



Aviation Trail, Inc.

News and Updates from "The Trail"

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.

"The Flight Log" -

AVIATION TRAIL MAIL

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

JANUARY 2023 ISSUE

01/03/2023

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

Betty Stagg-Turner Memorial Scholarship AT-6 Acquisition Project

Butler County Warbirds

Butler County Warbirds is partnering with Tailwheel Aviation LLP to promote advancement of women in the aviation industry. After 3 years of planning, in OCT 2022, we began taking donations and investment money towards the acquisition of a North American AT-6 Texan. The Texan was a 1940s and early 1950s military training aircraft that was used to teach most of the military pilots of WWII and the Korean War advanced flying principles.



Our interests in it are specifically related to their use to train the WASPs, the famous Women's Air Force Service Pilots of WWII. BCW's friend, Betty Stagg-Turner was one of those lady flyers. As a graduating member of Class 44W-9, one of Betty's favorite memories was of her time in the AT-6. Therefore, we thought it fitting to honor her memory and use this historic aircraft to fund the [Betty Stagg-Turner Memorial Scholarship](#). This scholarship will be awarded to women and used to assist ladies in starting or advancing their aviation careers.

Once we have obtained an AT-6 via our [AT-6 Acquisition Project](#), a portion of each ride sold in the AT-6 will go into the scholarship fund and will be awarded annually to a female applicant seeking a career in aviation. This can be used for training as an air traffic controller, flight attendant, mechanic, pilot, and more. For information on how to make a tax deductible contribution to the project, or to join us as an investor, please contact BCW President Tim Epperhart at 513-702-3062 or tim@bcwarbirds.com for information or visit bcwarbirds.com



We have created this custom challenge coin for the scholarship program. With a \$50 or greater donation, you will receive a coin. Estimated ship date: Early January 2023.

See the Butler County Warbird shop at bcwarbirds.shop to donate & order the Betty Stagg-Turner Memorial Scholarship challenge coin:

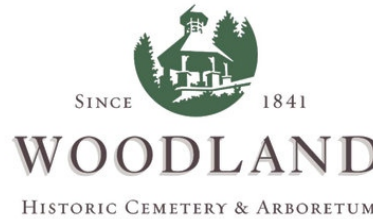
If you would like to participate in promoting or contributing to this future scholarship, please contact michelle@bcwarbirds.com and provide as many details as you can.



Butler County Warbirds
Middletown Regional Airport (KMWO)
2351 Wedekind Drive
Middletown, OH 45402 • (513) 702-3062
<http://www.bcwarbirds.com>

Woodland Cemetery & Arboretum

Tours and Events: January & February



Wright Brothers Gravesite

January 12th @ 1:00pm
Brewers of Dayton @ WTRP

January 15th @ 11:00 a.m.
Indoor Mausoleum Tour

See the beautiful seasonal decor in the Woodland Mausoleum and learn more about the lives of the men and women interred inside. You'll also be treated to our collection of beautiful stained glass windows--each depicting woodland scenes from poetry and literature.

January 31st @ 12:00 p.m.
Troy Senior Center

February 9th @ 9:30 a.m.
Dunbar Remembrance Event

The Annual Paul Laurence Dunbar Graveside Tribute will begin with a gathering at the grave site of Mr. Dunbar at 10:00 a.m. where a laying of a wreath will take place. A short program of readings and stories will then follow inside the Woodland Mausoleum given by devoted friends of Paul Laurence Dunbar. The event is free and open to the public. All are invited to both the graveside and Mausoleum services.

February 11th & 20th @ 2:00 p.m.
Black History Month
Indoor Mausoleum Tour

A special tour of the Woodland mausoleum, celebrating some of Dayton's notable Black citizens; learn about the brilliant scientists, vibrant artists, and shrewd politicians whose invaluable contributions made Dayton the city it is today.

For more information, please contact us at 937-228-3221 or email info@woodlandcemetery.org



Woodland Cemetery and Arboretum
118 Woodland Avenue
Dayton, Ohio 45409
www.woodlandcemetery.org

Butler County Warbirds is Site #16 on the Aviation Trail

Woodland Cemetery and Arboretum is Site #8 on the Aviation Trail

Tri-State Warbird Museum

January Events 2023

Lecture Series

Military Mapping Maidens

January 7, 2023 @ 1:00 pm - 2:00 pm
at Tri-State Warbird Museum

The next segment in our Lecture Series is Military Mapping Maidens. Michelle Reid of Museum Pros will present Military Mapping Maidens.

Military Mapping Maidens will feature the contributions of over 200 women. These young women were recruited by the US Army Map Service to research and draw maps by hand for the Allied war effort in WWII.

