



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

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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

January 2019 ISSUE

01/26/2019

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

January Aviation Trail Sites Feature

Three of the Aviation Trail sites are featured this month -

- Carillon Historical Park - Site #4
- Museum of the United States Air Force - Site #5
- Sinclair National UAS Training and Certification Center - Site #17

These sites are within an eight mile radius of downtown Dayton, requiring minimum travel in unpredictable winter weather. With the government shutdown affecting the National Park Service operated sites (such as the Wright-Dunbar Interpretive Center/Aviation Trail Visitor Center, and the Huffman Prairie Interpretive Center) these are some other close-by indoor sites to visit.

Site # 4: Carillon Historical Park

1000 Carillon Historical Park
Dayton, OH 45409
(937) 293-2841 • www.daytonhistory.org



Among the attractions at this unique, 65-acre outdoor museum is the original 1905 Wright Flyer III, the world's first practical airplane. The Flyer III, housed in Wright Hall, was restored under the personal direction of Orville Wright. Wright Hall is flanked by the Wilbur and Orville Wright Wings and is

connected to a replica of the bicycle shop in which the Wright brothers built their 1903 airplane. These buildings comprise the John W. Berry, Sr. Wright Brothers National Museum at Carillon Historical Park, a unit of the Dayton Aviation Heritage National Historical Park, managed by Dayton History. (Since this is operated by Dayton History, it is not affected by a shutdown). There is an admission charge for this site.



(Carillon Historical Park also operates tours by reservation to nearby Hawthorn Hill, site #7. See the Trail Sites page on the Aviation Trail website for more on Hawthorne Hill).

Site # 5: Museum of the United States Air Force

1100 Spaatz St.
Dayton, OH 45431
(937) 255-3286
www.nationalmuseum.af.mil



The world's largest military aviation museum features more than 360 aerospace vehicles and missiles from the beginnings of military flight to today's stealth technology. Thousands of personal artifacts, photographs and documents further highlight the people and events that comprise the Air Force storyline. Tour the 19 acres of



indoor exhibit space and see noteworthy aircraft such as the only permanent public exhibit of a B-2 stealth bomber, and the B-17F Memphis Belle™, one of the most recognizable symbols of World War II, and board the space shuttle exhibit and four of nine presidential aircraft. While at the museum you can ride a flight simulator, enjoy a 3D movie, eat in one of the two cafés, and shop in the museum store. Open 9 a.m. - 5 p.m. daily. Free admission and free parking.

(Also located within the museum is the National Aviation Hall of Fame, site #6. See the Trail Sites page on the Aviation Trail website for more on the Aviation Hall of Fame).

Site # 17: Sinclair National UAS Training and Certification Center

Sinclair College
444 West Third Street
Dayton, Ohio 45402
(927) 512-4900 uascenter@sinclair.edu • <http://uas.sinclair.edu/>



This is the newest site on the Aviation Trail. Located on the Sinclair College Dayton Campus in Building 13, the Sinclair National UAS Training and Certification Center and Aviation Technology facilities lead the nation in Unmanned Aerial Systems (UAS) and traditional aviation training and education, applied research and development, consulting, and STEM outreach.



(Continued at right)

The Sinclair site's Wilbear stamp and additional information about the facility and programs are available at a kiosk located in the first-floor lobby and free parking is available in Lot K off Perry Street. Visitors can complete a self-guided tour of the glass-walled facility during normal college hours, which are posted on the primary college website at www.sinclair.edu.



All three of these sites are on the "Wilbear Wright" tour. Sites #4 and #5 are both starting points on the tour, where visitors can receive a passport brochure. Visitors

receiving a stamp in the passport brochure at a total of eight of the qualifying sites can qualify to receive a Wilbear Wright aviator teddy bear. (The Wright-Dunbar Interpretive Center is a required site to qualify – so that would only be available when the National Park Service re-opens). See the Trail Sites page on the Aviation Trail website for full details on the "Wilbear Program".



January in Aviation History

An Aviation Connection to Baseball History

On **January 4, 1957** aviation played a prominent role in baseball history when the Brooklyn Dodgers became the first major league team to buy its own airliner. Dodger owner Walter O'Malley's friendship with Eastern Airlines owner Capt. Eddie Rickenbacker facilitated a deal for the Dodgers to piggyback an order of a **C o n v a i r 4 4 0** Metropolitan to an order of 20 of the planes that Eastern was purchasing from the Convair factory.



