



Wright-Dunbar Heritage News

Come jump with us again! ATI's Parachute Museum Re-Opening

The Aviation Trail Parachute Museum—now completed—has re-opened on the second floor of the ATI building at South Williams and West Third streets.

On Saturday, October 2, members of ATI, the Dave Gold family, and the public cut a ceremonial parachute ribbon to re-open the venue after the completion of its final exhibits.

Gold was a parachute researcher and collector; his estate donated the collection to ATI in 1986.

The museum, on the second floor of the ATI building, has been a work in progress for several years and, with the help of a \$95,000 federal grant, was finally completed after a closure of a few weeks to install the final exhibits.

The newly-completed museum features interactive, touch-screen displays on the uses of



Members of the Dave Gold family, Aviation Trail, Inc., and the National Park Service cut the yellow ribbon officially opening the Aviation Trail Parachute Museum on October 2, 2010.

parachutes, artifacts, historic photographs and text. Also included are exhibits on “feeling the force” of a parachute in descent; packing a parachute; the Misty Blues, an all-woman jump team; and U.S. Army Lieutenant Harold Harris, the first man to save his life with a parachute.

The Parachute Museum is open the same hours as the sites in the Wright-Dunbar Interpretive Center: 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. every day except Thanksgiving, December 25 and New Year’s Day. Admission is free.

Charlie Taylor’s Folks Drop By NPS



Descendants of Charlie Taylor, the Wright brothers' mechanic, stop by for a visit and tour of the Wright Cycle Company complex.

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1000th Wilbear Soars Out of Park!

It's a bird...it's a plane...no, it's a bear!

A Wilbear Wright aviator teddy bear, to be correct, and it can be yours while visiting Dayton, Ohio. The world's aviation story is not complete without a visit to Dayton, the birthplace of aviation.

"Wilbear Wright" (an indirect descendant of Wilbur and Orville Wright) is eager to belong to you! Just tour and obtain a brochure and passport stamp at Dayton Aviation Heritage National Historical Park's Wright-Dunbar Interpretive Center, and a minimum of five of the remaining nine sites listed to redeem your bear!

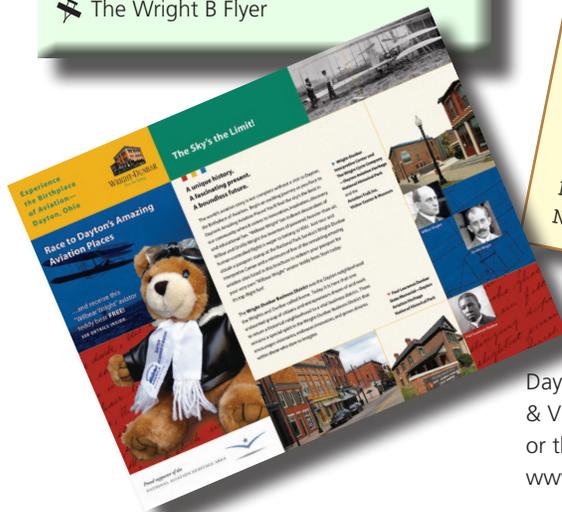
Only one passport accepted per visitor.
Offer good while supplies last.

Start today: it's top-flight fun!



Sites to visit include:

- ✈ Wright-Dunbar Interpretive Center
The Wright Cycle Company & Aviation Trail Visitor Center
- ✈ Paul Laurence Dunbar State Memorial
- ✈ Huffman Prairie Flying Field Interpretive Center
- ✈ John W. Berry Sr. Wright Brothers Aviation Center at Carillon Historical Park
- ✈ National Museum of the United States Air Force
- ✈ National Aviation Hall of Fame
- ✈ Hawthorn Hill (tours provided by Carillon Historical Park)
- ✈ Woodland Cemetery & Arboretum
- ✈ The Wright B Flyer



