



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

March 2024 ISSUE

03/01/2024

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

Tri-State Warbird Museum

March 2024 Events

Super Soarin' Saturdays - We Can Do It! March 2, 2024 at 11:00 am to 12:00 pm

Come, imagine and discover with us!

Our next Super Soarin' Saturdays segment is We Can Do It! Kids will learn how amazing things were accomplished during WWII because everyone pitched in to help! Super Soarin' Saturdays happens in the Kids Zone area between 11am - 12:30pm. Kids can take part in fun, educational activities! Super Soarin' Saturdays is included with museum admission and is always free to TSWM members. Please note we have changed the time and reimagined the program. There is no need to register - just show up anytime between 11am and 12:30pm for a Super Soarin' time!



Tri-State Warbirds Lecture Series Women In The Military

March 2, 2024 @ 1:00 pm - 2:00 pm



The next segment in our Lecture Series is 'Women In The Military'. Presented by (Ret) Col. Judy Pearson, the Ohio Ambassador, from the Military Women's Memorial. (Ret) Col. Judy Pearson will discuss the history of women's roles in the military. Judy will share why it is important to capture the stories of women veterans with a special focus on the 6888th Central Postal Directory Battalion.

Register at: <https://form.jotform.com/TSWM/women-in-the-military-lecture-seri>

Tri-State Warbird Tiny Soarers - Kites! March 14, 2024 @ 10:30 am

Bring your children to the Museum to enjoy stories, songs, art activities, and creative play. Each segment will delight and educate young museum visitors and their families. Tiny Soarers is best suited for ages 3-5. Registration is required for this program.

Student admission is \$5

This program is FREE to members

Register at: <https://form.jotform.com/TSWM/tiny-soarers-registration>



For membership info see:

<https://www.tri-statewarbirdmuseum.org/support/membership/>

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.

See additional Tri-State Warbird Museum March events at:

<https://www.tri-statewarbirdmuseum.org/events/>



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

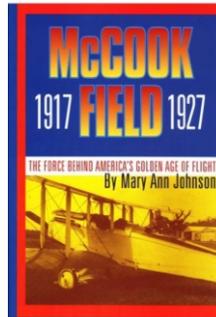
Tri-State Warbird Museum is Site#15 on the Aviation Trail



McCook Field

The Cradle of Aviation

McCook Field book now available on the Aviation Trail Gift Shop page:



McCook Field 1917-1927 The Force Behind America's Golden Age of Flight by the late [Mary Ann Johnson](#) covers the fascinating decade of Dayton's McCook Field and its extensive contributions to aviation technology. The author, who passed away in 2015 at the age of 93, was a founding member of Aviation Trail, Inc. which was formed in 1981 to promote Dayton's aviation heritage and



continues to promote the various trail sites in the area that have unique and significant importance in this rich aviation heritage. This book is a definitive source of information on an historic site on the Aviation Trail.

Transactions on the Aviation Trail Gift Shop 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. (Transactions are subject to Dayton History policies and terms).

An important site on the Aviation Trail:

The 17 sites listed on the website "Trail Sites" page make up the "Wilbear Trail" and are part of the passport system where visitors can collect stamps to earn a Wilbear Wright teddy bear. But there are many other area locations that are officially designated as Aviation Trail sites by Aviation Trail, Inc. These other sites are notable for interesting connections and contributions to the development of aviation in Dayton and the surrounding area. Even though there is no "visitor stamp" involved, they offer a chance to learn more about the rich aviation history of the area. A few of them are listed under "additional trail sites" on the Aviation Trail website.

McCook Field is one of them!

McCook Field

1444 North Bend Blvd. between Helena St. and Deeds Park Drive, Dayton, Ohio 45404
(area now occupied by baseball fields) Coordinates: 39°46'33"N 84°11'27"W

An Ohio Historical Marker commemorates the site of historic McCook Field. The airfield, was established by the U.S. Army Signal Corps Airplane Engineering Department in 1917. The research and innovation that took place at McCook was the beginning of the research, development and acquisition missions now at Wright-Patterson AFB. McCook engineers made significant accomplishments and contributions to the war effort in the field's early years, and in the years after WWI. Many achievements in aeronautical testing and development took place there. Materials, fuels and lubricants, high altitude flight, aerial photography, propulsion, navigation, armament, lighter than air flight, parachute development, and aerodynamics were among the many areas advanced by McCook engineers and test pilots. It quickly outgrew the capacity of the field, which acknowledged its limited size with a large sign on a hangar that proclaimed, "This Field is Small—Use it All". The field closed in 1927 and its missions were moved to the new Wright Field, now a part of Wright-Patterson Air Force Base. The area of McCook Field is now occupied by ball fields, but the marker remains as a reminder of the many achievements that took place here.



