



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

Print Version

October 2026 ISSUE

10/01/2026

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

The Candy Bomber at Butler County Warbirds

October 17th, 2026, at Noon

BUTLER COUNTY WARBIRDS PRESENTS...



THE CANDY BOMBER

OCTOBER 17TH AT 12PM 2351 WEDEKIND DR

**LEARN ABOUT THE FAMOUS BERLIN CANDY DROP
AND HAVE FUN GATHERING TREATS FROM ABOVE!**

Fifth annual Candy Bomber Event at Butler County Warbirds on October 17th, Noon, at 2351 Wedekind Drive, Middletown, OH 45042. Stop by and learn about the history of the famous Berlin Candy Bomber. We will be dropping parachutes of candy from one of our vintage WWII era aircraft.

This is a FREE, family friendly event. Get festive and wear your Halloween costumes while you learn a little about history!

**Candy drop is weather permitting. Event will take place regardless of weather with festivities & candy for the kids in our bangar.*



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

Moraine Airpark "Run on the Runway"

October 18, 2026

**Moraine Airpark is hosting a 5K race on Sunday,
October 18, 2026 at 9 am.**

Scan the QR code for more details and registration.

**10/18/2026
RUN ON THE RUNWAY
AT MORaine AIRPARK**

**MORaine AIRPARK
EST 1952**

**REGISTER AT:
MORaineAIRPARK.COM**

INTERESTED IN SPONSORSHIP? EMAIL US AT MANAGER@MORaineAIRPARK.COM

<https://moraineairpark.com/#/run-on-the-runway>



Moraine Airpark
3800 Clearview Avenue
Moraine, OH 45439
<https://moraineairpark.com>
(937) 866-2489

Armstrong Air & Space Museum

October 15 & 17 - Red October! The Space Race



The Cold War and Space Race was a dominating cultural and political force for the United States in the latter half of the 20th century. Learn more with space historian Greg Brown about the Soviet side of the conflict, their rise, early success, and ultimate failure to put humans on the Moon.

Talk & Tour Events:

3rd Thursday & 3rd Saturday of each month

Thursday 2 – 4PM; Saturday 11AM – 1PM & 2 – 4PM

Armstrong Air & Space Museum, 500 Apollo Dr, Wapakoneta, OH

Complimentary with that day's admission



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



Tri-State Warbird Museum

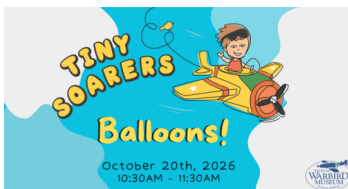
"Tiny Soarers" October Events



Soarin' Story Time - Bats - October 2, 2026
@ 10:30 am - 11:15 am

This program is FREE to members.

See <https://www.tri-statewarbirdmuseum.org/support/membership/> for Membership Info



Soarin' Story Time - Balloons - October 2, 2026 @ 10:30 am - 11:30 am

Registration is required for this program.
Student admission is \$5
To Register See:

<https://tristatewarbirdmuseum.wildapricot.org/event-6837670%20>

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 DR, BATAVIA, OH 45103
(513) 735-4500
<https://www.tri-statewarbirdmuseum.org>

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



WACO Aviation Lecture Series

October 22, 2026 - WACO Air Museum

Author Diana Bittern to Present "The Mechanical Boy: Discovering an Aviation Legacy" at WACO Aviation Lecture Series on October 22.



TROY, Ohio — The WACO Education Center & Air Museum will welcome author Diana Bittern on Thursday, October 22, for a special presentation, "The Mechanical Boy: Discovering an Aviation Legacy," as part of its Aviation Lecture Series. The free public lecture begins at 7 p.m. at the WACO Education Center & Air Museum, with doors opening at 6:30 p.m.

The Mechanical Boy tells the inspiring true story of Diana Bittern's father, Joseph Ochadowski, an orphan who was selected to attend Henry Ford's Wayside Inn Boys School in 1929. During his time at the school, Joseph developed a passion for aviation and a dream of building his own airplane. His story offers a fascinating look at Henry Ford's unique educational philosophy, which emphasized hands-on learning and nurturing individual potential.

Bittern's book, The Mechanical Boy: An Aviation Enthusiast at Henry Ford's Wayside Inn Boys School, was inspired by her father's experiences and her desire to share the remarkable story of his years at the school. Published in 2024, the book combines family history with aviation and educational history, bringing Joseph's story and Henry Ford's educational experiment to life. In 2026, the book was named Book of the Year by the Henry Ford Heritage Association. Bittern continues to explore aviation history, engineering, education, and family stories through The Mechanical Boy Chronicles.

Following the presentation, books will be available for purchase, and the author will host a signing for attendees.