Email sent to Dean Alexander

Date: 10/20/2010
Subject: bears

Dean,

Thank you for coming to support my students this week. My own story began when I was feeling very low about living in Dayton. (The "dying city" re-member?). My mom suggested that I go to all those places in Dayton and learn about its rich history. My husband found the Race to Dayton's Amazing Aviation Places on line and we thought it might be a great family adventure for our 11 and 8 year old kids. We devoted the summer to our adventure. First we went on the "race" and got our Wilbears. We got the kids the National Park Passports and headed to Florida to see one of the final shuttle launches. (Unfortunately the flight was scrubbed.) We then headed for Kitty Hawk and took our bears. We took such pride in being from Dayton and loved taking pictures at Kitty Hawk with our Wilbears. We then headed to Washington and saw the Wright Flyer in the Smithsonian. We will finish our trip this fall with a visit to Woodland Cemetery. This trip had a great impact on my kids and on my family. I had such a positive experience, that I planned to assign the project to my 8th grade students. The students and their families have given me such positive feedback, that I hope to be able to assign this project again next year.

Thank you for the great adventure!
Joy L. McKarns
National Board Certified Teacher
Northmont Middle School

For additional travel planning information contact the Dayton/Montgomery County Convention & Visitors Bureau at www.daytoncvb.com or the National Park Service at www.nps.gov/daav

END OF 4TH FLIGHT
TIME: 59 SECONDS
DISTANCE: 852 FT.
DEC. 17, 1903
PILOT: WILBUR

4

America's Best Idea

For a second year, Dayton Aviation was awarded an America's Best Idea grant from the National Park Foundation. This year, seventh grade students from Edison School toured the Wright-Dunbar Interpretive Center, the Dunbar House, and the National Afro-American Museum. The students expressed their experiences through posters that included poems, photographs, and their personal thoughts. These posters were developed into exhibit panels that will be showcased at the Edison School, the park and the National Afro-American Museum.



Participants in the 2010 America's Best Idea grant project were Edison School seventh grade teachers and students.

Park to Establish Native Garden

Dayton Aviation was awarded a First Bloom grant in which Dayton Public School fourth grade students will participate in designing, planting and maintaining a native garden at the Wright-Dunbar Interpretive Center site. The native garden will be a lasting connection for these students and also an added feature for future visitors to enjoy! First Bloom is a National Park Foundation program that connects kids between fourth and sixth grades to nature and national parks. Stop by in the spring to see our native blooms.

News From NAHA



The National Aviation Heritage Alliance has unveiled its new and improved website! The new website offers multiple opportunities for interactivity including:

- A trip planner, to help the visitor plan and execute their journey through the National Aviation Heritage Area.
- An event-filled calendar, to help the visitor choose just the right time to explore.
- An educational section, dedicated to helping students and teachers navigate through the wealth of information to find just what they are looking for.
- Opportunities to win prizes including an Honorary Aviator Membership to the Wright B Flyer organization which includes an orientation flight on the replica 1911 Wright B Flyer.

CHECK IT OUT at www.visitNAHA.org

Also, you can now follow NAHA on Facebook and Twitter.

- Facebook: www.facebook.com/visitnaha
- twitter: www.twitter.com/aviationheritag

Website, Facebook, Twitter
- three great ways to COME. DISCOVER. FLY!

Junior Ranger Ambassador

In partnership with the Student Conservation Association, the National Park Service awarded several parks student-hires to enhance their Junior Ranger programs. Dayton Aviation was pleased to hire Cassandra Hall, a student from Sinclair Community College, as its ambassador. Cassandra developed a new Junior Ranger booklet, badge design, and accompanying activities.



Children from the ages of 6 to 12 should inquire at our visitor centers to receive a copy of the new booklet!

Night at the Museum

A SPOOKTACULAR SUCCESS

Visitors to the Wright-Dunbar Interpretive Center, Friday, October 15, were treated (and tricked) to a scavenger hunt in which clues helped them translate coded messages, find hidden pictures and win prizes!

New Faces in Maintenance



Jessica Bragg and Jessica Edwards join the maintenance crew. For more new faces go to page 6.

Did you know, Karen Rosga is the Education Coordinator for the park? And that school groups are more than welcome to visit and explore our facilities.

