



# 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

## May 2026 ISSUE

05/01/2026

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

## Plane Talks at NMUSAF

**Honor Armed Forces Day at Plane Talks**  
May 16, from 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.



### NATIONAL MUSEUM OF THE UNITED STATES AIR FORCE™

Join us as subject matter experts share insights and personal stories connected to Air Force history.

Plane Talks is an engaging program that invites visitors to connect with veterans, active-duty personnel, and other experts stationed throughout the Museum's galleries. These subject matter experts—ranging from pilots and crew members to engineers and navigators—share their personal experiences and insights, bringing the history of Air Force aircraft and exhibits to life.



*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*



National Museum of the U.S. Air 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™ is site #5 on the Aviation Trail.*



## Moraine Airpark 67th Annual Funday Sunday

**May 3, 2026 • 8 am - 4 pm**



The 67th year of the event! Sunday, May 3, 2026 - Starts 8 am - 4 pm

1. Breakfast (serving at 9 am) is by donation only
2. Lunch (serving at noon) is donation only
3. Parking is at Wax Park (City of Moraine Park), located at 3800 Main St. Visitors can enter through the back gate, located on the south end of the park; we will mark the gate entrance.
4. Free event, pets are welcome but must be leashed. We will post any updates regarding airplane rides on Moraine Airpark's Facebook page
5. For pilots, we offer full-service 100LL fuel. We accept check, cash and credit cards. Check AirNav for Airpark information. Use caution, as there will be aircraft in the pattern without radios.
6. Seaplane Base Inc. will be set up
7. A history of Moraine Airpark display will be set up in the office/FBO.
8. For any other questions or information, please call 937-866-2489

[moraineairpark.com](http://moraineairpark.com)



Moraine Airpark  
3800 Clearview Avenue  
Moraine, OH 45439  
<https://moraineairpark.com>



## Fleurs de Fête at Carillon Park

The 33rd annual Fleurs de Fête, Dayton History's premier wine and gourmet food fundraiser, returns to Carillon Park on Sunday, May 17, 2026, from 1 to 4 p.m.

Held rain or shine beneath the stately sycamores of Carillon Brewing Co., this year's event features hundreds of wines, gourmet fare from local restaurants, a popular wine pull, a Belgian Beer Garden, Carillon Park Railroad rides, live music from the Kim Kelly Orchestra, live oil painting by artist Bley Hack, an exhibit exploring the history of Miami Valley winemaking, and a silent auction featuring fine wines, curated gift baskets, one-of-a-kind experiences, and prizes from local businesses.



All proceeds benefit Dayton History, a privately funded nonprofit, in its mission to inspire generations by connecting them with the unique people, places, and events that changed the Dayton region and the world. Dayton History owns and operates Carillon Historical Park, Hawthorn Hill, and Patterson Homestead.

**Where:** Carillon Park, 1000 Carillon Blvd., behind Carillon Brewing Co.  
**When:** Sunday, May 17, 2026, 1 to 4 p.m. Rain or shine.  
**Tickets:** \$80: Presale | \$85: Day-Of | \$50: Designated Driver Purchase: Purchase online, call (937) 293-2841, or visit Arrow Wine or Carillon Park\* Must be 21 to attend and present a valid ID upon entry

To order tickets see <https://shop.daytonhistory.org/Events.aspx>  
Call 937-293-2841 x. 127 for more information.



Dayton History  
1000 Carillon Blvd.  
Dayton, OH 45409  
<https://www.daytonhistory.org>

Carillon Historical Park is Site #4 on the Aviation Trail



## WACO Aviation Lecture Series

Thursday, May 21, 7 - 8 pm.

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

Where Pittsburgh Aviation Took Off – Miss McKeesport  
Speakers: Sue Morris & Brian Butko  
Book signing to follow.

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).



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



## Lunch & Learn Lecture at Harmon Museum

MIA for 75 Years...

A Fallen Soldier Finally Comes Home • May 20 | 11:30am

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

History is often told in grand sweeping gestures, but its most profound moments are found in the quiet return of a neighbor. Join us for a moving and deeply personal session with John Zimkus, renowned historian of the Harmon Museum and the Warren County Historical Society.



After three-quarters of a century, a local mystery has finally reached its conclusion. Zimkus will share the incredible, multi-generational journey of a Warren County hero who was missing in action for 75 years - who they were, why they fought, how they gave the ultimate sacrifice, and ultimately how they were found.

BUY TICKETS: <https://ticketstripe.com/LandLMay26>

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.

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  
Art | History | Culture

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



# Wright "B" Flyer Museum

## Wright Flyer, Inc. Story - Video



From the Wright "B" Flyer website, see this video by 88th Air Base Wing, WPAFB: Watch at <https://youtu.be/NLaGx7-99Rs>



Visit the website at <https://www.wright-b-flyer.org> for more videos.

