



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

August 2025 ISSUE

08/01/2025

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

Butler County Warbirds Events

Hops in the Hangar

August 23rd, 2025 from 4-9pm at Middletown Regional Airport

Hops in the Hangar at the Middletown Regional Airport is August 23rd from 4-9pm. Gathering a blend of craft beer fans and aviation enthusiasts in an airplane hangar, Hops in the Hangar is the EPIC craft beer event in the tri-state area!

Butler County Warbirds will be attending with our re-enactors dressed in WWII uniforms, with our 1943 PT-19 on display in the hangar. We will be selling raffle tickets to win a ride in this aircraft!

Talk about unique ambiance! A beer event at an operating airport! Hops in the Hangar will feature a wide selection of beer from breweries big and small and showcases a variety of aircraft. The professional skydivers jumping overhead will create an experience few will forget, and an epic airshow will keep your eyes to the sky! The evening will be packed with beers, planes, food trucks, music and more. For tickets, go to hopsinthehangar.com.



Butler County Warbirds Middletown Regional Airport (KMWO) 2351 Wedekind Drive Middletown, OH 45042 (513) 702-3062
<http://www.bcwarbirds.com>

Butler County Warbirds is site #16 on the Aviation Trail

Lunch & Learn Lecture at Harmon Museum

DNA Genealogy | Wed., August 20, 2025
Harmon Museum Armstrong Conference Center

Genealogy, Genetics, and the Quiet Crisis of Misattributed Parentage

Harmon Museum Armstrong Conference Center

121 S. Broadway, Lebanon, OH

Genealogy is one of America's favorite hobbies. Genealogy, along with the advent of home DNA test kits, has made finding one's ancestors easier than ever. However, the DNA test craze has also had some unintended consequences. A surprising number of people have discovered that the heritage their parents have told them about is not what their genetics have conveyed. Even worse, some people are being surprised to find out that one or both of their parents are NOT their biological parents.

SPEAKERS: Join us as authors **Steve and Becky Osborne** explore this topic and how their search for Steve's Native American heritage changed his past, his future, and his definition of family. Find their book, *DNA - Did Not Antiquate*, online.



COST: \$25 for WCHS members / \$30 for non-members. Includes lunch, lecture & museum admission)

Program without lunch \$5 for members / \$8 for non-members.

Ticket sales close at midnight the Thursday night prior to the event. If you would like lunch, reservations MUST be made by this time. Tickets for the lecture ONLY option will be available up until the event or may be purchased at the door. There is a small fee associated with the sale of tickets online.

11:00am - Seating/Open Museum | 11:30am - Lunch Served | 12:00pm (noon) - Speaker

ORDER TICKETS at: <https://ticketstripe.com/LandLAug25>



Harmon Museum & Armstrong Gallery of Flight
Warren County Historical Society
Address: 105 S. Broadway, Lebanon, OH 45036
Phone: 513-932-1817

<https://www.wchsmuseum.org/armstronggallery.html>

<https://www.wchsmuseum.org/harmonmuseum.html>

For much more on the Armstrong Gallery of Flight see the blog page on the Harmon Museum website and scroll down to the post of 4/19/24:

<https://www.wchsmuseum.org/blog>

**The Harmon Museum Armstrong Gallery of Flight
is a site on the Aviation Trail**

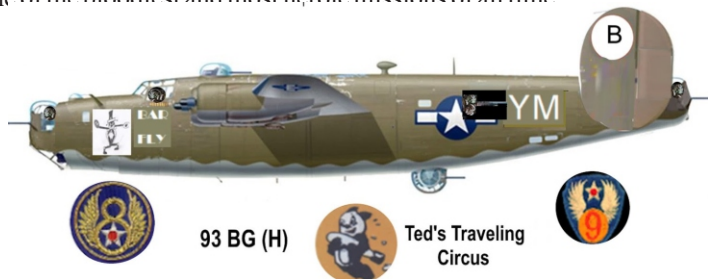


Champaign Aviation Museum Events

Free Lecture:

A B-24 Waist Gunner's Tale of His Service & Operation Tidal Wave
Thursday, August 7th at 11:00am

Join us in the CAM library with presenter **Patrick Gillen** as he shares his uncle's experiences flying some of the worst bombing missions with his B-24 Liberator "Bar Fly" including Schweinfurt and Ploesti, one of the bloodiest and most heroic missions of all time



