



# 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

## July 2026 ISSUE

07/01/2026

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

## Air Power History Tour at NMUSAF

July 6 - 8, 2026



The Commemorative Air Force (CAF) B-29/B-24 Squadron returns to the National Museum of the U.S. Air Force this summer with several historic aircraft from its AirPower History Tour. Scheduled to appear are the B-29 Superfortress "FIFI," the B-24 Liberator "Diamond Lil," and — weather permitting — the AT-6 Texan and PT-13 Stearman.

Aircraft are expected to arrive the morning of July 6 and depart late on July 8, providing visitors

multiple opportunities to see these rare flying warbirds up close on the Museum's flightline at the end of Memorial park. Public viewing is planned daily from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Don't miss your chance to see these rare World War II aircraft in person!

Note: All aircraft times are approximate and extremely fluid. Arrival, departure, and viewing schedules may change with little notice due to weather, maintenance, or the operational needs of these historic aircraft. Thank you for your understanding and flexibility.

*The National Museum of the U.S. Air Force, located at Wright-Patterson Air Force Base near Dayton, Ohio, is the world's largest military aviation museum. With free admission and parking, the museum features more than 350 aerospace vehicles and missiles and thousands of artifacts amid more than 19 acres of indoor exhibit space. Each year thousands of visitors from around the world come to the museum. For more information, visit [www.nationalmuseum.af.mil](http://www.nationalmuseum.af.mil).*



National Museum of the U.S. Force | 1100 Spaatz St, Wright-Patterson AFB, OH 45433  
[www.nationalmuseum.af.mil](http://www.nationalmuseum.af.mil)

*The National Museum of the United States Air Force™*



## Open Cockpit Days at Tri-State Warbird Museum

July 11 @ 11:00 am - 12:30 pm



COME, IMAGINE,  
AND DISCOVER WITH US!

- THE PARASOL
- TWEETY THE T-6

July 11, 2026  
11:00A - 12:30P



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

Come, imagine and discover with us!

Our Open Cockpit Day gives you the chance to get up close and personal with some of our amazing aircraft!

Kids will have the unique opportunity to sit in the cockpits of our T-6 and Parasol. Don't miss this amazing chance to climb behind the stick and get a view of history!

The open cockpit experience is INCLUDED with admission and is free to members. Open Cockpit days makes for great photo opportunities.

Event Pricing:  
Adults \$12  
Students \$7

Frequently Asked Questions: <https://www.tri-statewarbirdmuseum.org/learn/kids/open-cockpit-days-faqs/>

### 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*



# Butler County Warbirds at Ohio Challenge Balloon Fest

## Aircraft rides

July 17, 5pm-9pm and July 18, 4pm-9pm

The Ohio Challenge Balloon Fest at Smith Park in Middletown

Butler County Warbirds will be selling aircraft rides\* both days, starting at 5pm and 4pm respectively, until dusk. (See pricing below).



The Ohio Challenge offers hot air balloons, an evening balloon glow, tethered balloon rides, carnival, car show, aircraft rides, food trucks, fireworks and more!

Festival information, prices, & directions at: <https://ohiochallenge.com>

\*Aircraft flights are weather permitting

THE OHIO CHALLENGE

# PLANE RIDE

Pricing

**PT-19**

20 Minute Rides  
1 Person  
260 lbs Limit

**PRICE: \$199**

**Stearman**

20 Minute Rides  
1 Person  
300 lbs Limit

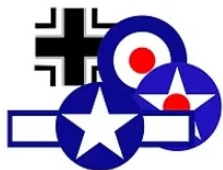
**PRICE: \$229**

**Cessna**

8 Minute Rides  
Up to 3 People  
435 lbs Limit

**PRICE: \$35 PER PERSON**

OHIOCHALLENGE.COM



Butler County Warbirds  
Middletown Regional Airport (KMWO)  
2351 Wedekind Drive  
Middletown, OH 45042  
(513) 702-3062  
<http://www.bcwarbirds.com>

Butler County Warbirds is Site #16 on the Aviation Trail



# Lunch & Learn Lecture at Harmon Museum

3 Warren County Veterans of the American Revolution - July 15 | 11:30am

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



Historian, John Zimkus, discusses the lives of three very different Revolutionary War veterans. The throughline? They are all from Warren County!

BUY TICKETS AT: <https://ticketstripe.com/LunchJuly26>

**COST: \$25 for WCHS members / \$30 for non-members.**

**(Includes lunch, lecture & museum admission)**

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

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



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*



## Aviation Trail to Display at Americana Festival

*Join us at Americana - Ohio's Largest Fourth of July Festival*

*July 3 & 4, 2026: Centerville & Washington Township Americana Festival*

Aviation Trail and the Aviation Trail Parachute Museum will be in booth 32 on Saturday, July 4 at the 2026 Americana Festival, on \*North Main St. in Centerville, just south of Ridgeway Drive. Be sure to stop by and learn more about Aviation Trail's mission to promote Dayton's aviation heritage and the Parachute Museum's story of the development of the free fall parachute from its invention at Dayton's McCook Field after World War I, up to the vital role it plays in safely landing today's spacecraft.