Another video appears on the Wright "B" Flyer Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/reel/303903249366062>.



Wright "B" Flyer, Inc.  
10550 Springboro Pike  
Miamisburg, Ohio 45342  
Phone: (937) 885-2327  
<https://www.facebook.com/WrightBFlyer/>  
<https://www.wright-b-flyer.org>

### Wright "B" Flyer is Site #9 on the Aviation Trail



# Talk and Tour at Armstrong Air & Space Museum

May 16 & 21, 2026 - Mercury 7 Program

## Talk & Tour

MONTHLY MUSEUM PROGRAM SERIES

May 16th & 21st: Take a deeper dive into the astronauts of the Mercury 7 Program. Learn about America's first astronauts, their achievements, struggles, and NASA's goals for the program. Discover if you would have had the "right stuff" as well.

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  
<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



# American Institute of Aeronautics and Astronautics Award

## The Parachute Museum Congratulates Dr. Jean Potvin



The Aviation Trail Parachute Museum congratulates physicist Dr. Jean Potvin, friend, donor and supporter of the museum, as the recipient of the 2026 Theodor W. Knacke Aerodynamic Decelerator Systems Award presented by The American Institute of Aeronautics and Astronautics (AIAA). The award will be presented at the AIAA Aerodynamic Decelerator Systems Conference and Seminar 2026 in collaboration with the Royal Aero Society, in London, United Kingdom, 1-5 June. This award recognizes significant contributions that advance aeronautical or aerospace systems through research, development, and application of the art and science of aerodynamic decelerator technology.

**Dr. Jean Potvin, Saint Louis University**  
For significant contributions to aerodynamic deceleration system science, data interpretation and integration, and education.

(for a list of all recipients see <https://aiaa.org/2026/04/10/aiaa-announces-2026-award-recipients/>)

### Dr. Potvin and the Parachute Museum:

For his first in-person visit to the museum, he drove in from St. Louis with several crates full of parachute related materials from his personal collection to share with the committee. His vast collection includes parachutes, ejection seats, and volumes of documentation on the items. With his impressive academic background, his experience as a test and sport parachutist with over 2600 jumps, plus an enthusiastic presentation, he captivated the committee with details on the materials, parachute history and technology, ejection systems, and many interesting parachuting stories. The purpose of the meeting was to discuss the possibility of collaboration between Dr. Potvin and the Parachute Museum, allowing some of his parachutes and ejection seats as permanent holdings and displays at the museum. In subsequent visits he has made presentations to Parachute Museum visitors, delivered many additional ejection seats and related materials with more deliveries planned to complete the museum collection. (Photo: Curator Randy Zuercher and Dr. Potvin).

Parachute Museum Curator Randy Zuercher offered his description of Dr. Potvin's contributions to the museum and the impact on the museum's future:

*"We are so fortunate to have developed this special relationship with Dr Potvin. He has worked successfully for years on decelerator technology and his donation of ejection seats and related material has literally changed the Vision of the Parachute Museum. We are proud to have him as a very special friend and patron."*



For some stories of Dr. Potvin's contributions to the Aviation Trail Parachute Museum, see the blog posts listed below:

- <https://www.aviationtrailinc.org/post/special-guest-at-the-parachute-museum>
- <https://www.aviationtrailinc.org/post/parachute-museum-announces-new-acquisition>
- <https://www.aviationtrailinc.org/post/parachute-museum-news>
- <https://www.aviationtrailinc.org/post/wpafb-engineers-tour-parachute-museum>

Also, Dr. Potvin's professional bio page can be seen at: <https://sites.google.com/a/slu.edu/jeanpotvin/>



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

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



# Moraine Airpark "Run on the Runway" 2026

Save the Date: October 18, 2026

10/18/2026  
**RUN ON THE RUNWAY**  
AT MORaine AIRPARK

**MORaine AIRPARK**  
EST 1952

REGISTER AT:  
**MORaineAIRPARK.COM**

INTERESTED IN SPONSORSHIP? EMAIL US AT [MANAGER@MORaineAIRPARK.COM](mailto:MANAGER@MORaineAIRPARK.COM)

Moraine Airpark is hosting a 5K race on Sunday, October 18, 2026 at 9 am. Scan the QR code for more details and registration.

For any other questions or information, please call 937-866-2489  
[moraineairpark.com](http://moraineairpark.com)



**MORaine AIRPARK**  
EST 1952

Moraine Airpark  
3800 Clearview Avenue  
Moraine, OH 45439  
<https://moraineairpark.com>



Aviation Trail Visitor Center Page:  
<https://www.aviationtrailinc.org/visitorcenter>

# 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.

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.