THE BAR FLY

B-25 Rides

Experience the B-25 Champaign Gal at These Locations



August 15th - 16th: Rides and Display at Conneaut D-Day Anniversary, Northeast Ohio Regional Airport in Jefferson, OH (KHZY)

August 23rd Starting at 10am: Rides at Champaign Aviation Museum, Grimes Field in Urbana, OH (I74)

B-25 rides begin at 10:00am. Additional ride times will become available

For prices, flight times, and to make reservations see this link:

<https://champaign-aviation-museum.square.site>

Hear the roar of twin radial engines, feel the thrill of soaring like a WWII bomber crew, explore the aircraft nose to tail, and enjoy the flight experience of a lifetime!



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



Open Cockpit Days at Tri-State Warbird Museum

Aug. 2 @ 11:00 am - 12:30 pm



COME, IMAGINE,
AND DISCOVER WITH US!

- THE PARASOL
- TWEETY THE T-6

August 2, 2025
11:00A - 12:30P



www.tswm.org

Come, imagine and discover with us!

Our Open Cockpit Day gives you the chance to get up close and personal with some of our amazing aircraft!

Kids will have the unique opportunity to sit in the cockpits of our T-6 and Parasol. Don't miss this amazing chance to climb behind the stick and get a view of history!

The open cockpit experience is INCLUDED with admission and is free to members. Open Cockpit days makes for great photo opportunities.

Event Pricing:

Adults \$12

Students \$7

Frequently Asked Questions:

<https://www.tri-statewarbirdmuseum.org/learn/kids/open-cockpit-days-faqs/>

Registrants will be notified via email 24 hours prior if a program or event is cancelled.

Program and Event Cancellations & Refund Policy

We regret that we cannot grant refunds for program and event registrations. If we must cancel a program or an event due to low enrollment, you will be given the option to move your registration to another program/event or receive a full refund. We reserve the right to cancel programs and events due to low enrollment or extreme weather. Registrants will be notified via email 24 hours prior if a program or event is cancelled.



Tri-State Warbird Museum
4021 Borman Drive
Batavia, OH 45103
(513) 735-4500

<https://www.tri-statewarbirdmuseum.org>

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



Death of Famous Skydiver

R.I.P. Felix Baumgartner
April 20, 1969 - July 17, 2025

Felix Baumgartner, the Austrian skydiver celebrated for his 2012 record-breaking jump from the stratosphere, died on July 17, 2025, in a tragic paragliding accident in Porto Sant'Elpidio on Italy's Adriatic coast. He was 56 years old.

He lost control of his motorized paraglider and according to eyewitnesses crashed near a swimming pool in the tourist village. Reports indicate that he may have suffered a health episode during the flight, which caused him to lose control.

Besides many exploits including thousands of jumps he is noted for a 2012 world record of a jump from a balloon at 128,000* feet attaining supersonic speed.

**(Baumgartner's record was broken in 2014 by Alan Eustace at 135,890 feet).*

For historical context, below is a video from the "Parachute Museum Theater" presented by the Aviation Trail Parachute Museum which shows Baumgartner's record 2012 jump:

From Parachute Museum Theater:

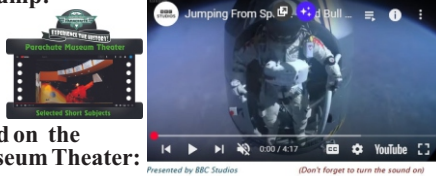
Jumping From Space!

Presented by BBC Studios

BBC Studios video

#6 in a series of videos featured on the

Aviation Trail Parachute Museum Theater:



To watch video see: <https://youtu.be/E9oKEJ1pXPw?list=TLGGZk5I2Ixr8XUyMzA3MjAyNQ>

In 2012 Austrian Felix Baumgartner successfully broke Joe Kittinger's record for the world's highest parachute jump that was set in 1960 (see video #3 in the Parachute Museum Theater series). Baumgartner dropped from an unofficial altitude of 128,000 feet - about 1.5 miles higher than expected. In the process, he also became the first skydiver to exceed the speed of sound - 833.9 mph while in freefall (Mach 1.24 - the first supersonic skydive). He and the Stratos Red Bull team broke three more records: Highest manned balloon flight, 128,000 feet; greatest freefall distance, 119,846 feet; fastest mechanically unaided speed, 833.9 mph. Joe Kittinger, whose record was broken, is the one in mission control communicating with Baumgartner in this dramatic video.

