband from Trenton New Jersey to Dayton to present the donation in person and visit the museum on August 7, 2024.

The Aviation Trail Parachute Museum
16 South Williams Street
Dayton, OH 45402
(937) 225-7705
<https://www.aviationtrailinc.org/parachute-museum>



The Aviation Trail Parachute Museum is Site #1b on the Aviation Trail



Aviation Trail Gift Shop



See the GIFT SHOP menu item on the ATI website at: <https://www.aviationtrailinc.org/> or scan the QR code.

All transactions will be purchased from, processed by, and fulfilled by Dayton Historical, and can either be shipped to the purchaser or held for pick-up at Carillon Historical Park Museum Store at 1000 Carillon Historical Park, Dayton, OH 45409, (937) 293-2841. The products are in stock at the Carillon Historical Park Museum Store.



Aviation Trail Memberships & Donations



Membership

- Join
- Renew
- Donate

Help keep the Dayton area in the forefront of the world's aviation history, leadership and preservation.



To join, renew, or donate see the JOIN/DONATE menu item on the Aviation Trail website at <https://www.aviationtrailinc.org/> or use this QR code.

Online credit card payments may be made from our website. Secure payments are made through PayPal.

To print a mail-in membership/donation form use this link: file:///E:/Documents/ATI/Membership/membership%20print%20form_c.pdf

Donations to Aviation Trail, Inc., a 501(c)3 organization, in partnership with the National Park Service to promote Aviation Heritage in the Dayton region, are fully tax deductible.





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www.aviationtrailinc.org

Yes! I want to support Aviation Trail, Inc.

Mr., Mrs., Miss, Ms. _____

Address _____

City, State, Zip _____

Phone (H) _____ (W) _____ (C) _____

E-mail Address (to receive online newsletter) _____

(Name to be used for recognition if different than above) _____

All levels of Aviation Trail memberships, except for Life Membership, are annual and are subject to renewal, at the desired level, by each January.

Membership Levels

I / We wish to remain anonymous.

_____ \$25.00 Senior (age 60+)

_____ \$75 Contributing

_____ \$1000 Patron

_____ \$30 Individual

_____ \$150 Supporting

_____ Other- I am a life member and would like to make an additional contribution

_____ \$40 Family

_____ \$1500 Individual Life Member*

(*May be paid in three annual payments of \$500 per year, mail in only)

_____ Donation - I would like to support Aviation Trail with a **DONATION** of \$ _____ to Aviation Trail

Please apply my donation to:

Membership Fund

Preservation Fund*

Wilbear Fund**

* Donations will be designated to promote and preserve historical aviation sites in the Dayton Region.

** Donations will be designated to promote and preserve the "Wilbear Wright" teddy bear program that promotes the Aviation Trail and its partner sites.

Check enclosed. Make payable to: Aviation Trail, Inc.

Mail to Aviation Trail, Inc. / PO Box 633 / Wright Brothers Station / Dayton, OH 45409

Members and donors receive an online subscription to the Aviation Trail newsletter, *Flight Log*, and advance invitations to Aviation Trail events and programs.

Online credit card payments may be made from our website. Secure payments are made through PayPal.

See the **JOIN/DONATE** menu item on the Aviation Trail website to join, renew, or donate:

<https://www.aviationtrailinc.org/>. Or click the membership logo or use the QR code on the right >



Membership

- Join
- Renew
- Donate

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