**THE WRIGHT FLYER** 

Aviation Trail, Inc.

# ATI PICNIC RETURNS TO THE WRIGHT MEMORIAL

Back by popular request: the Aviation Trail picnic on National Aviation Day at Wright Memorial on Wright-Patterson AFB.

So, mark your calendars for Sunday, Aug. 19, at 12 noon on the plaza in front of the memorial.

As usual, the event also commemorates the mutual birthdays of Orville and Katharine Wright.

Our picnic baskets will be filled with sandwiches from Barleycorn's, snack-sized Mike-Sell's potato chips, and peaches. Lemonade will be nearby, as will Young's ice cream.

Since dessert costs are being covered generously by the National Park Service, ticket price is only \$14 for an adult and \$39 for a family of up to five persons. Ice cream only will be available to anyone free of charge, also thanks to the NPS.

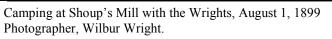
Reservations should be made no later than Wed., Aug. 15, by mailing your check to ATI, P.O. Box 633, Wright Brothers Branch, Dayton, OH 45409.

The picnic will be followed—as in previous years—by a program across the plaza in the NPS's East Interpretive Center. It will feature a documentary film shot in 2011 on the Women Airforce Service Pilots (WASPs) of World War II and introduced by Terri and Bill Stockman who opened their local home for some of the interviews in the film. Two aviatrixes featured in the 23-minute film—who were in Dayton for the Wings of Women conference--are Dawn Seymour who flew B-17s and Betty Blake who ferried aircraft before entering the first class of WASPs.

The film, funded and produced by the Department of Veterans Affairs and shot primarily in Dayton, captures the first-person stories of the WASPs and includes flying scenes of ATI member Rick Rademacher's Piper Cub aircraft. Nadine Nagle, who is a member of the WASP and appears in the first part of the film, is scheduled to be at the film showing.

As usual, kids are most welcome to the picnic and can try their hands at "bottle rockets" from the WACO Learning Center in Troy, Ohio, or some parachute paraphernalia, courtesy of the Aviation Trail Parachute Museum.

For the third year the ATI event on the hill will cap a weekend of aviation-related activities on Wright-Patterson for the public. On Friday, Aug. 17, Wright-Patterson will host 5K and 10K runs and on Saturday, Aug. 18, the NPS



Library of Congress Collection.

will host an Aero Carnival on Huffman Prairie Flying Field from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. (Contact for the 5K and 10K runs is 937. 904.9381)

The Carnival will feature vintage automobiles and bicycles, an early flight simulator, and, for the kids, a "bouncy" house, hay rides, face painting, a puppet show, silent movie and heritage kids games.

Special this year will be a heritage baseball game which welcomes your participation, radio-controlled planes and exhibits from several organizations.

This year the Carnival also will feature a Youth Aviation Adventure-sponsored Ground School—called the H.A.P. School of Flight--to be offered for boys and girls ages 10 to 18 with advanced registration required.

This activity will be in conjunction with a Scout Camporee open to both Girl and Boy Scouts. For more information contact Paul Woodruff, <u>paul.Woodruff@wpafb.af.mil</u> as this is an invitation only event.

For the YAA, Aviation Trail is a sponsor in partnership with Wright-Patterson's Base Operations, the Air Force Institute of Technology, National Museum of the United States Air Force, Wright-Patterson's Environmental Branch, and several National Park Service partners. Ground school completion enables kids to earn the Boy Scouts of America Aviation merit badge, or complete the Girl Scout Journey.







### \$250,000 GRANT ALLOWS WORK **ON WEST DAYTON LEGACY CENTER**

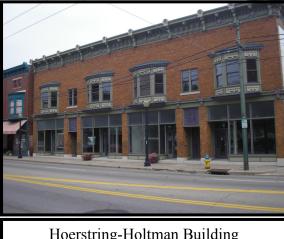
By the close of this year in West Dayton there will be a grand opening of a Legacy Center in the renovated Hoerstring-Holtman building in the historic Wright-Dunbar Village on West Third Street.

Thanks to a \$250,000 grant to Wright-Dunbar Inc. by the Ohio Cultural Facilities Commission, contract work is scheduled to begin this summer on renovation of the historic building.

Wright-Dunbar, Inc, a nonprofit, manages the revitalization of the historically significant commercial corridor west of downtown Dayton known as the Wright-Dunbar **Business District**.

Its goal in developing the Legacy Center is to create a place where achievements of West Daytonians in the arts, education, music, sports, business and civil rights can be explained and showcased.