For more information about programs and what we have to offer, and to make a reservation, contact Karen at 937.225.7705 or karen_rosga@nps.gov



Wright-Dunbar Business District News

On Thursday, September 23, 2010 five new inductees joined an illustrious group of 120 honorees at this year's Walk of Fame ceremony in the West Third Street Historic District. New inductees included Annae Barney Gorman, founder of Dayton Children's Hospital; D.W. Mikesell, Mike-sell's Potato Chip fame; Dr. David Ponitz, former president of Sinclair Community College and superintendent of Dayton Schools; Betty Schmoll, founder of Dayton Hospice; and the Gem City Chorus Sweet Adelines group that won five international competitions. The inductee with the strongest connection to the Wright-Dunbar neighborhood was D.W. Mikesell who started his business from his home on South Williams.



The West Third Street streetscape project celebrated the renovation of the street on Monday, July 12, 2010 with a ribbon cutting ceremony and dedication. Part of the ceremony also included the unveiling of a new public art sculpture inspired by Paul Laurence



Dunbar's poetry. The sculpture, named "Jump Back Honey, Jump Back" (a phrase from Dunbar's poem "A Negro Love Song") was designed and created by artist Willis 'Bing' Davis.

The streetscape improvements include enhanced lighting, updated traffic signals, bumpouts, street banners, benches, and



planters. These new features add value to the district and will hopefully be a tool in recruiting new businesses into the neighborhood.

A new addition to the Wright-Dunbar business district is Zik's Family Pharmacy and Wellness Center which opened September 29, 2010 at 1130 West Third Street. In addition to its pharmacy, the store will carry medical durables and other equipment. During the dedication Nnadum IHEME, pharmacist and owner of Zik's said, "I have dreamed of this day to have Zik's in Wright Dunbar for several years and today it is a reality. I am so happy to be located in the Wright Dunbar Business District..."

For more information about the Wright-Dunbar neighborhood and business district you can visit www.wright-dunbar.org



December 17th Anniversary of Powered Flight

On Friday, December 17, Aviation Trail will host the annual Anniversary of Powered Flight Ceremony and Dinner and as part of the program, the National Aviation Hall of Fame will announce its class of 2011 inductees. General John L. "Jack" Hudson, USAF (Ret), deputy director of the National Museum of the United States Air Force, will be the event's featured speaker. The event, which commemorates the first flight of Wilbur and Orville Wright at Kitty Hawk, North Carolina, on December 17, 1903, will be held at the Engineers Club on Monument Avenue in Dayton and is open to the public.

The social hour begins at 6:00 pm, with dinner at 7:00 pm. For more information, contact Marvin Christian at 937.275.5271.

Tour Dunbar House with Dayton History

Dayton History will be opening the Dunbar State Memorial for walk-up visitor traffic on Fridays and Saturdays from 10:00 am until 4:00 pm and will take reservations for tours for Thursdays through the end of December.

Dayton History will also continue to schedule tours on other days of the week through advanced arrangement. Those interested in scheduling a tour or seeking additional information should call 937.313.2010.

Dayton History will make a determination of the Dunbar House 2011 operational hours at the beginning of the year.

Local Teachers Become Park Rangers



Left to right: Langston Watras and James Lay poised for duty; James assisting a visitor with a purchase; and Langston showing a visitor the Wright Cycle Company.

Langston Watras, a teacher from Patterson-Kennedy, and James Lay, a curriculum core coach with Dayton Public Schools were hired this summer to serve as Teacher-Ranger-Teach-

ers. Wearing the official park service uniform, Langston and James performed the duties of regular staff at the park. They also provided invaluable assistance and feedback with youth

groups. This was the first time Dayton Aviation was able to participate in this program, due to a National Park Service grant – and we hope to continue in the future.

Air Force Marathon Sets Attendance Record

A record field of 12,000 runners registered for 2010 Air Force Marathon events September 17 and 18 at Wright-Patterson Air Force Base. This year's race participation shattered the previous 2009 Marathon record of 9,969 runners and by September 14 had completely sold out at the pre-determined race cap of 12,000 runners.

