



THE WRIGHT FLYER

Aviation Trail, Inc.

Spring 2017

CELEBRATE WILBUR WRIGHT'S 150th WITH AVIATION TRAIL

A 150th birthday is very special.

Especially when the honoree is Wilbur Wright.

For that reason, Aviation Trail, Inc. is dedicating its spring event April 8 to him--with no apologies for being eight days early.

(The Trailblazer Award will be presented at ATI's Dec. 17 first flight celebration.)

Wilbur's party will be hosted at Sinclair Community College's Indoor Flying Pavilion for Unmanned Aerial Systems.

The Pavilion is part of Sinclair's National UAS Training and Certification Center in Bldg. 13 on the corner on the corner of West 5th and Perry streets in downtown Dayton.

The birthday evening begins at 5 p.m. with tours and UAS demonstrations in the unique Training and Certification Center. At 6:15 we'll transition to the UAS Indoor Flying Pavilion to be followed by dinner at 6:30 and the speakers' program at 7:30.

"We're delighted to be staging Wilbur's birthday party in a futuristic facility with flight technology that's yet another extension of Wilbur--and Orville's--flight achievements," ATI President Marvin Christian said.

"We thank Andrew Shepherd Ph.D. of Sinclair for working with Aviation Trail to give our members an opportunity to see this state-of-the art facility in downtown Dayton. It's an opportunity not to be missed." he said.

Shepherd and Ron Storm Ph.D., also affiliated with the UAS facility, will speak to the group April 8. Shepherd is director for Sinclair's Training and Certification Center and Adjunct Professor Storm has worked on the technical and business sides of manned and unmanned systems for the past 15 years.

The menu for Wilbur's birthday evening will be catered by Sinclair Community College and features southern style braised beef, chicken vin blanc, or vegetable lasagna for \$60. White or chocolate birthday cake will be served for dessert.



Andrew Shepherd Ph. D.

A native of Troy, Ohio, Shepherd grew up in Ludlow Falls, Ohio, and earned his pilot's certificate while still in high school. His affiliations and honors include being named to both Dayton's top 40 Under 40 and top 100 Defense and Aerospace Professionals by the Dayton Business Journal in 2014.

Shepherd earned his associate of applied science degree in aviation technology--professional pilot and airway science option--from Sinclair Community College, and his bachelor and master degrees from Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University. His doctor of philosophy degree is from Arizona's Northcentral University.

Wilbur Wright was born to Milton and Susan Wright on April 16, 1867, in a three-room house near Millville, Ind., eight miles east of New Castle, Ind. Wilbur was the Wrights' third son and was named for Wilbur Fiske, a clergyman admired by Milton. The Wilbur Wright Birthplace & Museum will open for tours for the season April 1. For more information, go to: www.wbirthplace.com.

KUDOS TO TOD BRINING FOR ATI'S WEB SITE

Have you visited ATI's web page, www.aviationtrailinc.org, recently?

If not, you're missing a most complete compilation of news and information about ATI and aviation events in the greater Miami Valley.

ATI Trustee Tod Brining has been our webmaster for the last few years and has greatly improved and enhanced the site's content.

"We're so appreciative to Tod for the many hours he's devoted to enhancing ATI's electronic communication with its members," ATI President Marvin Christian said. "He has made the web site a 'go to' place for news and background."

At the main web page you'll find the categories About Us, Trail Sites, Learn More, News, Events and Projects, Membership-Donations-Reservations, and Aviation Blog.

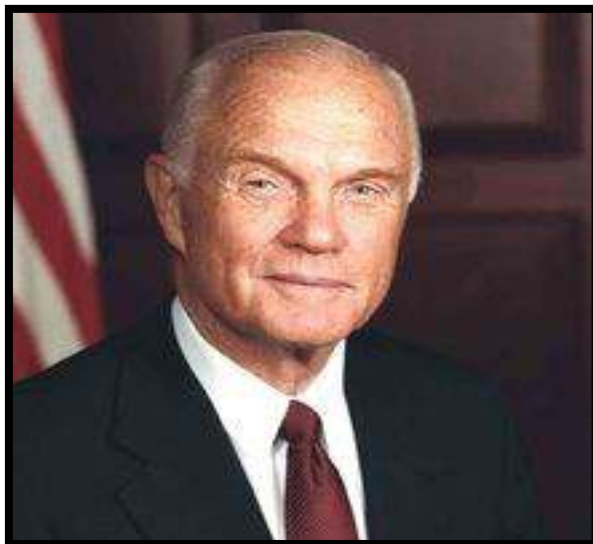
Click on the Aviation Blog category and you get a comprehensive listing of what other aviation groups are doing and planning. No more clicking around to several aviation sites to stay informed; it's all there.

