



# 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](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 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

**March 2026 ISSUE**

03/01/2026

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

### WACO Lego Contest & Brickmaster Showcase

**February 28 & March 1, 2026**

Join us in the new WACO Education Center – Robinson Wing! Saturday, February 28 - 10 AM – 5 PM Sunday, March 1 - 11 AM – 4 PM.

**Theme:** Aviation Adventures – Where Imagination Takes Flight

WACO Education Center & Air Museum 1865 South County Road 25A Troy, OH 45373 (937) 335-9226 [www.wacoairmuseum.org](http://www.wacoairmuseum.org)



Celebrate Dayton, the Birthplace of Aviation, by bringing Aviation Adventures to life with LEGO bricks. Whether you're inspired by the Wright Brother's first flyer, a World War II aircraft, supersonic jets or high-tech airplanes, this challenge is all about creativity and pushing your imagination to new heights! You can create something that really existed, design something that might exist one day or invent something entirely your own!

Here are a few ideas to help you get started:

**Historic Flyers:** Build the Wright Flyer, a barnstorming biplane, Amelia Earhart's Lockheed Electra or any aircraft that shaped aviation history.

**Airports Through the Ages:** Create an early grass runway, a busy modern airport or a futuristic floating air terminal in the clouds.

**Mission Scenes:** Show a rescue helicopter on a mission, an airshow performance, an airmail plane landing or a spacecraft preparing for launch.

**Future Flight:** Dream big- flying cars, solar-powered airplanes, drone taxis or anything the future might hold!

**Aviation Innovations:** Build engines, hangars, air-traffic control towers or your own invention!

**Entry Categories:** Ages 5-8 Ages 9-12 Ages 13-16 Ages 17-99 Group Builds

**Contest Info Packet:**

Download & print details at <https://www.wacoairmuseum.org/brick-master-showcase> plus rules and vendor applications.

Build big, dream bold and let your Aviation Adventures take off!



WACO Air Museum & Learning Center  
1865 S. County Rd. 25A  
Troy, OH 45373  
937-335-9226  
[www.wacoairmuseum.org](http://www.wacoairmuseum.org)

WACO Air Museum & Learning Center is Site #11 on the Aviation Trail

### Tri-State Warbird Museum

**Super Soarin' Saturdays**  
March 7 @ 11:00 am - 12:30 pm



SATURDAY  
MARCH 7, 2026  
11:00A.M. – 12:30P.M.

Slime Time



[www.tswm.org](http://www.tswm.org)

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. Parent participation is encouraged!

Admission & Tickets: <https://www.tri-statewarbirdmuseum.org/event/saturday-general-admission-166/>

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

**See more Tri-State Warbird Museum events at:**  
<https://www.tri-statewarbirdmuseum.org/events/>

*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



# Celebrating Aviation: Eagle Squadron Recognition National Museum of the United States Air Force™

March 9, 2026 - 6:30 pm



On Monday, March 9, join us as the Royal Air Force presents the National Museum of the U.S. Air Force with a plaque commemorating the Eagle Squadron for their support in the Battle of Britain. James Normington, a former Royal Air Force Officer, and Dr. Douglas Lantry, NMUSAF Historian, will share the history of the Eagle Squadron.

The evening will conclude with a presentation and formal dedication of the plaque honoring the Eagle Squadron by a representative of the British Embassy to AFMC Commander, LtGen Hurry. The presentation will begin at 6:30 p.m. in the Air Force Museum Theatre, with seating beginning at 6 p.m. Ticketholders are welcome to arrive at 5:30 p.m. to visit the exhibits in the first building regarding the Eagle Squadron and the World War II Gallery.

Tickets are \$25 each. *Thank you to our event sponsor, Taft Stettinius & Hollister LLP.*

## ORDER TICKETS at:

<https://airforcemuseum.centeredgeonline.com/movie/buyticketswithdate/126>

Air Force Museum Foundation events page:  
<https://airforcemuseumfoundation.org/events/>

This event is presented by the Air Force Museum Foundation. Federal endorsement not implied.



AIR FORCE MUSEUM  
FOUNDATION

The Air Force Museum Foundation, Inc.  
1100 Spaatz St.  
PO Box 33624  
Wright-Patterson AFB OH 45433  
<https://airforcemuseumfoundation.org>

*The National Museum of the United States Air Force™  
is site #5 on the Aviation Trail.*



# Lunch & Learn Lecture at Harmon Museum

History of the Warren County Canal • March 18 | 11:30am

Harmon Museum Armstrong Conference Center • (121 S. Broadway, Lebanon, OH)

Before railroads rewrote the map of Ohio, Lebanon was locked in a high-stakes gamble to survive the 19th-century 'canal fever.' Join us as David Neuhardt, of the Ohio Canal Society, unearths the saga of the Warren County Canal, a 22-mile feat of engineering that promised to turn our backyard into a global port. Discover how the neighboring Union Village Shakers were drawn into this water highway's path, and learn why the project was ultimately a tragic race against time.



COST: \$25 for WCHS members / \$30 for non-members.  
(Includes lunch, lecture & museum admission)

Program without lunch \$5 for members / \$8 for non-members

Ticket sales close at midnight the Thursday night prior to the event. If you would like lunch, reservations MUST be made by this time. Tickets for the lecture ONLY option will be available up until the event or may be purchased at the door. There is a small fee associated with the sale of tickets online.