The price was \$775,000, and the ball club took delivery in April of 1957. The "rest of the story" in baseball history is that O'Malley moved the club to Los Angeles after the 1957 season (accompanied by the New York Giants moving to San Francisco).

A Dodger owner from 1950 until his death in 1979, O'Malley was inducted into the National Baseball Hall of Fame in 2008 and is considered to be one of the most influential sports executives in the 20th century (except maybe by Brooklyn fans). Although various factors influenced O'Malley's desire to move the club, such as failure to get a new ballpark in New York, having a team owned airliner made the move to the West Coast a practical alternative.

For Capt. Eddie Rickenbacker, this baseball connection adds just one more story to his list of accomplishments. Besides his longtime leadership at Eastern Airlines and many contributions to commercial aviation, he is a legend as a WWI flying ace with the famous 94th Aero Squadron (26 air victories), receiving seven Distinguished Service Cross citations, a Medal of Honor, and the French Croix de Guerre and Legion of Honor, among other awards. He was also an accomplished auto racer, an automobile entrepreneur in the 20's (Rickenbacker Motor Co.), wrote for an aviation comic strip in the late 30's and owned the Indianapolis Motor Speedway in the 30's. He is in various halls of fame including the National Aviation Hall of Fame and the International Motorsports Hall of Fame.



Parachute Museum Report

Parachute Museum Display at Recent National Museum of USAF Museum Event

The Aviation Trail Parachute Museum was featured as one of the displays at the National Museum of the U.S. Air Force during a Science, Discovery and Family Fun event on Sunday, Jan. 13, from 1 – 4 p.m. The free event was held for young people and their families and featured interactive science and technology displays and demonstrations and a performance by the Air Force Band of Flight.

Air Force Research Laboratory Commander Maj. Gen. William Cooley welcomed Ohio Governor-elect Mike DeWine and his wife Fran to the event. Governor Elect DeWine, just hours away from being formally seated as Governor, spoke and opened the day's events for STEM activities. Among the many demonstrations, spread throughout the museum, were robotics, virtual reality, flight simulation, wind tunnel, rocketry, optics, fuel cells, engineering structures and scanning electron microscopes.

The Aviation Trail Parachute Museum demonstration was located in the Aviation Hall of Fame and was conducted by Parachute Museum Curator Randy Zuercher, and parachute expert Andrew Kididis. Curator Randy reports that *"it was a good event despite the weather 8 inches of snow the day/night before. Our activities included an Emergency bail-out parachute rig for visitors to try on, a full ejection seat/pilot parachute descent system on display and also instruction on the parachute inflation demo unit led by Andrew Kididis to show different types of parachutes and demonstrate their drag and the drag differences between them. Many interesting visitor stories ensued as is always the case when we do a show"*.



In the photo above Andrew Kididis rigs the parachute inflation demo unit.



For more on the recent Science, Discovery and Family Fun event see this link to the National Museum of the U.S. Air Force website:

<https://www.nationalmuseum.af.mil/Upcoming/Science-Discovery-Family-Fun-Event/>

For more on the Aviation Trail Parachute Museum, see the appropriate page on the Aviation Trail website: <http://www.aviationtrailinc.org/parachute-museum>.



To subscribe to "The Flight Log" - **AVIATION TRAIL MAIL** monthly newsletter, and to get email announcements and updates, go to the Aviation Trail website at www.aviationtrailinc.org to sign up.



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Yes! I want to support Aviation Trail, Inc.

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E-mail Address (to receive online newsletter) _____

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

Membership Levels

I / We wish to remain anonymous.

_____ \$25.00 Senior (age 60+)

_____ \$75 Contributing

_____ \$1000 Patron

_____ \$30 Individual

_____ \$150 Supporting

_____ Other- I am a life member and would like to make an additional contribution

_____ \$40 Family

_____ \$1500 Individual Life Member*

(*May be paid in three annual payments of \$500 per year, mail in only)

_____ Donation - I would like to support Aviation Trail with a **DONATION** of \$ _____ to Aviation Trail

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.

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

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

Members and donors receive an online subscription to the Aviation Trail newsletter, *Flight Log*, and advance invitations to Aviation Trail events and programs.

Online credit card payments may be made from our website at 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 // Wright Brothers Branch / Dayton, OH 45409 / www.aviationtrailinc.org