Besides running in the full marathon, runners could also participate in the wheeled division, a half-marathon, or 10K and 5K runs. Capt. Brian Dumm, an English instructor at the U.S. Air Force Academy, won the full marathon with a time of 2:27:40. For a complete listing of race results visit www.usafmarathon.com

The fourteenth annual running was opened by Lt. Gen. Janet Wolfenbarger, Air Force Materiel Command vice commander, who said "This is truly a record breaking day. There are representatives from every state, along with 6 nations, and 44 folks who have attended every U.S. Air Force Marathon start since its inception in 1997."

The General reminded those gathered that the running of the 10K, half- and full marathon races on September 18 coincides with the U.S. Air Force's sixty-third birthday. She thanked the thousands of runners, volunteers, and spectators "for making this a wonderful event."

The three-day event started with a Sports and Fitness Expo held September 16 and 17 at the Ervin J. Nutter Center on the campus of Wright State University. The expo hosted over sixty exhibitors and featured the latest in sports, fitness, and nutrition. The expo concluded Friday evening with a 5K race for 2,000 runners held on the university's campus and a gourmet pasta dinner at the National Museum of the U.S. Air Force.

Runners were treated to B-52 and F-16 flyovers and a course that passed historic sites on the base such as Huffman Prairie Flying Field and the Wright Memorial and continued into downtown Fairborn, Ohio. A large contingency of fans lined the course and cheered as participants raced by. The Air Force Marathon is sanctioned by the USA Track & Field Association and is a qualifier for the Boston Marathon.



Lots-of-New Park Faces



Ami Ghazala, the park's new Chief of Education and Resources Management, is a native of New York City with ten years of federal service, nine with the National Park Service. Her NPS journey started at the Statue of Liberty

National Monument/Ellis Island Immigration Museum where she spotlighted the forgotten stories at "The Island of Hope/The Island of Tears." In 2007, she wrote a children's book called, "From Many Lands, The Ellis Story."

In 2008, she transferred to Jean Lafitte National Historical Park and Preserve located in the Greater New Orleans area. As Education Coordinator and later District Supervisor, she focused efforts on partnering with local schools to bring urban children to their local national park, working closely with low-performing schools and under-served communities.

A graduate of St. John's University, Ami traveled overseas as a freelance photojournalist. Other private sector experiences include published writings and photo-essays in Egypt, teaching overseas and in the United States and managing a small business in New York.

Ami says, "I am very excited to transfer to Dayton Aviation Heritage National Historical Park, a unique park that offers exceptional opportunities to work closely with partners and the community."

In her spare time, Ami enjoys reading, live theater, museums, music, and independent films.

Keith Gad, the park's new law enforcement ranger, is a native of Dayton.

He graduated from Meadowdale High School and went on to Hocking College in southeastern Ohio where he received associate degrees in Ranger Services and Fish/Wildlife Management. He began his emergency services career as a Firefighter/EMT-Basic on the Harrison Township Fire Department in 1991. While at Hocking College in 1992, Keith graduated from the National Ranger Training Institute NPS seasonal law enforcement academy.



From 1994 to 2001, he worked seasonally as an NPS law enforcement ranger in multiple districts in Yellowstone, including an assignment on the security team for the Gray Wolf Reintroduction Project. Between seasons during that time frame, he attended Wright State University and earned a Bachelor of Arts in Communications.

Keith became a permanent law enforcement ranger with the NPS in 2001 at Everglades National Park. In 2002, he graduated from the Federal Law Enforcement Training Center where he was recognized as the highest qualifying expert shooter in his class and he earned the distinguished fitness award.

Keith went on to work at Shenandoah and then, Great Smoky Mountains before moving back to Dayton.

Keith is certified as a Taser and NPS Electronic Control Weapons Instructor, a Federal Law Enforcement Control Tactics Instructor, and a Field Training Ranger. He has participated in several detail assignments including Hurricane Ivan and Hurricane Katrina operations at Gulf Islands National Seashore, three presidential visits, and multiple Homeland Security assignments.

Keith keeps very active in his free time. He enjoys practicing kickboxing and mixed martial arts, herpetology, photography, table tennis, scuba diving, and travel.

