



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

July 2025 ISSUE

07/01/2025

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

Open Cockpit Days at Tri-State Warbird Museum

June 5 @ 11:00 am - 12:30 pm



COME, IMAGINE,
AND DISCOVER WITH US!

- THE PARASOL
- TWEEETY THE T-6

July 5, 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](http://www.tri-statewarbirdmuseum.org/learn/kids/open-cockpit-days-faqs/)

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

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

Parachute History Lecture at Mound Discovery Center

Video of Presentation

This free lecture was held by the
Mound Science and Energy Museum Association

at the Mound Cold War discovery Center, 1075 Mound Road,
Miamisburg, OH 45342 on May 28, 2025.

**"Dayton - The Birthplace of Aviation: Not Just Airplanes,
But Parachutes Too!"**

presented by Andrew Kididis
of Aviation Trail and the Aviation Trail Parachute Museum

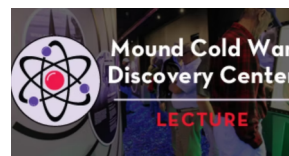
USE THIS LINK FOR VIDEO:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fpGDeopJpXI&t=8s>



The video of this lecture is also posted on the
Parachute Museum Theater at:

<https://www.aviationtrailinc.org/parachute-museum-theater>



See more on the lecture and the Cold War Discovery Center at
<https://www.aviationtrailinc.org/post/mound-cold-war-discovery-center>



Flying Season is Here

**Experience the B-25 Champaign Gal
at These Locations in 2025**



July 12th - 13th: Rides and Display at The National Warplane Museum Airshow, Geneseo Airport in Geneseo, NY (D52)

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 as each flight fills.

The North American B-25 Mitchell was an American twin-engine medium bomber manufactured by North American Aviation. Allied air forces flew it in every theater of World War II, and it was used by many other air forces after the war, seeing service across four decades.

- Built in 1944 by North American, our B-25J served with the USAAF for 13 years. It was used as a trainer, transport and personnel transport. In 1957 it was transferred to the famous "airplane boneyard" at Davis-Monthan AFB where it was stored until ~1959 when it was bought by a private company and fought fires in Canada and the USA. It continued to be used as an airtanker until the late 1980's when it was restored to its wartime specifications.

- In 2008 the Champaign Aviation Museum acquired the aircraft and has been flying and meticulously maintaining it ever since. We regularly fly the B-25 to airshows, events, warbird ride experiences, and for flyovers.

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



Butler County Warbirds Events

**Fly-Over and Display
at Middletown Thunderfest Cruise-In, July 26, 2025**

Thunderfest Car Show in Middletown on July 26th from 11-4.

Cruise In - Family Friendly Event

Cars, trucks, motorcycles (soft colors only), rat rods, dragsters, exotics, classics, even boats! BCW will be in attendance at the event with a static display, and will be doing a flyover at noon in our historic WWII aircraft. We are selling raffle tickets to win a flight in our 1943 PT-19, find us at the event to get your tickets!

<https://www.downtownmiddletown.org/thunderfest>

July 26, 2025 11:00 AM - 4:00 PM

Location:

Central Avenue & Broad Street (1045 Central Ave.)

Middletown, OH 45044



**BCW at Ohio Challenge Balloon Fest
July 18 & 19, 2025 at Smith Park in Middletown**

Butler County Warbirds will be selling aircraft rides* both days, starting at 5pm and 4pm respectively, until dusk. The Ohio Challenge offers hot air balloons, an evening balloon glow, tethered balloon rides, carnival, car show, aircraft rides, food trucks, fireworks and more!

Festival information, prices, & directions at:

<https://ohiochallenge.com>

*Aircraft flights are weather permitting



CESSNAS	AERONCA L-3E	FAIRCHILD PT-19
8 Minute Rides Max Weight: 435 Min. 2 People	20 Minute Rides Max Weight: 170 1 Person	20 Minute Rides Max Weight: 260 1 Person
\$30/PERSON	\$99	\$199

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



The Wapakoneta Summer Moon Festival Community Event Armstrong Air & Space Museum

Tuesday, July 15, 2025 to Sunday, July 20, 2025



The 2025 Summer Moon Festival will be July 15 – July 20, 2025. We keep adding some great events and activities, so check back later for more information on our activity schedule for the year!