\* See map at: [https://www.google/maps/@39.6298605,-84.1589925,122m/data=!3m1!1e3?entry=tu&g\\_ep=EgoyMDI2MDYyMi4](https://www.google/maps/@39.6298605,-84.1589925,122m/data=!3m1!1e3?entry=tu&g_ep=EgoyMDI2MDYyMi4)



Aviation Trail, Inc. & Aviation Trail Parachute Museum  
16 South Williams St., Dayton, OH 45402  
Mailing Address: Aviation Trail, Inc., PO Box 633,  
Wright Brothers Branch, Dayton, Ohio 45402  
email: [avtrailinc@gmail.com](mailto:avtrailinc@gmail.com)  
website: <https://www.aviationtrailinc.org>



The Aviation Trail Visitor Center is located in the Wright-Dunbar Interpretive Center as part of the Dayton Aviation Heritage National Historical Park. The Parachute Museum is on the second floor.



## Wapakoneta Summer Moon Festival Community Event at Armstrong Air & Space Museum

July 14 – July 19, 2026

The 2026 Summer Moon Festival will be July 14 – July 19, 2026. We keep adding some great events and activities, so check back later for more information on our



### Schedule of Events

#### TUESDAY, JULY 14

10 am - 5 pm | Costumed astronaut appearances throughout the day  
12 pm - 12:30 pm | Gemini VIII capsule chat in the Early Space Gallery\*

#### WEDNESDAY, JULY 15

10 am - 5 pm | Costumed astronaut appearances throughout the day  
12 pm - 12:30 pm | Public outdoor tour on museum grounds (weather permitting)

#### THURSDAY, JULY 16

10 am - 5 pm | Costumed astronaut appearances throughout the day  
12 pm - 12:30 pm | Gemini VIII capsule chat in the Early Space Gallery\*

#### FRIDAY, JULY 17

10 am - 5 pm | Costumed astronaut appearances throughout the day  
12 pm - 12:30 pm | Public outdoor tour on museum grounds (weather permitting)

#### SATURDAY, JULY 18

7 am - 11 am | United Way Run to the Moon 5k/10k located in museum parking lot (\$)   
11 am - 5 pm | Education activities on the museum's southwest lawn   
11 am - 5 pm | Education play zone on the museum's southwest lawn   
11 am - 5 pm | Wright Stuff Rocketeers rocket launches on south lawn   
11 am - 5 pm | Lima Astronomical society activities on southwest lawn   
11 am - 5 pm | Inflatable rides on the museum's south lawn  
11 am - 5 pm | Kona Ice treats available near museum pavilion (\$)   
12 pm - 1 pm | Planned NASA astronaut in the museum STEM Inspiration Center\*

#### SUNDAY, JULY 19

11 am - 5 pm | Inflatable rides on the museum's south lawn\*\*   
11 am - 5 pm | Kona Ice treats available near museum pavilion (\$)   
11 am - 5 pm | Apollo Lunar Rover replica stationed on museum's pavilion   
11 am - 5 pm | Lima Astronomical Society activities on southwest lawn   
11 am - 5 pm | Wright Stuff Rocketeers rocket launches on south lawn   
11 am - 5 pm | Educational activities throughout museum grounds   
11 am - 5 pm | OH WOW! Museum robot mini-golf near outdoor pavilion   
11 am - 5 pm | Human gyroscope rides available on the museum's north lawn\*\*   
12 pm - 4 pm | The Works Museum Physics Demo on museum's north lawn (\$)

**Costumed Astronaut Photograph Opportunities:** Periodically throughout the day on Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday, a costumed astronaut will be walking around the galleries for individuals and families to take pictures with.

**Gemini VIII "Capsule Chat":** On Tuesday and Thursday from 12:00-12:30, a member of the museum staff will be giving a 30 minute in-depth talk at the Gemini VIII capsule, discussing the exciting details of Neil Armstrong's first space mission.

**Public Outdoor Tour:** On Wednesday and Friday from 12:00-12:30, a member of the museum staff will be giving a 30-minute tour of the museum's grounds. The tour will cover the aircrafts and mockups on site and history of the building itself.

**Inflatable Rides:** Kids can put their skills to the test in our free inflatable rides located on the museum's south lawn from 10:00pm to 5:00pm on Saturday and Sunday.