Currently the grant money is renovating the Hoerstring-Holtman Building, 1139 W. Third St.-next to the Wright-Patt Credit Union. The renovation work should be completed this fall, according to Carol Sampson, director of Community Development for Wright-Dunbar Inc. Exhibits envisioned for the Legacy Center include ones on



music personalities and groupsincluding "funk" music— and individuals such as Jeraldyne Blunden, founder of the Dayton Contempo-

Hoerstring-Holtman Building

rary Dance Company and Raymond McGuire, Global Investment banker.

Ms. Sampson said the organization does have commitments for a "Funk Hall of Fame"-a genre of music popular in the 1970s and popularized by a number of groups from this area.

Already underway is an allied program by Wright-Dunbar to place plaques on historic buildings along the West Third Street corridor which will describe the history of each structure and what it housed.

A fund drive is underway to raise money for further renovation and exhibits in the Legacy Center. Donors should call the Wright-Dunbar, Inc. offices at 937.443.0249 or go to www.wright-dunbar.org.



### **RUBENSTEIN, MARIETTA FLATS BUILDINGS TO BE RENOVATED**

Two historical buildings in Wright-Dunbar Village will be renovated for re-use by Wright State University-thanks to a \$1.8 million tax credit from the Ohio Department of Development.

They are the Rubenstein and Marietta Flats buildings in the 1100 block of West Third St. and will be utilized by Wright State University's School of Professional Psychology. Wright State and Wright-Dunbar

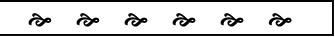
are partners in the endeavor. The Center for Dementia and Alzheimer's Disease will be in the Rubenstein Building while the Marietta Flats structure will have research and therapy services for children with autism, Asperger's syn-



Marietta Flats

drome and other disorders. Both sites-under a program called Nathaniel's Place-will serve veterans with post traumatic stress disorder, traumatic brain injuries and other disorders.

The programs will be staffed by graduate students and support staff and are projected to generate 31 jobs. Total cost of the renovation is projected at \$11 million.



## CLEANUP OF FORMER WRIGHT COM-PANY FACTORY RECEIVES FUNDING

Former Wright Factory properties in West Dayton are one step closer to opening to the public as part of the Dayton Aviation Heritage National Historical Park.

In May, the Clean Ohio Fund approved \$3 million toward cleanup of the property on West Third Street. That work will be accomplished under a partnership between the City of Dayton and a private redevelopment firm, Home Avenue Development LLC.

Home Avenue will complete environment restoration work and carry out selective demolition of buildings located at what was Delphi Home Avenue manufacturing plant. (See box for details of ownership/clean up.)

Eventually, when cleanup and demolition work are completed, the historic Wright Company buildings should be made available for the National Park Service to allow development of interpretive exhibits that will tell the story of the Wright brothers as manufacturers of airplanes.

Both the factory and Hawthorn Hill (the Wrights' former mansion in Oakwood) were designated as part of the Dayton Aviation Heritage National Historical Park via a bill signed by President Barack Obama in 2009.

The historic factory was the first plant in America to manufacture airplanes. Building 1 of the complex was completed in 1910 and Building 2 was finished a year later. Then the company could produce four airplanes a month.

The aircraft models constructed in Buildings 1 and 2 included the B, EX, C, D, E, F,CH and G. The C and D models were built in both civilian and military versions and used 50 horsepower Wright engines. Many models were tested at Huffman Prairie.

No specific plans for the historic buildings have been finalized. That work will be done via the normal Park Service planning process once the park gains control of Buildings 1 and 2.

It is anticipated that Buildings 3, 4, and 5 will be developed in a way that complements the Park Service's plans.

In addition to the historic Wright Company buildings, a select number of other facilities at the manufacturing site are expected to be re-used. Negotiations are underway between two firms involved in the composite materials industry and Home Avenue Development LLC.

For additional information on the site, contact Tony Sculimbrene of the National Aviation Heritage Alliance, <u>afs@aviationheritagearea.org</u>.



The Wright Company factory buildings in 1911, on Home Avenue in Dayton

### WRIGHT FACTORY CLEANUP DETAILS

A company named DPH Holdings, formerly Delphi Automotive Systems, retained control of the Wright Company properties in accordance with the U.S. Bankruptcy Court that handled the Delphi bankruptcy. DPH Holdings is expected to transfer the entire Home Avenue site to Home Avenue Development some time later this summer, along with funding to aid in the environmental cleanup of the property. Separately, DPH Holdings will continue to operate environmental clean up systems they previously installed in private residences that are adjacent to the plant property. To date DPH has spent some \$588,000 on the cleanup.

### ATI BROCHURES SPREAD THE TRAIL STORY AT AIR SHOWS

Again this year Aviation Trail had a presence at the Dayton Air Show with quantities of its three brochures available. Volunteers distributed brochures on Aviation Trail, the Aviation Trail Parachute Museum and the Wilbear Wright incentive program.