Red Bull Stratos Project space dive 2012 presented by BBC Studios.

In Memoriam: The Aviation Trail Parachute Museum mourns the loss of Felix Baumgartner and salutes his milestones and accomplishments.



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



Wright State University Libraries Special Collection and Archives

From the Archives:



A June 5, 2025 blog from the Wright State University Libraries' Special Collections & Archives is derived from an exhibit created by the Special Collections & Archives department for the 30th anniversary of the 1995 Dayton Peace Talks. The exhibit includes a selection of front pages from the Dayton Daily News from that historic period.

"When the World Watched Dayton": A Local Perspective on the Dayton Peace Talks

To view the WSU Library Special Collections "From the Archives" blog see:

<https://libraries.wright.edu/about/library-news/2025/06/05/when-the-world-watched-dayton-a-local-perspective-on-the-dayton-peace-talks>

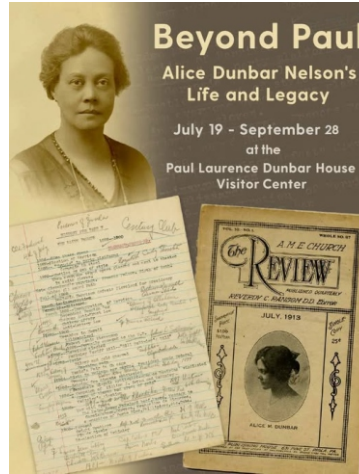
Wright State University • 3640 Colonel Glenn Highway • Dayton, Ohio 45435
Special Collections and Archives • Paul Laurence Dunbar Library • (937) 775-2092
www.libraries.wright.edu/special/

The Special Collections and Archives in the Paul Laurence Dunbar Library at Wright State University is Site #10 on the Aviation Trail



Celebrate the 150th Birthday of Alice Dunbar Nelson

New Exhibit on Alice Dunbar
at the Paul Laurence Dunbar House
Dayton Aviation Heritage National Historical Park
through September 28, 2025



Alice Dunbar Nelson was an influential African American poet, author, and activist whose work addressed themes of race, gender, and social justice. Born in New Orleans, Louisiana, she emerged as a prominent voice of the Harlem Renaissance, publishing poetry, short stories, and essays that highlighted the struggles and resilience of Black women. Dunbar Nelson was also deeply involved in social activism, advocating for civil rights and women's suffrage throughout her life. She was married to the famous poet Paul Laurence Dunbar, and after his death, she continued to promote his work while forging her own literary path. Her legacy is celebrated for its contributions to American literature and its enduring impact on social movements.

This summer marks the 150th anniversary of Alice's birth, and so the Paul Laurence Dunbar House Historic Site is proud to present two major events celebrating her life and achievements: • **Beyond Paul: Alice Dunbar Nelson's Life and Legacy** – an exhibit of Alice's writings and her collected works in partnership with the University of Delaware from July 19 to September 28, 2025. • **"An Afternoon with Alice"** – Alice's legacy was honored on July 19 with a presentation by Ms. Karsyn Williams, featuring poetry and fascinating insights about Alice's life. .



Paul Laurence Dunbar House Historic Site
Dayton Aviation Heritage National Historical Park
219 North Paul Laurence St., Dayton, Ohio 45402

This event marked the opening day of a new exhibit showcasing items from the Alice Dunbar Nelson collection, and it is made possible through a collaborative effort between the University of Delaware, the University of Dayton, the National Park Service, and the Paul Laurence Dunbar House. Don't miss this opportunity to celebrate the life and work of a remarkable figure in American history! This event is free and open to the public.
www.nps.gov

About the National Park Service.

More than 20,000 National Park Service employees care for America's 431 national parks and work with communities across the nation to help preserve local history and create close-to-home recreational opportunities. Learn more at www.nps.gov, and on Facebook, Instagram, and Twitter.