They charted the course for the Allied forces and they drew the path to victory in Europe, Africa and in the Pacific. They made their mark by creating maps that helped to win the war. Presenter: Michelle Reid

Register at <https://form.jotform.com/TSWM/january-7-2023-lecture-series>



Homeschool Days 2022

Tri-State Warbird Museum
January 10, 2023 @ 10:00 am

The Black & White Airmen Story



The Black and White Airmen Story is our next segment in our 2022 - 2023 Homeschool Days Program. Students will learn about the true story of John Leahr and Herb Heilbrun. Students will explore the role of these local WWII servicemen and how the Tuskegee Airmen rose above the adversity of the times.
• January 10, 2023
• 10 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.

Homeschool Days Sign-Up:

<https://form.jotform.com/TSWM/black-white-airmen-homeschool-day>

Family Fun Day

January 14, 2023 @ 1:00 pm - 3:00 pm
Tri-State Warbird Museum

Learn and create together during TSWM's interactive day for families!

- Games
- Crafts
- Paper Airplanes
- Scavenger Hunt
- STEM discovery time
- Cockpit climb-ins

Admission - \$20 per family
FREE to Members
[Yearly family memberships are \$50]



Get Family Fun Day tickets here: <https://form.jotform.com/TSWM/2023-family-fun-day-registration>



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



Parachute Museum Theater

Perseverance Rover Parachute Landing on Mars



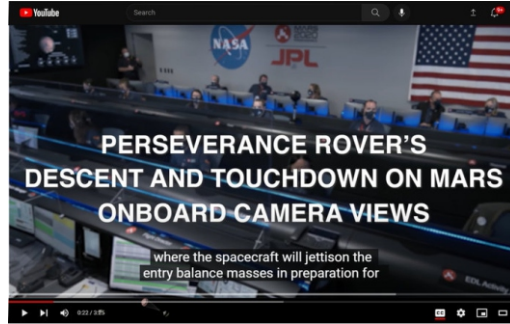
#8 in a series of videos
featured by the
Aviation Trail Parachute Museum

As part of NASA's Mars 2020 mission the Perseverance Rover landed by parachute descent in the Jezero crater on Mars. It was launched on July 30, 2020 and landed on February 18, 2021. It has since been collecting samples and testing the environment, providing information for future missions. This video dramatically follows the parachute descent and landing.

To watch the NASA video use this link:

<https://youtu.be/4czjS9h4Fpg?list=TLGGorVQ00pe8bgzMDEyMjAyMg>

Presented by NASA/JPL-Caltech



After viewing the video be sure to check out the NASA link for fascinating information about the mission, including photos and interactive experiences: <https://mars.nasa.gov/mars2020/>

See the Parachute Museum page at <https://www.aviationtrailinc.org/parachute-museum> for access to more Parachute Museum Theater videos.

But wait, there's more!

The view of the underside of the parachute in the video shows an interesting design with an intriguing story of its own. It's not just a random pattern. It turns out that the parachute engineers provided a "hidden" message using binary code. Check the NASA link at <https://mars.nasa.gov/mars2020/spacecraft/rover/markings/> to find out about the message and learn more about the story.



And more Parachute Museum news... Parachute Museum Receives Airworthy Donation First Test Flight Scheduled for this Week

Just inside the door to the Aviation Trail Parachute Museum is a donation box where visitors can deposit coins and bills to help support the mission of the museum. When counting the contents at a recent board meeting the Aviation Trail treasurer noticed a special object among the donations. It was a dollar bill folded into a paper airplane. The craft features meticulous design, graceful symmetry, and precise folding techniques. This fine example of flying legal tender will soon make its first test flight to a local bank. Aviation Trail thanks the donor for such an entertaining way to help the cause.



If you would like to donate a similar "aircraft" visit the Parachute Museum on the second floor of the Aviation Trail Visitor Center/Wright-Dunbar Interpretive Center. (Online donations can also be made on the Aviation Trail website. Join/Donate page).

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



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



The National Aviation Hall of Fame Reflects on the Life of Joe Kittinger

**"For his daring courageousness in going where none had gone before to pave the way for the NASA astronaut program, Joseph W. Kittinger is enshrined with highest honors into the National Aviation Hall of Fame."
-at his presentation for induction in 1997**

DAYTON, Ohio / December 9, 2022 /

It is with much sadness and admiration that the National Aviation Hall of Fame (NAHF) reflects on the passing of 1997 Enshrinee Joe Kittinger.

Joe Kittinger, aka Col. Joe, will be missed by many, including fellow Enshrinees, members, and the entire National Aviation Hall of Fame.

"With unmatched dedication, Colonel Joe Kittinger, USAF, leaves a legacy of public service," said NAHF President and CEO Amy Spowart. "As a USAF Test Pilot, Col. Joe skillfully excelled, and as an extraordinary balloonist with Project Man High and then Project Excelsior, he achieved what many saw as impossible. That he continued these successes with three tours of Vietnam is beyond comprehension and combines for what makes him an American worthy of induction into the NAHF."