[CLICK HERE for more links to McCook Field history & photos](#)



Parachute Museum Theater

Legacy of NASA's Ingenuity Mars Helicopter



11 in a series of videos featured on the Aviation Trail Parachute Museum Theater.

Legacy of Ingenuity:

Ingenuity, the NASA helicopter that operated on Mars from 2021 to 2024 as part of the Mars 2020 mission was the first aircraft to conduct a powered and controlled extra-terrestrial flight. This NASA YouTube video pays tribute to this

historic accomplishment. <https://www.jpl.nasa.gov>

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qMbHE_VXI-8



Video Presented by NASA Jet Propulsion Labs

See the Parachute Museum page for access to more Parachute Museum Theater videos:

https://www.aviationtrailinc.org/parachute-museum?utm_campaign=26971633-e5e8-42aa-b3c7-21a6f6efd291&utm_source=so&utm_medium=mail_lp



The Aviation Trail Parachute Museum
16 South Williams Street
Dayton, OH 45402
(937) 225-7705

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

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



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 2024.

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

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

A printable mail in membership/donation form is available for downloading from that page for those wishing to join/donate by check.



Champaign Aviation Museum Gala 2024

12th Annual Gala, Saturday April 13, 2024



Join us on Saturday, April 13, 2024 for the Champaign Aviation Museum's 12th Annual Gala!

Doors open at 5:30pm and activities of the evening include complimentary drinks and light appetizers, musical guest, fly-by (weather permitting), a delicious dinner and dessert, silent auction throughout the evening, and Keynote Speaker Lieutenant Commander Dan Cnossen.

A true patriot, raised on the farmlands of Kansas, early on Dan knew he wanted to serve his country. Upon graduating high school, he was accepted at the U.S. Naval Academy and spent the next four years relentlessly pursuing selection for SEAL training. One of only 16 members of his class given the opportunity to enter Basic Underwater Demolition / SEAL training as officers, Dan successfully completed the grueling process in the fall of 2003.

Over the next six years, Dan was deployed multiple times to Iraq and Afghanistan and rose in rank to become the officer in charge of an 18-man SEAL platoon. In 2009, Dan was deployed to Afghanistan, into an area of heavy combat. There, on a night mission in the mountains, he stepped on an IED, losing both legs in the blast. He would later be awarded a Purple Heart and Bronze Star with Valor.

For the next two years, Dan fought for his life, enduring over 40 different surgeries while readjusting to civilian life. It was during this time, as part of his rehab, that he was introduced to the sports of cross country skiing and biathlon. Never one to shy from a challenge, he eventually earned a spot on the 2014 U.S. Paralympic Team.

In 2015, Dan returned to graduate school, earning two degrees from Harvard University. At the 2018 Paralympic Games, Dan stole the show, remarkably winning one gold, four silver, and one bronze medal over a period of eight days earning the honor of Best Male Athlete of The Games.

Gala tickets are available for purchase online or at CAM.

CAM Members get a discount on tickets - join or renew today and get an instant ticket discount!: <https://manage.wix.com/dashboard/fe2c77ca-2326-40ca-9d37-cf533c4d816f/shoutout?referralInfo=sidebar#/preview>

Contact Jessica at 937-652-4710 or jessica.henry@champaignaviationmuseum.org with any questions or if you need assistance logging into your CAM Member account.

See <https://www.champaignaviationmuseum.org/gala> for ticket information.



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 ite #16 on the Aviation Trail



Parachute Museum Receives Donation from Switlik Survival Products

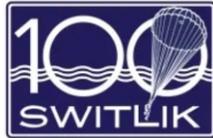
Major Acquisition from Historic Parachute Company



In January of 2024 the Aviation Trail Parachute Museum received a significant donation of vintage parachutes and artifacts to add to its collection. The donation was made by Switlik Survival Products, an early manufacturer of parachutes and a leader in survival products. A few of the items are shown above:

- #1 1941 German Paratrooper chute;
- #2 Observation Balloon Guardian Angel chute from WWI;
- #3 Air Force C-11 Experimental canopy with side vents;
- #4 Japanese parachute with container with silk canopy from 1939;
- #5 Early Balloonist chute with trapeze bar 1900.

ESTABLISHED IN 1920, Switlik Parachute Co. has been owned and operated by the Switlik family for four generations and is known worldwide as a manufacturer of the highest quality sewn and heat sealed inflatable safety and survival products for the aviation, marine, and military/government markets. Our capabilities include a wide variety of anti-exposure and anti-g suits, inflatable life rafts, inflatable life vests, inflation systems and other specialty textile-based military equipment all manufactured at our 85,000 sq. ft facility located in Trenton, NJ USA.