Keith says, "I am excited about being in this new position at Hopewell Culture and Dayton Aviation Heritage. I am looking forward to all of the truly unique opportunities this new position will bring and am excited about being close to family and friends."

Our new park VIP, **Karen Hoekstra**,

was born in Oakland California and grew up in the San Francisco Bay Area. She studied business and sales/marketing and worked for several major corporations. One job involved being the first woman to sell and repair pneumatically driven tools for Senco Products. Karen's travels have taken her to England, Scotland and other parts of Europe. Also a scuba diver, Karen has



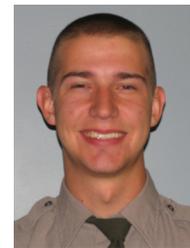
explored the waters of Monterey Bay, the Sea of Cortez, Hawaii and Tahiti. While working in Oakland, Karen met and married Aldyn Hoekstra in March 1997. In July 2000, they moved to Point Loma, San Diego, California where she was a docent at Cabrillo National Monument for five years. In May 2010, Karen and Aldyn moved to Oakwood after being offered a job in Dayton.

Leisa Ling, a part-time park guide, comes to us as a seasonal veteran of four years with the National Park Service. She began her tenure as a seasonal park dispatcher at Sequoia NP in 1979 and moved on to park interpreter at Sequoia NP and Independence NHP. She began work as a part-time park guide at the two visitor centers at Dayton Aviation Heritage National Historical Park in June of 2010.



Outside of the NPS, Leisa had an extensive career in the garment industry. Her varied work experiences include sales and marketing to product line and logo designer.

Daniel Hughes was hired to work as a student park guide at the two visitor centers of Dayton Aviation Heritage NHP in July, 2010. He is a senior in the history department at the University of Dayton. In addition to his studies, Daniel is a member of the Air Force ROTC at the University of Dayton, which demands much of his time this term. Prior to joining our staff, Daniel held positions with the Boy Scouts of America and the University of Dayton.



Kimberly Juhnke was hired in July, 2010, to work as a student park guide at the two visitor centers of Dayton Aviation Heritage NHP. She is a junior in the history department at the University of Dayton with a minor in human rights. Her deep interest in history is evident by her contagious enthusiasm. Kimberly has prior experience in sales work at a nursery, a retailer, and as a tutor.



Huffman Prairie Aero Carnival 2010

"Step right up, and see the amazing Wright Flyer! Yes, this is a replica of the very flying machine the Wright Brothers invented and flew right here at Huffman Prairie!" These were the words that were echoed by "carnival workers" at the first Huffman Prairie Aero Carnival this year. The carnival presented by the park and the 88th Air Base Wing Wright-Patterson



Visitors stopping by to learn about the Wright B Valentine flyer.

Air Force Base (AFB); Aviation Trail Inc; Dayton History; Wright-Patterson AFB Aero Club; Air Force Research Lab; Air Force Institute of Technology; and the National Aviation Heritage Alliance took a step back in time to the early 1910s and life and times of the Wright brothers. If you listened closely, one could hear chants about the Women's Suffrage movement over the chugging sounds of the Ford Model T's running up and down the street. The sweet smell of hay filled the air as a wagon went by with a park ranger thrilling guests with the daring and dangerous exploits of the Wrights' flying experiments at Huffman Prairie. Following the hayride, several visitors chose to relax in the Aviation Trail, Inc silent movie theater. The film "Wings" was the first film ever to win an Academy Award for Best Picture. People of all ages enjoyed this silent movie while sipping cool and refreshing lemonade. While on their



The Model T club added a touch of yesterday to the carnival.

way to the Wright-Patterson AFB Aero Club flight school, several stopped to view the circa 1915 Ladies Fashion Show. Wow! How many layers of clothing did women wear back then? My, how fashion has changed. In celebration of the centennial of the Wright Brothers Flying School, children could learn the basics of flying by trying their hand on the several flight simulators that were available. Then it was off to the Air Force Institute of Technology model airplane building contest. No carnival would be complete without a Family Fun Zone filled with carnival games, prizes, and bouncy houses organized by the Boy Scouts from Wright-Patterson AFB. What a great day it was to end summer vacation with a fun-filled day of a nostalgic look at life in the early 1900s. Please come join us at Huffman Prairie on August 20, 2011 for our next Aero Carnival.