Having been ignited by the aviation bug at age two through an introduction with a Ford Trimotor at his local Orlando airport, Kittinger truly began his aviation career in 1950 in the Aviation Cadet Program. Proving himself a talented pilot, Kittinger was eventually assigned to Holloman Air Force Base, where he flew experimental jet fighters and participated in aerospace medical research. This combination would impact Joe Kittinger's unique aviation experience and legacy.

"The synthesis of Col. Kittinger's abilities as a pilot and medical researcher, as learned in part from his work with fellow NAHF Enshrinee John Paul Stapp, made him the ideal choice for Project Man High," said NAHF Trustee Colonel/Dr. Kathy Hughes, USAF (Ret). "The program served to study cosmic radiation, ascertain the ideal components of astronaut selection, physiological monitoring, and high altitude hardware. Col. Kittinger truly helped pave the way for Project Mercury.

"Following the success of Man High One, Kittinger moved to Project Excelsior to test the human ability to survive extremely high altitude bailouts. In 1959, Kittinger jumped from Excelsior I from an altitude of 76,000 feet. Despite a mishap that caused him to lose consciousness, Col. Kittinger achieved his mission and continued to test the limits.

Perhaps his greatest feat came in 1960 in Excelsior III. From an altitude of 102,800 feet, Joe Kittinger set the World Record for the highest balloon ascent. During the ascent, the glove on his pressure suit did not function properly, and he had to decide whether to risk lifelong injury or abort the mission. Kittinger continued and stepped out of the gondola setting another World Record for the longest parachute freefall, four minutes and thirty-six seconds before his parachute opened at 12,000 feet.

"Col. Kittinger reached a speed over 600 miles per hour during that jump," said Hughes. "He fell through temperatures as low as -94 F. While his hand swelled to twice its normal size during the fall, Col. Kittinger suffered no permanent damage. He demonstrated enormous courage in the pursuit of advancing aeromedical research."

The results of Joe Kittinger's courageousness include the new knowledge that it is possible to put a human into space and that fliers can freefall into the atmosphere from higher than first-believed altitudes. It also gave Project Gemini, NASA's second human spaceflight program, ejection seats and tested the prototypes of the suits worn by X-15 pilots.

Joe Kittinger continued in next column . . .

. . . Joe Kittinger continued from previous column:

For this, President Dwight D. Eisenhower awarded Kittinger the prestigious Harmon Trophy.

Unsurprisingly, Joe Kittinger was not done. Col. Kittinger went on to serve three tours in Vietnam. As the Commander of the 555th "Triple Nickel" Tactical Fighter Squadron, Kittinger flew F-4s. In 1972, he was shot down over North Vietnam and spent 11 months as a prisoner of war in Hanoi. Following his release in 1973, Kittinger was named Vice Wing Commander of an F-4 fighter wing in England. He retired from the USAF in 1978.

And still, Col. Joe was not done. While serving as the VP of Flight Operations for Rosie O'Grady's Flying Circus in his home city of Orlando, Kittinger set another record for the longest distance flown in a helium balloon; 2000 miles from Las Vegas, NV to Franklinville, NY. In 1984, Kittinger became the first to fly solo across the Atlantic in a helium balloon, 3,543 miles in a 3,000 cubic meter balloon.

"When people ask what makes a person worthy of induction into the NAHF, I often share moments like Col. Joe's freefall. How can one person put mission before self so eagerly in the name of progress?" said Spowart. "When we talk about standing on the shoulders of giants, the entire aerospace universe should know that they are on Joe Kittinger's iconic shoulders. The impact he made on the world of aviation is unfathomable. He is a legend in every way, and he will never be forgotten while the NAHF exists."

Joe Kittinger was 94.

National Aviation Hall of Fame
1100 Spaatz Street, Dayton, OH 45433
<https://www.nationalaviation.org>
937-256-0944



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

Aviation Trail Gift Shop

See the **GIFT SHOP** menu item on the Aviation Trail website at:

<https://www.aviationtrailinc.or>

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.



Aviation Trail Memberships & Donations

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



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 2022.

Aviation Trail Inc. is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization.

Aviation Trail remains committed to upholding our mission of aviation awareness, education, preservation and restoration in our region. We need your support in order to be more than "The Birthplace of Aviation," but also the premier locale in the country to "Experience the Birthplace of Aviation." Your membership and donation support is critical in helping maintain that mission. Thanks for your support! Memberships and donations can be made on-line through secure payment on PayPal, or a Membership/Donor form can be downloaded from the Membership Page for mailing.

See the **JOIN/DONATE** menu item on the Aviation Trail website to join, renew, or donate: <https://www.aviationtrailinc.org/>



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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.

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 on the right >**



Membership
• **Join**
• **Renew**
• **Donate**
Help keep the Dayton area in the forefront of the world's aviation history, leadership and preservation.

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, Inc. / PO Box 633 // Wright Brothers Branch / Dayton, OH 45409 / www.aviationtrailinc.org