Switlik Parachute Company and Switlik Survival Products 1325 East State Street Trenton, NJ 08609-1328

www.Switlik.com

Learn more about the fascinating history of Switlik at <https://switlik.com/pages/our-story>



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

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



2024 ECLIPSE AT WACO!

Learn about the plans at WACO Air Museum

Miami County will experience a total solar eclipse when the moon passes between the Sun and Earth on Monday, April 8th, 2024, between 1:53 pm and 4:25 pm. We will be in the path of totality for 3 minutes and 45 seconds with maximum totality at 3:11 pm.



See <https://www.wacoairmuseum.org/2024-Eclipse> for a full list of the WACO Air Museum's plans and activities.



PRESERVING THE PAST...INSPIRING THE FUTURE!

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



Eclipse Watch at Dayton Aviation Heritage National Historical Park

Watch Party Events at National Park Service Locations, April 8, 2024

Locations include:

Wright-Dunbar Watch Party, 16 South Williams Street, Dayton, OH

Wright Memorial Watch Party, 2380 Memorial Road, Wright-Patterson Air Force Base

Huffman Prairie Flying Field Watch Party, Gate 16A, off of 444 Wright-Patterson Air Force Base

See <https://www.nps.gov/daav/planyourvisit/eclipse.htm> for the Dayton Aviation Heritage National Historical Park website "plan your visit" page with times and details on the activities, plus much more fascination information about solar eclipses.



Dayton Aviation Heritage National Historical Park
16 S. Williams St., Dayton, OH 45402
937-225-7705
www.nps.gov/daav

The Dayton Aviation Heritage National Historical Park includes Sites #1, #2, and #3 on the Aviation Trail



Armstrong Air & Space Museum Eclipse Viewing

Great North American Solar Eclipse, April 8, 2024



Celebrate the 2024 Eclipse in Neil Armstrong's Hometown On Monday, April 8, 2024, Ohio will be one of 13 states that experience a total solar eclipse, lasting approximately four minutes in some locations. Coincidentally, the line of totality will pass almost directly over the Armstrong Air & Space Museum in Wapakoneta, Ohio, the birthplace of Apollo 11 astronaut Neil Armstrong. The rare natural phenomenon is expected to bring in thousands of visitors from the surrounding region and states. Wapakoneta officials are currently underway on formulating exciting plans and activities for the event. The next total solar eclipse to pass over Ohio until 2099, so don't miss out on this once in a lifetime experience.

See a schedule of events at <https://www.armstrongmuseum.org/great-north-american-solar-eclipse>

Events are constantly being added and are subject to change. Some outdoor events are weather permitting.



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

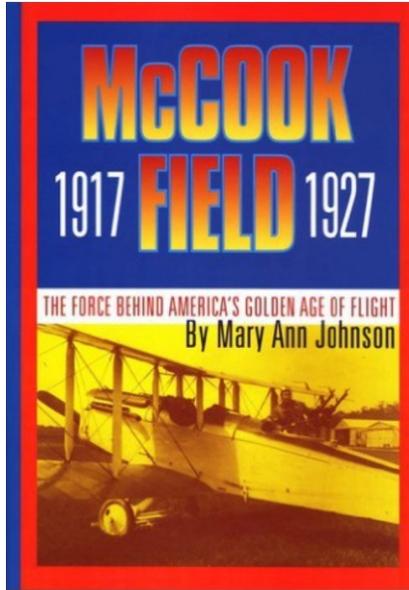
Armstrong Air & Space Museum is Site #12 on the Aviation Trail



Aviation Trail Gift Shop

Now available on the Aviation Trail Gift Shop page:

McCook Field 1917-1927 The Force Behind America's Golden Age of Flight by the late Mary Ann Johnson covers the fascinating decade of Dayton's McCook Field and its extensive contributions to aviation technology.



Visit the Aviation Trail online gift shop!

Your purchase of Aviation Trail merchandise helps us to uphold our mission of promoting awareness of the Dayton area's aviation heritage, and supporting education, preservation and restoration of that heritage.

An assortment of Aviation Trail and Pa Museum souvenir items is shown below:

Shirts



Collectable Art Prints



Caps



Tumblers

The author, who passed away in 2015 at the age of 93, was a founding member of Aviation Trail, Inc. which was formed in 1981 to promote Dayton's aviation heritage and continues to promote the various trail sites in the area that have unique and significant importance in this rich aviation heritage. This book is a definitive source of information on an historic site on the Aviation Trail.

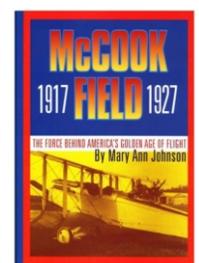
Magnets



Pins



Note Cards & Envelopes



McCook Field Book

See details on gift shop page.

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.

See the GIFT SHOP menu item on the ATI website at: <https://www.aviationtrailinc.org/> or click or scan the QR code.