Park Superintendent Dean Alexander gives moral support to future aviators on the Wright B flyer simulator.

2010 Bike-With-A-Ranger Rides

The Bike-with-a-Ranger tours sponsored by the National Park Service, were a great way for cyclists to explore Dayton's history and learn more about the Wright brothers this past summer. Cyclists were able to choose from two bicycle programs this year. Originating at the Wright-Dunbar Interpretive Center, the new *Gem City: Cradle of Creativity* tour visited places of inventiveness, innovation, and creativity like the Wrights' bicycle shop and the home of poet Paul Laurence Dunbar. The *Huffman Prairie* and *Historic Patterson Field* tour let cyclists learn about Huffman Prairie Flying Field and visit historic buildings on Wright-Patterson AFB.

Volunteer Recognition Luncheon



A festive day with food, drink and good cheer at the Wright Memorial VIP luncheon.

On Saturday, October 9, 2010, over twenty-five park volunteers gathered at the Wright Memorial and Huffman Prairie Flying Field Interpretive Center for the park's first Volunteer Recognition Luncheon. The luncheon was a perfect way to meet new park volunteers as well as reconnect with the people we work with every day. Volunteers are vital to park operations and visitor services at the Wright-Dunbar Interpretive Center, Huffman Prairie Flying Field Interpretive Center, and the Wright Aviation Center at Carillon Historical Park. They donated 3,700 hours in 2010, which is a value to the park of \$77,000!

Join us next year for our 2011 Bike-with-a-Ranger tours. Look for our new schedule next spring.



Park guide and bicycle tour aficionado Mark Dues talks about Paul Laurence Dunbar at the Dunbar House.



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2011 Speaker Series



Our Aviation Heritage Speakers Series finished its 2010 season with a presentation from Paul Dye. He spoke at the Engineers Club on October 20 about flying the Space Shuttle - how it flies, and how missions are prepared and executed.

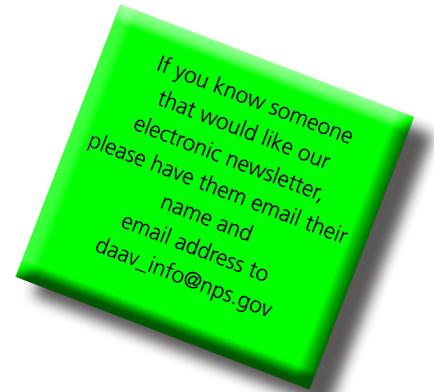
Our Speaker Series for 2011 already has a list of prominent guests including:

- Paul Glenshaw, "Ladies and Gentlemen: The Aeroplane! The Rise and Fall of the Wright Exhibition Team," May 18.
- Tom Crouch on the Wright School of Aviation focusing on school students such as Hap Arnold and Cal Rogers, July 20.
- Dawne Dewey, "Soaring at Kitty Hawk, 1911" October 19, 2011.

The speaker series is designed to offer the public a variety of knowledgeable speakers addressing topics related to aviation history through engaging discussion and firsthand accounts.

All of these talks are on Wednesday, 7:00 pm at the Engineers Club, 110 East Monument Avenue in Dayton. These events are free and open to the public. Seating is on a first come, first served basis.

For more information about these talks and other future speakers coming to the Engineers Club, call Dayton Aviation Heritage National Historical Park at 937.225.7705 or 937.425.0008.



Huffman Prairie Flying Field Saw Lots of Activity at the Huffman Prairie Aero Carnival August 21, 2010



These ladies were not just your average fashion trend setters, they also wanted the right to vote (for more information go to page 7).

EXPERIENCE YOUR AMERICA

The National Park Service cares for the special places saved by the American people so that all may experience our heritage.

Dayton Aviation Heritage National Historical Park, Dayton, Ohio, Birthplace of Aviation