And you also can subscribe, FREE, to ATI's new aviation Flight Log where you'll find local aviation news while it's still news. When an aviation group announces a news item, Tod will e mail it to you via the Flight Log.

Signing up for Flight Log is easy: go to the bottom of the first page for any category and enter your name and e mail address. When new items are announced, you'll receive an e mail with the details.

PayPal. Did you know that now you can pay for ATI's social events and membership, or make a donation, at the web page? It's a convenient, money-handling feature, and you'll find PayPal on the Membership-Donations-Reservations page.

So check it out: www.aviationtrailinc.org. You'll probably want to list it on your own home page as under "favorites."



John Glenn, July 18, 1921--Dec. 8, 2016
An American hero and Ohio native
U.S. Navy Marine, Test Pilot, Astronaut,
U.S. Senator

AMANDA WRIGHT LANE HOLDS SMITHSONIAN POST

Amanda Wright Lane, great-grandniece of Orville and Wilbur Wright, is adding another honor--and duty --to her list of accomplishments.

On April 11 she'll begin serving as a member of the Advisory Board of the Smithsonian Institution's National Air and Space Museum in Washington, D.C.--having been appointed by then President Barack Obama in fall 2016.

Amanda's several other positions include trustee for The Wright Brothers Family Foundation and board member of the National Aviation Heritage Alliance, Wright-Dunbar, Inc. and the First Flight Foundation. In 2009 Amanda was named Aviation Trail's Trailblazer award for her dedication as an untitled ambassador for the Dayton area's early aviation heritage.

As a Wright family spokesperson she consults with researchers and academics who are working to preserve the legacy of the Wright brothers. She also lectures on her family's history and, through The Wright Brothers Family Foundation, gives grants in support of groups that preserve the Wright brothers legacy.

Amanda was awarded the American Institute of Aeronautics and Astronautics Public Service Award in 2008, was named one of Dayton's Top Ten Women in 2005 and received recognition for volunteerism in aviation and aerospace, also in 2008. She was recently named by the Dayton YWCA a 2017 Women of Influence.

Her bachelor of science degree is from Miami University.

CARY-GUM MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP TO YOUNGEST RECIPIENT, FIRST GIRL

Mullika Pandit, the first girl and the youngest recipient of the Mitchell Cary-Don Gum Memorial Aviation Scholarship, accepted the award earlier this year.

The scholarship was established by the National Aviation Heritage Alliance in memory of Cary and Gum, volunteer pilots for the Wright "B" Flyer who died in 2011.

The award provides \$1,500 in financial assistance for a student working toward a light sport or private pilot's certificate.

Mullika attributes her strong interest in piloting to attending Dayton's Air Camp in 2016. She wrote in her scholarship application that the camp taught her about "every possible career in the field of aviation," but "none of those options grabbed my attention like piloting."

A 15-year-old Mason High School student, Mullika accepted the award with her parents present during a ceremony at the Huffman Prairie Flying Field Interpretive Center.

PLANNING CONTINUES ON WRIGHTS' FACTORY SITE, DAYTON METRO LIBRARY'S WEST BRANCH

Plans are underway for building the West Branch of Dayton Metro Library on the 54-acre Wright Company factory site in West Dayton.

The new structure will consolidate the current Madden Hills and Westwood Branches into one larger facility on the northeast corner of U.S. 35 and Abbey Ave.--an equal distance from both current branches.