The Aviation Lecture Series at the WACO Education Center & Air Museum is free and open to the public. Programs begin at 7:00 p.m. and run approximately one hour, including time for audience questions. Lectures are held in the Willis Wing of the Air Museum, located at 1865 South County Road 25A in Troy, Ohio. Doors open at 6:30 p.m.

Donations to support the educational programs of the WACO Education Center & Air Museum are gratefully accepted. The Aviation Lecture Series is sponsored in part by Collins Aerospace.

For more information, call 937-335-9226 or visit the WACO Air Museum website at www.wacoairmuseum.org.

...More on WACO:
see below

Video Report on WACO Fly-In

Aviation Trail hosted a display at the September 2026 WACO event and provided this video review.

We stepped back into aviation's golden age at WACO Museum's annual fly-in, a September tradition that brings pilots, families, and history lovers together in Troy, Ohio. From the rumble of radial engines to the sight of WACO biplanes returning home, this three-day celebration is where history takes flight. Aviation Trail, Inc. and the Parachute Museum were among the exhibitors.

See this link for original blog post with video:

<https://www.aviationtrailinc.org/post/video-report-from-waco-annual-fly-in-2026>
video courtesy of Dan Edwards, Aviation Trail, Inc.

See more info on the event at <https://www.aviationtrailinc.org/post/waco-annual-fly-in> and <https://www.wacoairmuseum.org/annualflyin>



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



Explore Series at Armstrong Air & Space Museum

October 3rd – Spooky Space:



NAME: Explore! Series
START DATE: 1st Saturday of each month
TIME: 11:00 – 4:00 p.m.
LOCATION: Armstrong Air & Space Museum
ADDRESS: 500 Apollo Dr, Wapakoneta, OH
COST: No additional cost with admission

Spooky Space: Starting at 11AM and 2PM, participants will be using balloons and aluminum foil to learn about Black Holes! Our educator will engage students in an interactive discussion about black holes, explaining what they are, how they form the science behind their incredible gravitational pull, and their role in the universe. The guided museum tour, a 45-min experience highlighting key exhibits and fun insights begin at 11AM, 1PM, and 3PM.



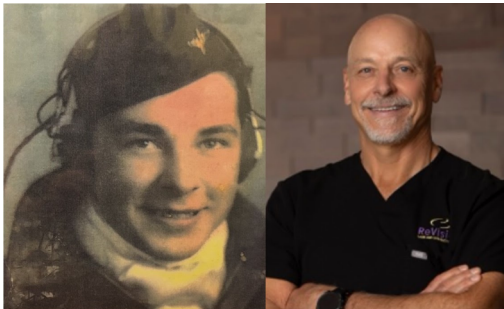
Armstrong Air & Space Museum
500 Apollo Drive
Wapakoneta, OH 45895
(419) 738-8811 or (800) 860-0142
www.armstrongmuseum.org

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



Champaign Aviation Museum

Free Lecture - Thursday, October 1st at 2:00pm - 3:30pm
Flight Paths: From WWII Stories to Restoring Sight
Presented by D. James Schumer, MD



Experience an inspiring, multigenerational journey as told by D. James Schumer, MD, AME. Beginning with the compelling story of his father's service as a World War II pilot, this presentation traces Dr. Schumer's own path—from growing up inspired by aviation to earning his pilot's wings and ultimately pursuing a

career in ophthalmology. Along the way, discover how the values of courage, precision, perseverance, and service unite the battlefield, the cockpit, and the operating room, where restoring vision through LASIK and cataract surgery changes lives every day.

This free event will be held in the CAM Library.



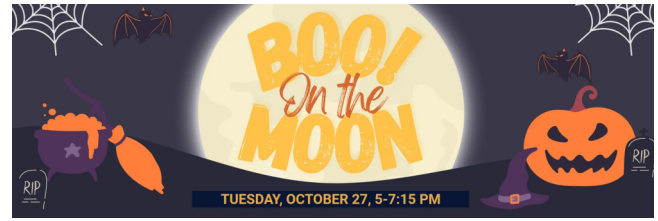
Champaign Aviation Museum
1652 N. Main St., Urbana, OH 43078
937-652-4710
ChampaignAviationMuseum.org

Champaign Aviation Museum is Site #13 on the Aviation Trail



Boo! on the Moon

Armstrong Air & Space Museum



Tuesday, October 27, 2026 - 5:00 pm - 7:15 pm
Armstrong Museum - 500 Apollo Dr., Wapakoneta, OH 45895

Grab your costumes and candy bags, the Armstrong Air & Space Museum will be hosting its annual "Boo! On the Moon" Halloween event on Tuesday, October 27, from 5:00 - 7:15 PM. Experience the museum in a whole new way with our space galleries adorned with a wide array of ghastly props and eerie decor. As our younger visitors walk through the galleries, staff members will be stationed in areas passing out candy and treats.