ORDER TICKETS AT: <https://ticketstripe.com/LandLMar26>

11:00am - Seating/Open Museum | 11:30am - Lunch Served | 12:00pm (noon) - Speaker

Lunch & Learn Lectures are held Every Third Wednesday of the Month | 11:30am - 1:00pm



Harmon Museum & Armstrong Gallery of Flight  
Warren County Historical Society  
Address: 105 S. Broadway, Lebanon, OH 45036 Phone:  
513-932-1817

<https://www.wchsmuseum.org/armstronggallery.html>  
<https://www.wchsmuseum.org/harmonmuseum.html>

For much more on the Armstrong Gallery of Flight see the blog page on the Harmon Museum website and scroll down to the post of 4/19/24:  
<https://www.wchsmuseum.org/blog>

*The Harmon Museum Armstrong Gallery of Flight is  
a site on the Aviation Trail*



# Talk and Tour at Armstrong Air & Space Museum

Gemini VIII Mission • Thur., March 19 & Sat., March 21, 2026



March 19th & 21st: Learn more about the Gemini VIII mission, its ambitious goals as the first docking in space, and the heroic actions of Neil Armstrong and David Scott that turned a near-fatal disaster into one of NASA's finest moments.



No RSVP is required. General admission must be paid upon entry to attend the program and tour.

Questions contact: 419-738-8869; [programs@armstrongmuseum.org](mailto:programs@armstrongmuseum.org):

Armstrong Air & Space Museum • 500 Apollo Dr, Wapakoneta, OH 45895, USA

### 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

### ABOUT TALK & TOUR:

The Armstrong Air & Space Museum's Talk & Tour program offers visitors a unique opportunity to explore the wonders of aviation and spaceflight through an engaging two-part experience. Each session begins with a presentation by a knowledgeable staff member, delving into fascinating space topics. Following the talk, guests embark on a guided tour of the museum, where they can see artifacts up close and gain deeper insights into the exhibits. This immersive program provides an enriching experience for space enthusiasts of all ages.

<https://www.armstrongmuseum.org/talkandtour>

Questions contact: 419-738-8869; [programs@armstrongmuseum.org](mailto:programs@armstrongmuseum.org):

<https://www.armstrongmuseum.org/talkandtour>



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

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



# WACO Aviation Lecture Series

Thursday, March 19, 2026

WACO Air Museum – Willis Wing • Doors Open: 6:30 PM  
Program: 7:00–8:00 PM  
1865 S. County Rd. 25A • Troy, OH 45373

**Lecture:** Grimes Flying Lab & History of Grimes Manufacturing (Urbana)  
**Speaker:** Jessica Deere, Museum Coordinator



Aviation lectures are free and open to the public.  
All lectures are sponsored in part by Collins Aerospace.  
Donations to the WACO Museum appreciated!  
For questions, please call 937-335-9226 or visit [www.wacoairmuseum.org](http://www.wacoairmuseum.org).



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Troy, OH 45373  
937-335-9226  
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WACO Air Museum & Learning Center is Site #11 on the Aviation Trail



# Wright State University Libraries Special Collection and Archives

## Newly Digitized Videos Bring History to Life

Wright State University's Special Collections and Archives is excited to announce that selected videos from the Ivonette Wright Miller Papers (MS-216) are now fully digitized and available to view.



See the Wright State Libraries Special Collections and Archives page at <https://libraries.wright.edu/about/library-news/2026/01/29/climb-into-the-passenger-seat-newly-digitized-videos-bring-history-to-life>

for more information and use the link on that page reading "available to view on CORE Scholar" to view the videos and interviews with Ivonette Wright Miller—the niece of Orville and Wilbur Wright.



Wright State University  
3640 Colonel Glenn Highway  
Dayton, Ohio 45435  
Special Collections and Archives  
Paul Laurence Dunbar Library  
(937) 775-2092  
[www.libraries.wright.edu/special/](http://www.libraries.wright.edu/special/)

The Special Collections and Archives in the Paul Laurence Dunbar Library at Wright State University is Site #10 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.**

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.

We continue to promote the "Wilbear Wright"® passport program. This program has been extremely popular with youth as it was intended, but frequently with adults as well! We have distributed over 15,000 free, "Wilbear Wright"® teddy bears since the program began, and we are extending the program through Dec. 31, 2026.

We continue to expand the ATI parachute collection (already noted by the Smithsonian Air & Space Museum as one of the largest, if not the largest, in the country) with major donations of ejection seats, and additional parachute equipment, and hope to expand the museum to display more of the collection. We plan to renovate the Pekin Theater and Fish Market buildings which ATI owns immediately adjacent to our Aviation Trail Visitor Center to accommodate the expansion.

We also are about to publish the "Field Guide to Flight" for the third time with significantly increased photos and additional Trail sites added since it's last publication.

Your membership support is critical in assisting us with these projects and our promotion of the aviation heritage of our region. Please visit our website at [www.aviationtrailinc.org](http://www.aviationtrailinc.org) to keep up to date with events sponsored by ATI and our partners throughout our region.

**Online credit card 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: [file:///E:/Documents/ATI/Membership/membership%20print%20form\\_c.pdf](file:///E:/Documents/ATI/Membership/membership%20print%20form_c.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



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



### Shirts



### Collectable Art Prints



### Caps



### Tumblers



### Magnets



### Pins



New Souvenir Sign 7" x 9" aluminum "Support the Trail"

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.

