



Wright-Dunbar Heritage News



Wright-Dunbar Interpretive Center Grand Opening -- June 27, 2003.

Park Evolving the Wright Way

The past 8 months have truly been exciting, both for the Dayton community and Dayton Aviation Heritage National Historical Park. New and rehabilitated facilities are now open at all four units of the park; new exhibits and displays have been installed at each of the park interpretive centers; once difficult to locate sites, even for native Daytonians, are now well signed along area highways and streets; and best of all, thousands of visitors are now visiting and enjoying each of these sites, many for the first time. These significant additions to the list of

continued growth in educational and interpretive programming, and improving connections with our partner sites. An important element of improved connectivity was the recent completion of standardized park entry signs located at each park unit. The new entry signs reflect a common design and message, serving to identify each site as part of the Dayton Aviation Heritage NHP.

In recent months park education staff have provided over 100 educational programs to more than 4,500 students; park rangers have provided close to 2,000 programs reaching 43,471 visitors; and numerous off-site programs have been offered in the surrounding communities. Perhaps the most exciting new program developed and presented was "Time Flies," a new interpretive program developed by Carillon Historical Park that established a foundation for what we anticipate will be an annual living history program. This year's inaugural presentation of "Time Flies" occurred over 17 days in July and reached in excess of 30,000 people.

(continued on page 12)

"Dayton IS the Birthplace of Aviation"

Dayton attractions have marked a step forward for the Dayton community by communicating a loud and clear message – Dayton IS the Birthplace of Aviation.

Other important developments include a significant expansion of park staffing, an increase in volunteer opportunities,

Coming in 2004

- Aviation Heritage Speaker Series continues in 2004. Call 937.225.7705 for updated times, dates and speakers.
- New schedule for Huffman Prairie visitation. (see inside for details).
- The Wright Cycle Company building re-opens in April with new exhibits. Call 937.225.7705 for updates and opening date.

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Time Flies!

Under the leadership of Carillon Historical Park, *Time Flies*, an event that ran for three weeks in July 2003, brought the



experience of living history and a taste of what famous and not so famous figures of the 1900s in Dayton, Ohio, might have been like to 30,000 visitors who visited the four units of our park system. Whether it was living history programs about Paul Laurence Dunbar and his poetry, arguments between the Wright brothers, testimonials by Katharine Wright, Charles Taylor or town's folk of the 1900s, *Time Flies* provided a living history familiar of Dayton and its neighborhoods.

Actors, professionals and amateurs, supported by numerous behind the scenes staff (many volunteers), made the event a success. National Park Service employee, Arthur Currence, had the challenge and honor to

portray Wilbur Wright at Carillon Historical Park. Arthur said it was a learning opportunity that helped hone his interpretive skills — he learned what practice, practice, practice meant.

Everyone who had a role to play gained a personal understanding of

the character they represented and made every effort to stay faithful to the history of that individual. Visitors to our various park units were swept back in time and learned about the men and women who helped make Dayton what it is today.

This was the summer where Dayton celebrated 100 Years of Flight and *Time Flies* broke ground for an anticipated on-going living history program at park sites of Dayton Aviation Heritage NHP. Like all programs of this nature its success and continuation will depend heavily on volunteer support. If you would like to become involved next year to help continue such a program then contact the park's volunteer coordinator at 937.225.7705 or 937.293.2841 at Carillon Historical Park.



Carillon Historical Park

Carillon Historical Park unveiled a new interactive kiosk to orient the visitor to the historical links in Dayton. Located in the Kettering Family Education Center, this kiosk helps visitors make connections to locations where further information can be found, including Dayton Aviation Heritage NHP. Besides Carillon you can also find a similar interactive kiosk at our other three park units pointing visitors in the historic direction of their choice.



The John W. Berry, Sr. - Wright Brothers Aviation Center has a new facility sign that clearly identifies it as a part of the National Park Service. When entering the cycle shop the visitor passes through a new Orientation Room clearly relating the facility to the National Park Service and Dayton Aviation Heritage. While walking through the exhibits, “Local Links” provide more invitations to explore the Dayton area.

Carillon Historical Park hosted its annual “A Hometown Holiday”, December 13 and 14. The holiday season came alive in three themed areas: Pioneer Traditions, A Wright’s Christmas, and Holiday on Main Street. Visitors encountered sights and sounds of the season throughout the Park with strolling carolers, bell choirs, musicians, and a Carillon concert that was given each evening on the Deeds Carillon. The Kettering Family Education Center hosted a train display in the atrium center and offered rides on the Santa Express. At Santa’s Workshop children of all ages were able to make and take home a holiday craft.