The brochures also travelled to the 2012AirVenture in Oshkosh, Wis., with a ranger from the Dayton Aviation Heritage National Historical Park.

"Our brochures are the primary means of disseminating word of our organization to large groups of people, so we keep a hefty supply on hand," ATI President Marvin Christian said. If you are part of an organization or event that could spread the ATI story, consider taking a supply along to your next meeting or outing.

Call ahead to the ATI office to obtain a large quantity: 937.443.0793.

## DOOLITTLE RAIDERS REUNION BRINGS AVIATION LUMINARIES

When the Doolittle Raiders held the group's 70<sup>th</sup> reunion in Dayton and Grimes Field in Urbana this spring, the visit drew aviation enthusiasts from far and wide. A few of them joined ATI members Betty and Jack Darst for an evening at the historic Engineers Club in Dayton. Included was Ole Griffith whose B-25 is in the National Museum of the United States Air Force.

Also in the group were David and Ann Wilson who are active in the Farnborough Museum in Farnborough, England. Currently their work is focused on raising funds for a statue to the first Englishman to fly a heavier than air machine, Samuel Cody, who was American by birth. Shown below is a "class photo" of the visitors who enjoyed the historical ambience of the Engineers Club.

Left to right, on ground level:

Bob and Annette Urban, Ole Griffith, David and Ann Wilson, Jeff Griffith (Mr. Griffith's son), Randy Reeves; Left to right on the step: Betty and Jack Darst, and Ryan Reeves, president of the Phoenix Chapter of Arizona Aviation History.



### SPEAKERS TO FOCUS ON AVIATION THEMES

Several interesting aviation-themed speakers will be making presentations in the area through the remainder of summer and into fall. They are:

--Sarah Byrn Rickman, author of four books about the Women Airforce Service Pilots (WASP), will talk at 7 p.m. Wednesday, Sept. 21, at the WACO Air Museum, 1865 S. County Road 25A, Troy, Ohio.

--Amanda Wright Lane, great-grandniece of Wilbur and Orville Wright, will give an insider's view of the Wright Family history Wednesday, Oct. 12 at the WACO Air Museum.

--Connie Tobias, a commercial aviation pilot will perform a living history re-enactment of Harriet Quimby, the first licensed woman pilot in the United States and the first woman to cross the English Channel in 1912. The event, hosted by the National Park Service, is scheduled for Monday, Oct. 17, at 7 p.m. at the Engineers Club, 110 E. Monument Ave., Dayton, Ohio.



ARTIST'S MURAL BEAUTIFIES WRIGHT-DUNBAR AREA

Local artist James Pate, far left, painted this mural in the Wright-Dunbar Business District to showcase the work of Dayton poet Paul Laurence Dunbar. Pate is shown with winners of a youth program and poetry contest focused on encouraging reading and the values and rewards of literacy. Pathway to Literacy was the title of the program and is the title of the mural. After studying Paul Laurence Dunbar and visiting his residence in the neighborhood, the students entered the contest and these three won. The program was collaboratively sponsored by Wright-Dunbar Inc., the National Park, and Edison Community School. The mural, viewed at 1137 W. Third St. on the rear of the building, faces near Edison Pre-K-8 School, a National School of Excellence. Poetry contest winners, 1. to r., are Keyshawn Jones, 2<sup>nd</sup> place winner; Chaquoria Brown, 3<sup>rd</sup> place winner; and Mycal Dawson, 1<sup>st</sup>place winner. Photo by Bryce Hudson.

## KIDS' CORNER AIR CAMP IN ITS THIRD SUCCESSFUL YEAR

NASA may have Space Camp, but Dayton has Air Camp—which completed its third successful year this summer.

Air Camp is an aviation education experience that's one-week long for students entering the 7<sup>th</sup>, 8<sup>th</sup>, and 9<sup>th</sup> grades this fall. And this summer kids have flocked to its two sessions in July.

The curriculum includes many hands-on experiences focused on aviation, as well as lectures and field trips to aviation-themed locations around the city. This year's schedule included visits to locations including Wright-Patterson AFB, Sinclair Community College, the Boonshoft Museum of Discovery and the University of Dayton where they were housed.

Space Camp was organized by enthusiasts for aviation and STEM (instruction in science, technology, engineering and technology) and received 501 © 3 status from the Internal Revenue Service. Included in its early supporters were Amanda Wright Lane, great- grandniece of the Wright Brothers.

While tuition is \$995, scholarships are offered. If you'd like more information on Air Camp for 2013, go to its website, <u>www.AirCampUSA.com</u>.

