



# 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**

(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](http://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. Both versions are available on the ATI website "Newsletters and Brochures" page: <http://www.aviationtrailinc.org/newsletters>).



Above: 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

**APRIL 2018 ISSUE**

04/18/2018

*This "Flight Log" highlights some of the stories and events featured on the Aviation Trail website: [AviationTrailInc.org](http://AviationTrailInc.org)*

## 2018 Aviation Trail Trailblazer Award

The trail's annual Trailblazer Award honors the birthday of Wilbur Wright (April 16, 1867) and presents the Trailblazer Award to an individual or organization that has furthered aviation in the greater Miami Valley.



ATI's Board of Trustees has chosen the Champaign Aviation Museum in nearby Urbana, Ohio, as recipient of its 2018 Trailblazer Award.

• An Aviation Trail site, the free museum, on the south end of Grimes Field municipal airport in Urbana, displays seven World War II "warbirds" including the B-17 "Champaign Lady" now in a major restoration.

• The other aircraft on flying or static display there are a B-25 "Champaign Gal," C-47, Stinson 10A, Fairchild F-24, A-26 Invader and a C-45 Expeditor.

• To show support for the Museum, the Trailblazer Award will be presented by ATI President Marvin Christian at Champaign's annual gala Saturday, April 21, at the Museum. "Our Board decided this year to let the award travel to the Champaign event -- and perhaps begin a trend in award presentation," Christian said. Christian added that the award also honors Jerry Shiffer, now deceased--a local business leader, private pilot, and supporter of community causes--and his family who have generously nurtured the Champaign Museum to its present-day status.



## Trailblazer Award

• The mission of the Champaign Aviation Museum is more far-reaching than "warbird" aircraft restoration, Christian added. It includes education of youth and adults about the World War II-era aircraft, their crew members, and veterans' combat and personal experiences.

See more on the Champaign Aviation Museum and the Annual Gala Event at <http://www.champaignaviationmuseum.org/museum-gala>.

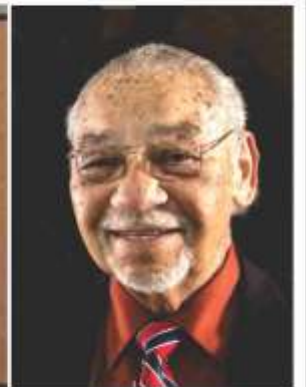
Also see the Aviation Trail Trailblazer Event Page at <http://www.aviationtrailinc.org/2018-trailblazer-award-event> and past award recipients at <http://www.aviationtrailinc.org/trailblazers>



# Dayton Region Walk of Fame

## STORIES FROM THE DAYTON REGION WALK OF FAME

*Highlighting Past Recipients with Contributions to Aviation and Aviation Technology*



### INDUCTED IN 2014 - CLARK E. BECK

*The Dayton Region's Walk of Fame, managed by Wright Dunbar, inc., is a series of granite pavers installed in the sidewalks in the historic Wright-Dunbar Business District, along the perimeters of the Aviation Trail Visitor Center and the Dayton Aviation Heritage National Historical Park. The Walk of Fame honors individuals or groups from the Dayton region for outstanding contributions in various endeavors and disciplines. This Aviation Trail Aviation series of articles will highlight some of the recipients from past years whose contributions have involved aviation.*

- Dr. Clark Beck was inducted to the Walk of Fame in 2014 for his contributions to aerospace engineering research at Wright-Patterson Air Force Base, his teaching career at Wright State University, Central State University, and Sinclair Community College, and also for the development of the Wright STEPP program (for Science, Technology Pre-College Program) for engineering students. Included in his research at WPAFB, was testing of military structures and equipment for use in the Space Shuttle.

- Clark was one of the first two African-American engineering graduates from the University of Cincinnati in 1955, and also holds an honorary doctorate of science from UC. He helped establish the Pioneers Scholarship Fund, and has contributed to the Minority Engineering Program and the Darwin T. Turner Scholarship Fund at UC. He is a fellow of the American Society of Mechanical Engineers, the National Society of Professional Engineers, and the Society for Technical Communication. He is also the founding president of the Kidney Foundation of Dayton, and has lived for the past 45 years with a kidney transplant.

- Clark designed and started the Wright STEPP program in 1988 with forty 7th grade Dayton Public School students, with a mission to enhance the development and education of under-represented youths in the fields of engineering, math, and science. The Wright STEPP program is Wright State University's Science, Technology, and Engineering Preparatory Program (STEPP). The program grew to add 8th, 9th, and 10th grade classes, and over the past 30 years the program has provided over a thousand needy students with adequate academic preparation to earn a bachelor degree in the STEM courses. More than one hundred of them have earned PhD's. Wright STEPP graduates are not only engineers, but doctors, nurses, lawyers, scientists, teachers, professors, principals, Directors of Curriculum and Instruction, etc.

- Clark is also a long time trustee on the board of Aviation Trail, Inc. So it is quite fitting that Clark's Walk of Fame stone is placed on Williams Street, adjacent to the Aviation Trail Visitor Center and Dayton Aviation Heritage National Historical Park.

See more on the Dayton Region Walk of Fame at <http://www.daytonwalkoffame.citymax.com/history.html>



## Visit the Aviation Trail Website for More Stories

See the News page on the ATI website at <http://www.aviationtrailinc.org/news> for stories on these trail sites:

- Woodland Cemetery In Dayton Awarded Level II Arboretum Accreditation by ArbNet Accreditation Program
- Two B-17 Aircraft and more than 130 Reenactors Scheduled to take part in B-17F Memphis Belle™ Exhibit Opening Events at the National Museum of the United States Air Force, May 17 & 18, 2018



# Support ATI with a Membership or Donation



**Yes! I want to support Aviation Trail, Inc.**

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(Name to be used for recognition if different than above)

## Membership Levels

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\_\_\_\_\_ \$20 Individual

\_\_\_\_\_ \$100 Supporting

\_\_\_\_\_ Other

\_\_\_\_\_ \$30 Family

\_\_\_\_\_ \$500 Individual Life

Members of Aviation Trail, Inc. receive a subscription to the Aviation Trail newsletter, and advance invitations to Aviation Trail events and programs.

Check enclosed. Make payable to: **Aviation Trail, Inc.**

Mail to Aviation Trail, Inc. / PO Box 633 / Dayton, OH 45409

## 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.

Online credit card payments may be made from our website at [www.aviationtrailinc.org](http://www.aviationtrailinc.org).

Select the "Memberships-Donations-Reservations" button from the top menu. Secure payments are made through PayPal.

*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 / Dayton, OH 45409 / [www.aviationtrailinc.org](http://www.aviationtrailinc.org)

### **Would you like to help Aviation Trail in promoting Dayton's aviation heritage?**

Your membership is a great help, but there are additional ways you can contribute with your interest in aviation. Aviation Trail has some openings on the board of trustees, and is seeking volunteers who want to put their time and talents to use by helping our organization to achieve its goals of preserving and developing Dayton's aviation history. Board members meet once a month to plan, initiate, and direct activities to promote Dayton's aviation heritage. If you would like to be a part of this, contact us at [avtrailinc@gmail.com](mailto:avtrailinc@gmail.com) to learn more.