Dayton Aviation Heritage National Historical Park
16 S. Williams St., Dayton, OH 45402
937-225-7705

Learn more at: www.nps.gov/daav

Find us on Facebook: www.facebook.com/DaytonAviationNPS

Follow us on Instagram: www.instagram.com/daytonaviationnps

Follow us on Twitter: www.twitter.com/DaytonNHP

Paul Laurence Dunbar House Historic Site
is Site #2 on the Aviation Trail



National Aviation Hall of Fame 61st Enshrinement

**September 19, 2025 • 6:00-10:00 PM
B-29 Doc Hangar, Wichita, KS**



The Countdown is On!

The prestigious National Aviation Hall of Fame's 61st Enshrinement Ceremony is just around the corner, and we don't want you to miss out on this incredible event. Join us on Friday, September 19, 2025, to celebrate the legends of aviation who have shaped our skies and inspired generations. This is more than just an event; it's a celebration of history, innovation, and the pioneering spirit that drives us all.

Introducing the Class of 2025

We are thrilled to announce the induction of the Class of 2025 into the National Aviation Hall of Fame, a momentous occasion that pays tribute to the extraordinary achievements of remarkable aviation pioneers. Each of these inductees embodies the spirit of innovation, courage, and commitment that has shaped the history of aviation, and we invite you to join us in celebrating their legacies. Engage with the Hall of Fame through membership, event attendance, or supporting our mission, and become part of a vibrant community that honors the pioneers of the skies and inspires the future of aerospace.

We proudly welcome six aviation pioneers into the Hall of Fame:

Frank D. Robinson - has revolutionized rotorcraft aviation with his iconic Robinson R22 and R44 helicopters, serving both personal and commercial needs.

Phoebe Fairgrave Omlie - shattered barriers as the first woman to earn an FAA aircraft mechanic's license, paving the way for future generations of women in aviation and public service.

Gen. Lloyd W. "Fig" Newton, USAF (Ret.) - not only made history as the first African American pilot in the U.S. Air Force Thunderbirds but also exemplified leadership as a highly decorated Air Force veteran.

Dr. Mae Jemison - a NASA astronaut and physician, broke ground as the first African American woman to journey into space, inspiring countless individuals to pursue their dreams.

John J. Goglia - has championed aviation safety and maintenance standards, being the first FAA-certified mechanic to serve on the National Transportation Safety Board.

Julie Clark - has captivated audiences as an acclaimed aerobatic performer and commercial airline captain, dedicating over 40 years to flying excellence and serving as a true ambassador for aviation. For details on exclusive Enshrinement Sponsor opportunities, contact Aimee Maruyama at amaruyama@nationalaviation.org or call (937) 256-0944 ext. 11.

Act Now! Ensure your place at this landmark event. Seats are filling up fast, and we don't want you to miss your chance to be part of aviation history.

Tickets and Sponsorship:

<https://nationalaviation.org/programs/enshrinement>



National Aviation Hall of Fame
1100 Spaatz St., Dayton, OH 45433
(937) 256-0944
www.nationalaviation.org

The National Aviation Hall of Fame is site #6 on the Aviation Trail

National Aviation Day

Birthdays of Orville Wright and Katherine Wright

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).

This is a good time to celebrate the day by reading more about the Wrights. Besides Wilbur and Orville, Katherine's support of their efforts also contributed greatly to aviation, along with many other accomplishments of her own. See the five links below for some interesting reading. The first two are online posts with interesting information about Katherine Wright, and the third about the brothers. The last two are reviews of books about the Wright brothers and flight.

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Katharine_Wright

http://www.wright-brothers.org/Information_Desk/Just_the_Facts/Wright_Family/Katharine_Wright/Katharine_Wright.htm

http://www.wright-brothers.org/History_Wing/Wright_Story/Wright_Story_Intro/Wright_Story_Intro.htm

<https://www.nytimes.com/2015/05/04/books/review-the-wright-brothers-by-david-mccullough.html>

<https://www.goodreads.com/book/show/20977943-the-dayton-flight-factory>

Aviation Trail Membership & Donations



Membership

- Join
- Renew
- Donate

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



Aviation Trail Gift Shop

All transactions will be purchased from, processed by, and fulfilled by Dayton History, 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.



Gift items include: T-Shirts, Tumblers, Caps, Lapel Pins, Magnets, Art Prints, Note Cards, & McCook Field Book.

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