EVENT HIGHLIGHTS:

Walk around the galleries collecting trick-or-treat candy.
Enjoy a festive children activity in the STEM Center.
Put your detective skills to the test and participate in a museum-wide scavenger hunt.
Children ages 6-12 in costume will receive half-off their admission.

For event questions, please call the museum at (419)-738-8869 or visit the "Boo! On the Moon" event page on Facebook.

EVENT ADMISSION

Adult:	\$14.00	Senior:	\$13.00
Children (6-12):	\$8.00	Children in c	\$4.00
OHC member:	FREE		

Tickets are available only at the door on the day of the event.



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



Hangar Halloween at Tri-State Warbird Museum

October 28, 2026 @ 5:30 pm - 7:00 pm

Bring the whole family to Hangar Halloween! Come dressed in your costume for some fun family activities! Join us - we've got candy, Halloween crafts & games!



Pricing: Non-Member Pricing: Non Member Tickets Adults: \$12 Children: \$7
Member Pricing: Member Tickets Adults: FREE Children: \$5

<https://www.tri-statewarbirdmuseum.org/support/membership/>
<https://www.tri-statewarbirdmuseum.org/learn/kids/hangar-halloween-faqs/>



Tri-State Warbird Museum
4021 BORMAN DR, BATAVIA, OH 45103
(513) 735-4500
<https://www.tri-statewarbirdmuseum.org>

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



America's National Birds Nest above the Original 1905 Wright Flyer III

Congressman Mike Turner Enters Their Story Into the Congressional Record

As America celebrates its 250th anniversary, two bald eagles have made their home above Carillon Historical Park's Wright Brothers National Museum, creating a living connection between the nation's history, its enduring symbols and Dayton's legacy of flight

DAYTON, Ohio — Two of America's most enduring symbols of freedom and flight have come together at Carillon Historical Park, where a pair of bald eagles has built a nest high in a sycamore tree directly above the 1905 Wright Flyer III — the world's first practical airplane and the only one designated a National Historic Landmark.



The eagles recently welcomed two eaglets, now named Liberty and America, and the family has made its home above Wright Hall, the centerpiece of the Wright Brothers National Museum. Their presence creates a living connection between two icons of American flight: the national bird and the airplane that changed the course of human history.

While the bald eagles have nested at Carillon Historical Park since 2018, the significance of their story reached a new level last week when Congressman Mike Turner (OH-10) entered the story of the eagles and their newly born eaglets into the Congressional Record, honoring their connection to the museum and Dayton's legacy of flight.

"When these two bald eagles were born in a tall sycamore above the Wright Brothers National Museum and the 1905 Wright Flyer III — the world's first practical airplane — it marked an extraordinary moment for Carillon Historical Park and the Dayton community," said Brady Kress, president and CEO of Dayton History. "Here were two symbols of American flight, separated by more than a century of history, making Carillon Park their home. In this 250th anniversary year of our nation, we're honored that Congressman Turner decided to mark this extraordinary moment in the Congressional Record."

The bald eagle has represented the United States since the Second Continental Congress adopted it as the nation's symbol in 1782. After coming perilously close to extinction in the 20th century, the species has made a remarkable recovery. Bald eagles returned to the Dayton area in 2008 after an absence of roughly 70 years.



The eagles' home also has another distinction. In 2025, Gov. Mike DeWine visited Carillon Historical Park and the Wright Brothers National Museum for a ceremonial signing designating the 1905 Wright Flyer III as Ohio's official state airplane.

As the nation marks 250 years, Liberty and America offer visitors a living reminder that American history is not confined to the past. Above the original 1905 Wright Flyer III — the airplane Orville Wright considered the brothers' most important contribution to aviation — two national symbols are making a history of their own.

About Dayton History: Dayton History, a privately funded nonprofit, owns and operates Carillon Historical Park; Hawthorn Hill, Orville Wright's mansion; Patterson Homestead; Carillon Brewing Co.; Culp's Café; and the Mark and Paula Hurd NCR Archive Center. Its mission is to inspire generations by connecting them with the unique people, places, and events that changed Dayton and the world.



Dayton History • 1000 Carillon Blvd. • Dayton, OH 45409
<https://www.daytonhistory.org>

Carillon Historical Park is Site #4 on the Aviation Trail



Aviation Trail Membership Reminder



Membership

- Join
- Renew
- Donate

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

Membership Reminder:

All levels of Aviation Trail memberships, except for Life Membership, are annual and are **subject to renewal, at the desired level, by each January**. Aviation Trail is now accepting memberships and renewal orders for 2026.

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

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



To print a mail-in membership/donation form use this link:

https://www.aviationtrailinc.org/_files/ugd/0d9eb3_1581e164a6934f32a3df534cb190c8.pdf

**Join, Renew, or Donate Now
to Help Support Aviation Trail, Inc. and the
Aviation Trail Parachute Museum**

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.



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.