2025 schedule of events

TUESDAY, JULY 15

10am - 5pm | Costumed astronaut appearances throughout the day
12pm - 12:30pm | Gemini VIII capsule chat in the Early Space Gallery*

WEDNESDAY, JULY 16

10 am - 5 pm | Costumed astronaut appearances throughout the day
12 pm - 12:30 pm | Public outdoor tour on museum grounds (weather permitting)

THURSDAY, JULY 17

10 am - 5 pm | Costumed astronaut appearances throughout the day
12 pm - 12:30 pm | Gemini VIII capsule chat in the Early Space Gallery*

FRIDAY, JULY 18

12 pm - 12:30 pm | Public outdoor tour on museum grounds (weather permitting)
3 pm - 5:30 pm | Ford Tri-Motor airplane rides available at the Neil Armstrong Airport (\$)
4 pm - 9 pm | Museum's Lunar Rover featured in the Annual Car Show in downtown Wapakoneta

SATURDAY, JULY 19

7 am - 11 am | United Way Run to the Moon 5k/10k located in museum parking lot (\$)
9 am - 5 pm | Ford Tri-Motor airplane rides available at the Neil Armstrong Airport (\$)
1 pm - 3 pm | Astronaut Meet & Greet at the museum in the STEM Inspiration Center*

SUNDAY, JULY 20

9 am - 3:30 pm | Ford Tri-Motor airplane rides available at the Neil Armstrong Airport (\$)
10 am - 5 pm | Inflatable rides on the museum's south lawn**
10 am - 5 pm | Human gyroscope rides available on the museum's south lawn**
10 am - 5 pm | Kona Ice treats available near museum pavilion (\$)
10 am - 5 pm | Apollo Lunar Rover replica stationed on museum's southwest lawn
10 am - 5 pm | Art Me! Face painting available on museum's southwest lawn
10 am - 5 pm | Lima Astronomical Society activities on southwest lawn
10 am - 5 pm | Wright Stuff Rocketeers rocket launches on south lawn
10 am - 5 pm | Education tent with children activities on museum's south lawn
10 am - 5 pm | Balloon Artist available on museum's southwest lawn
10 am - 5 pm | Anniversary cancellation covers available in museum store (\$)
11 am -12 pm | Apollo 11 Frogman recovery team presentation on outdoor stage
1 pm - 2 pm | Gemini VIII presentation on outdoor stage
1:30 pm - 4 pm | Apollo 11 Frogman meet & greet autograph session in museum STEM Center*
3 pm - 4 pm | Toledo's Imagination Station Extreme Science Demo on outdoor stage

(\$) = This activity has an associated cost to it and is not free.
(*) = This activity is inside the museum and is included with admission.
(**) = This activity requires a band that is required with museum admission.

... Armstrong Air & Space Museum continued from previous column

Ford Tri-Motor Airplane Rides: Guests have the opportunity to fly in a 1928 Ford Tri-Motor airplane, the same kind of aircraft a young Neil Armstrong got his first plane ride in! Flights will be on Fri, July 18th from 3pm - 5:30pm, Sat, July 19th from 9am - 5pm, and Sun, July 20th from 9am - 3:30pm. Tickets are \$99 for adults, \$75 for children 3-17, and free for those 2 & under. Tickets can be purchased HERE or on the day of the event at the Neil Armstrong Airport. Guests are also allowed to visit the airplane without riding for free.

Apollo 11 Frogman Recovery Team: Back by popular demand! The Apollo 11 frogmen will be at the Armstrong Air & Space Museum giving autographs and recounting the events of their famous Apollo 11 spacecraft recovery mission.

Costumed Astronaut Photograph Opportunities: Periodically throughout the day on Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday, a costumed astronaut will be walking around the galleries for individuals and families to take pictures with.

Gemini VIII "Capsule Chat:" On Tuesday and Thursday from 12:00-12:30, a member of the museum staff will be giving a 30 minute in-depth talk at the Gemini VIII capsule, discussing the exciting details of Neil Armstrong's first space mission.

Public Outdoor Tour: On Wednesday and Friday from 12:00-12:30, a member of the museum staff will be giving a 30-minute tour of the museum's grounds. The tour will cover the aircrafts and mockups on site and history of the building itself.

Inflatable Rides: Kids can put their skills to the test in our free inflatable rides located on the museum's south lawn from 10:00pm to 5:00pm on Saturday and Sunday.

Education Tent: Our STEM education tent will have fun, science-based, activities for kids to test out.

Lima Astronomical Society: The Lima Astronomical Society will be set up on the museum's north lawn and will have fun star map and telescope activities, along with educating guests on their services and events in the community. The astronomical society will be available only on Saturday and Sunday, 10:00 pm to 5:00 pm.