**Education Tent:** Our STEM education tent will have fun, science-based, activities for kids to test out. Lima Astronomical Society: The Lima Astronomical Society will be set up on the museum's north lawn and will have fun star map and telescope activities, along with educating guests on their services and events in the community. The astronomical society will be available only on Saturday and Sunday, 10:00 pm to 5:00 pm.

**Wright Stuff Rocketeers:** Truly a fan favorite, this group of rocket builders will be giving periodic rocket demonstrations throughout the day. Be the group's countdown clock as they lift-off your rocket! The rocketeers will be available only on Saturday and Sunday, 10:00 pm to 5:00 pm, found on the museum's south lawn.

**Kona Ice Truck:** Cool off from the mid-July heat with a tasty frozen snack from the Kona Ice truck! The vehicle will be parked in the middle of the museum's southwest lawn and will be available for treats on Saturday and Sunday.

FOR THE SUMMER MOON FESTIVAL WEBSITE, PLEASE CLICK HERE:

<https://summermoonfestival.com>



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

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



## B-25 Champaign Gal Rides

at Champaign Aviation Museum



Flying Season Is Here!

Experience the B-25 Champaign Gal at These Locations:

**Saturday & Sunday July 11th - 12th**  
Display & Performance at the National Warplane Museum Airshow | Geneseo, NY (D52)

**Saturday, August 1st**  
Display at Mansfield, OH | Mansfield Lahm Regional Airport (KMFD)

**Saturday, August 22nd**  
Living History Flight Experience Rides at Urbana, OH | CAM/Grimes Field Airport (I74)

Reserve Your Seat at <https://champaign-aviation-museum.square.site>

**Saturday, September 26th**

Display at Stow, OH | Kent State University Airport (1G3)



Champaign Aviation Museum  
1652 N. Main St., Urbana, OH 43078  
937-652-4710  
[ChampaignAviationMuseum.org](http://ChampaignAviationMuseum.org)

Champaign Aviation Museum is Site #13 on the Aviation Trail



See page 4 for membership & donation information, plus the Aviation Trail gift shop.

# Grimes Flying Lab Museum/Foundation

## 2026 Season



JUNE	SEPTEMBER
<p>June 13-14   Dayton Air Show <b>DAYTON AIR SHOW</b></p> <p>June 14   VIETNAM EVENT AT GRIMES FIELD</p>	<p>September 5   Waynesville, Ohio <b>Labor Day Weekend</b></p> <p>September 6   Ring of Fire - Indian Lake, Ohio <b>RING OF FIRE INDIAN LAKE</b></p> <p>September 11   Mechanicsburg, Ohio <b>High School Flyover</b></p> <p>September 12-19   Champaign County <b>Aviation Heritage Week</b></p> <p>September 12   Mid-Eastern Regional Fly-In &amp; Car Show <b>Featured Event: Military Appreciation Day</b></p> <p>September 18-19   Champaign County <b>Balloon Festival</b></p> <p>September 19   Darke County, Ohio</p> <p>September 26   Zanesville, Ohio</p>
JULY	OCTOBER
<p>July 3   Grimes Field Fireworks Festival, Urbana Rotary Club Chicken Dinner, and the Rotary Community Fireworks Display</p> <p>July 11   Lorain County Airport, Ohio</p>	<p>October 3-4   Bowmanfest <b>BOWMANFEST LOUISVILLE, KY</b></p>
AUGUST	
<p>August 1   Mansfield, Ohio</p>	

Preserving Aviation History Through Education and Flight

**GRIMES FLYING LAB**

Facebook, Instagram, Website icons

GRIMESFLYINGLAB.COM

SCHEDULE SUBJECT TO CHANGE

**About Grimes Flying Lab Museum:**  
 Located at Grimes Field in Urbana, the "lab" is a Beech 18 that served the U.S. Air Forces as a C-45 and was modified to a C-45H as a test bed for aircraft nighttime lighting systems. The aircraft was a valuable tool for engineers who worked for Warren G. Grimes - the father of aircraft lighting - before and during World War II to advance developments for safer flight at night. Grimes produced his first airplane lights in his garage in 1933 and by World War II his company had grown to produce lighting for military aviation. Besides memorabilia from Grimes' life and Grimes Manufacturing Co., historical and modern aircraft lighting products are displayed.

Grimes Flying Lab Foundation  
 1636 N. Main St. Urbana, Ohio 43078  
<https://n8640e.wixsite.com/grimesflyinglab>  
 or [www.facebook.com/GrimesFlyingLab](http://www.facebook.com/GrimesFlyingLab)



Grimes Flying Lab Foundation is a 501(c)(3) organization.  
**Grimes Flying Lab is Site #14 on the Aviation Trail**

# Aviation Trail Membership Reminder

**Aviation Trail 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.

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



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.