Since the library location decision was announced in June 2016 by Dayton Mayor Nan Whaley and Tim Kambitsch, executive director of Dayton Metro library, the National Aviation Heritage Alliance has continued fund raising to acquire the Wright Factory site from its current owner Home Avenue Redevelopment, LLC.

NAHA then will sell a parcel of land to Dayton Metro Library, stabilize the now-vacant factory buildings and provide security for them. Near-term goals for the structure include building a workshop in one of the factory's attached buildings where the Wright "B" Flyer Inc. can complete construction of a new Wright B lookalike airplane.

Long-range plans call for the two original factory buildings to join the Dayton Aviation Heritage National Historical Park which currently manages four "scattered sites" related to the Wright brothers' aviation accomplishments.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR: COMING AVIATION EVENTS

April 8, Saturday, ATI's celebration of Wilbur Wright's 150th birthday, Sinclair Community College

June 24-25, Vectren Dayton Air Show featuring the U.S. Air Force Thunderbirds and the Misty Blues All Woman Skydiving Team

July 24-30, EAA Air Venture, Oshkosh, Wisc.

Aug. 12, Friday, Runway Fest, Dayton-Wright Brothers Airport, Miamisburg, Ohio

Aug. 19-20, 50th anniversary, Mid East Regional Fly-in, Grimes Field, Urbana, Ohio

Sept. 9, Saturday, Aero Carnival, Huffman Prairie Flying Field, celebrating these centennial anniversaries: McCook Field, National Museum of the U.S. Air Force, Wilbur Wright Field, and Fairfield Air Depot/Patterson Field

Sept. 16-18, WACO Fly-In and Homecoming, Historic WACO Field, Troy, Ohio

Sept. 16, Saturday, U.S. Air Force Marathon, Wright-Patterson AFB, Ohio

Sept. 20-22, Aviation Writers Summit, hosted by the National Aviation Heritage Alliance, Dayton, Ohio

Oct. 7, Saturday, National Aviation Hall of Fame Enshrinement Ceremony, Ft. Worth, Texas

Dec. 17, Sunday, 114th anniversary of the first powered flight by Wilbur and Orville Wright

FACTORY TOURS TO BEGIN APRIL 20

Free public tours of the Wrights' airplane factory in Dayton, Ohio—the first in the United States designed for production—will begin again Thursday, April 20.

After the April tour, one will be offered on the third Thursday of each month at 10 a.m. The factory gate is on the south side of West Third Street just east of Abbey Avenue. The tour takes about one hour; closed-toed shoes are required.

The Wright Company was formed in 1909 and the first factory was built in 1910 with a second building added in 1911. Later those structures became part of a GM plant in Dayton and planning is underway for their restoration.

The National Aviation Heritage Alliance is offering the tours to build public support to bring them into the Dayton Aviation Heritage National Historical Park. For more information, contact Timothy R. Gaffney at www.trg@aviationheritagearea.org or 937.219.8277.



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www.aviationtrailinc.org

REMINDER TO ATI MEMBERS

Don't miss our ATI party April 8 for Wilbur Wright's 150th birthday! Join the celebration at Sinclair Community College, Bldg. 13, on the corner of West 5th and Perry streets in downtown Dayton. Tours of Sinclair's National UAS Training and Certification Center begin at 5 p.m. with dinner to follow at 6:30--birthday cake included. Thanks to ATI board member Andrew Shepherd Ph.D. of Sinclair's UAS facility for showcasing for us this treasure in downtown Dayton. Send in your reservation today!

AVIATION TRAIL MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

I would like to become a member of Aviation Trail, Inc., at the following level:

- | | | |
|--|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Senior Citizen \$15 | <input type="checkbox"/> Contributing \$50 | <input type="checkbox"/> Individual Life \$500 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Individual \$20 | <input type="checkbox"/> Supporting \$100 | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Family \$30 | <input type="checkbox"/> Patron \$1,000 | |

Name: _____ Phone: _____

Address: _____ City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Please make check payable to: **AVIATION TRAIL, INC.** and mail it together with this form to:

Aviation Trail, Inc., P. O. Box 633, Wright Brothers Branch, Dayton, OH 45409
Aviation Trail, Inc. qualifies for tax exemption under Sec. 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code.