Wright Stuff Rocketeers: Truly a fan favorite, this group of rocket builders will be giving periodic rocket demonstrations throughout the day. Be the group's countdown clock as they lift-off your rocket! The rocketeers will be available only on Saturday and Sunday, 10:00 pm to 5:00 pm, found on the museum's south lawn.

Kona Ice Truck: Cool off from the mid-July heat with a tasty frozen snack from the Kona Ice truck! The vehicle will be parked in the middle of the museum's southwest lawn and will be available for treats on Saturday and Sunday.

FOR THE SUMMER MOON FESTIVAL WEBSITE, PLEASE SEE:

<https://summermoonfestival.com>



Armstrong Air & Space Museum
500 Apollo Drive
Wapakoneta, OH 45895
(419) 738-8811 or (800) 860-0142
<https://www.armstrongmuseum.org>

Armstrong Air & Space Museum is site #12 on the Aviation Trail



National Aviation Hall of Fame Upcoming Kid's Events

Register for Hall of Fame Summer Camps

Mission Brixilated Bravo Alpha Camps, powered by Brixilated, take campers on expeditions through the past, present, and future of flight through hands-on LEGO® model building.

Mission BBA Camp Schedule

July 14–18: Adventures in Space

July 21–25: Mission to Space (ages 12–16)

August 4–8: Innovations in Flight

Time: 9:00 AM – 4:00 PM (before and after care available)

Lunch: Campers bring their own lunch (box lunches are available for \$10)

TUITION: \$275** per child (Limited Need Based Scholarships Available)

LOCATION: Joe Clark Innovation Lab, National Aviation Hall of Fame

CAMP TUITION INCLUDES:

Official Discovering Flight T-Shirt

Unique Mission Sticker

Certificate of Completion

Daily LEGO® Build Activities, Creative Challenges, Team collaboration, and Themed Worksheets and Materials

*Brixilated is not affiliated with The LEGO Group. LEGO® is a trademark of the LEGO Group

Register Now at: <https://nationalaviation.org/summer-camp/>



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



Grimes Flying Lab Foundation Anniversary Celebration

Report on June 7, 2025 Event

On June 7, 2025 the Grimes Flying Lab Foundation, a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization, celebrated the 50th Anniversary of the Flying Lab's historic visit to the International Paris Air Show in France. The fun-filled event was held from 9am to 4 pm on the grounds of Historic Grimes Field (Urbana Municipal Airport) located at 1636 North Main Street, Urbana, Ohio 43078. The public viewed the restored Beech 18 twin engine airplane up close and learned more about the impact aircraft lighting technology has had in aviation safety. Beyond the featured plane, the daylong event included special merchandise to commemorate the historic flight, raffles, food, bi-plane rides and meet and greets with former Grimes Manufacturing Company employees.



Photo credit HM Photography • Furnished by Grimes Flying Lab Foundation

On May 15, 1975, The Grimes Flying Laboratory Beech 18 took off from Grimes Field and headed to the 31st Annual International Paris Air Show at Le Bourget. The aircraft was piloted by Earl Bennett, who followed the Trans-Atlantic route, during this historic three-month, 3,451-mile journey. The logistics of preparing for such a trip involved many months of preparation, including, but not limited to overhauled Pratt and Whitney engines; installation of extra fuel tanks, automatic direction finder, a special high frequency radio transmitter, a 70-pound survival kit and a signal generator.

An Historic Flight

The main purpose for the Flying Lab to be present at the International Paris Air Show was to showcase Grimes Manufacturing Company's external aircraft navigational and landing lights as they were actually used, not in simulation, but graphically and comparatively in the air. The twin engine airplane was equipped as a demonstration and test vehicle for various forms and designs of aircraft lighting for use in differing weather and visibility conditions. Grimes hoped to expand into the overseas market by capitalizing on this marketing opportunity.

See the Grimes Flying Lab facebook page at www.facebook.com/GrimesFlyingLab for posts and more photos from this event.



Grimes Flying Lab Foundation
1636 N. Main St. Urbana, Ohio 43078
<https://n8640e.wixsite.com/grimesflyinglab>
or www.facebook.com/GrimesFlyingLab

Grimes Flying Lab is Site #14 on the Aviation Trail



Lunch & Learn Lecture

Harmon Museum Armstrong Conference Center
Wed. July 16, 2025

"Crossing the Pond": Oceanic Travel Before the Jet Airliner

SPEAKER: Ashley Ford (US Navy Judge Advocate General Retired)

LOCATION: Armstrong Conference Center (121 S. Broadway, Lebanon, OH)



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/LJJuly25>



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



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.