## TRAILBLAZER POSTHUMOUSLY AWARDED TO WILBUR WRIGHT



Susan Thornburg receives Trailblazer Award from Steve Brown.



Randy Zuercher assists a young flyer with her parachute.

Despite some rain, the Trailblazer Family Day at the Commander-Aero hangar at Dayton-Wright Brother Airport was an event for young and old.

Accepting the Trailblazer posthumous award to Wilbur from 2011 award winner Steve Brown was Susan Thornburg from the Wilbur Wright Birthplace in Indiana.

From England David Wilson of the Farnborough Museum in Farnborough, England, spoke about Samuel Cody, who was the first Englishman to build and fly a heavier-than-air machine in 1908.

Among the younger attendees were students from the Horizon Science Academy of Dayton escorted by Dean of students Ariane Johnson and Tad Frei, substitute teacher.

There was indeed something for everyone—a hot air balloon display, and booths and tables featuring parachute items from the Aviation Trail Parachute Museum, the Wilbur Wright Birthplace in Indiana, Wright State University's Wilbur Wright Display, the National Aviation Hall of Fame, Air Camp, the WACO Museum, Dayton History/Carillon Park, and the NAHA Wright Flyer Simulator.

Picnic food at a reasonable price was provided by the crew from Wright"B" Flyer.



Ann and David Wilson from the Farnborough Museum in England lecture on early airplane builder, Samuel Cody.



Steve Brown explains the dynamics of his hot air balloon to interested visitors.



Horizon Science Academy students enjoy hands-on activities with Gretchen Hawk at WACO Air Museum table.



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Neil Armstrong addresses crowd on June 1, 2012, at 100 year anniversary of Wilbur Wright's burial at Woodland Cemetery.

### COMING EVENTS HAVE AN AVIATION FOCUS

--Aug. 18, an Aero Carnival hosted by the National Park Service on Huffman Prairie Flying Field. This year features a Youth Aviation Adventure. (See page 1 story for details.) --Aug. 19 Aviation Trail picnic on the plaza at Wright Memorial, Wright-Patterson AFB, beginning at 12 noon. (See page 1 story for details.)

--Sept. 3, Mid-Eastern Regional Fly-in at Grimes Field, Urbana, Ohio. For details call 877.873.5764; on weekends, 937.662.4318

--Sept. 14-16, WACO Fly-in at WACO Field, Troy, Ohio; for information, call 937.335.9226

--Sept. 15, Air Force Marathon. Please note: Huffman Prairie Interpretive Center and Huffman Prairie Flying Field will be CLOSED

--Sept. 21, Start of the Dawn Patrol Rendezvous at the National Museum of the United States Air Force. For details, go to <u>www.nationalmuseum.org</u> or call 937.255.0523 --Oct. 5, 107<sup>th</sup> anniversary of practical flight, with balloon

glow, Carillon Historical Park, 937.293.2841 --Oct. 6, National Aviation Hall of Fame Enshrinement Ceremony, Dayton Convention Center, call 937.256.0944

--Oct. 20, Public celebration of the twentieth anniversary of Dayton Aviation Heritage National Historical Park, at the Wright-Dunbar Interpretive Center, 16 S. Williams St. For details, call 937.225.7705

# . FRIENDSHIP FORCE FOCUSES ON ON LOCAL AVIATION SITES

When the local chapter of the Friendship Force hosted foreign visitors to Dayton the week of July 7-14, the visit's theme was Aviation Trail: Past, Present and Future.

So, fittingly Marvin Christian, president of Aviation Trail, Inc. was one of the welcomers when the group visited the National Park Service's sites and exhibits and the Aviation Trail Parachute Museum. Christian briefly acquainted the visitors to ATI's historical roots and current, ongoing projects.

After viewing the NPS's film on the Wright brothers work in Dayton, the group travelled to other aviation-related sites.

Before conclusion of the week, the visitors had seen the Dayton Air Show, the National Museum of the United States Air Force, the Neil Armstrong Museum in Wapakoneta and Tech Town in Dayton. By week's end, the group could count Wilbur and Orville Wright among their new friendship friends.

The local chapter of Friendship Force—begun in 1979 by Jeanne Comer—has about 150 members and makes about two foreign trips a year The first week of any trip is spent with a foreign host and the second is devoted to touring.

For more information on Friendship Force, contact its president Dick Graf at 937.238.3491 or graf7000@woh.rr.com.



www.aviationtrailinc.org

AVIATION TRAIL, INC. Post Office Box 633 Wright Brothers Branch Dayton, OH 45409 Phone: 937.443.0793



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—Dec. 17, First Flight Annual Dinner, at the Presidential Banquet Center on Monday evening.

Contributing \$50		Individual Life \$500
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