American Aviation Heritage Theme Study Update

Few technological advances have transformed the American economy, society, culture, and national character as the development of powered flight. Our nation’s leadership in both civil and military aviation set the foundation for the twentieth century to be an American century. With the 100th anniversary of the first powered flight in 2003, the preservation of properties nationally significant in the history of aviation is an important goal for the future education of American citizens. However, while many aircraft, rockets, and spacecraft have been preserved in museum settings, many sites, structures, buildings, and objects associated with this story are not protected for future generations.

To ensure that this important part of our nation’s heritage is preserved and protected, the National Park Service and the United States Air Force are partnering to prepare a Theme Study on the history of American aviation to identify the sites, districts, buildings, structures, and objects that best illustrate or commemorate key events in the history of this nationally significant historical theme.

Since the theme study was launched on March 10, 2003, at a public event at the Huffman Prairie Flying Field Interpretive Center, the National Park Service has worked with a variety of partners to complete the following tasks:

Wright Brothers National Memorial: Site of the First Controlled Powered Flight. The Teaching with Historic Places Lesson Plan is based on National Park Service materials at Wright Brothers National Memorial and other sources related to the Wright brothers. The lesson was written by Brenda K. Olio, a former National Conference of State Historic Preservation Officers staff member. Available at www.cr.nps.gov/nr/twhp/index.htm, the lesson helps students: describe the status of human flight experiments at the turn of the 20th century; determine why the Wright brothers chose the Outer Banks of North Carolina to conduct their flight experiments and how conditions in this region impacted their efforts; describe the challenges faced by the Wright brothers during their flight experiments and how they overcame them to achieve controlled powered flight on December 17, 1903; examine how the Wright brothers’ historic accomplishments at Kill Devil Hills, North Carolina have been commemorated; research efforts to commemorate important people and events in their own community.

• *Aviation: From Sand Dunes to Sonic Booms: A National Register of Historic Places Travel Itinerary.* The National Park Service’s National Register of Historic Places and Regional Offices, in partnership with Dayton Aviation Heritage National Historical Park, United

States Air Force, U.S. Centennial of Flight Commission and the National Conference of State Historic Preservation Officers (NCSHPO), proudly invite you to explore the history of American aviation. In celebration of a century of flight, this travel itinerary highlights more than 100 listings in the National Register of Historic Places— historic aircraft, airfields, research and testing facilities, aeronautical and engineering research laboratories, military installations, space launch sites and control facilities—that tell the stories of the significant people and events that made the United States the world’s leader in aviation. This itinerary will be launched in November at www.cr.nps.gov/nr.

• *Access Aviation Related National Historic Landmark documentation on Line.* To help Americans learn about the places in their neighborhoods and across the country that helped to define the first century of flight, the National Park Service has digitized information on over 20 National Historic Landmarks. This documentation, crafted over a 30 year period, establishes a foundation for subsequent research on the history of American aviation. Go to www.cr.nps.gov/nhl/themes/themes.htm and follow the link to aviation related properties.

John Sprinkle

Concert at Dunbar State Memorial

A concert in celebration of Zenobia Powell Perry's 95th birthday was presented at the Paul Laurence Dunbar State Memorial on the 4th of October. Composer and pianist Zenobia Powell Perry is a national treasure. She has devoted her life to music - first to performing, later to composing, and always to teaching. The acclaimed artistic interpreters wove magical moments for the audience as they presented a full program of Perry's compositions.

Zenobia Perry began composing *Sonatine for Piano and Clarinet* during the 1950s while she studied with the French composer Darius Milhaud at the Aspen Festival Composers Workshop although she completed the composition in 1963. Her "*The Angels Done Bowed Down*" embodied a trilogy of old spirituals that her grandfather often sang during her childhood. Perry's oldest daughter, Janis-Rozena Peri, soprano, interpreted the work. *Threnody*, one of Perry's most often-performed song cycles, was written for her daughter. Her *Sonatine for Piano* was composed during the years of 1962-63 and premiered at Central State University that year at a concert devoted entirely to

Zenobia Perry's music. She played this work on many concert stages over the years; its intricacies reveal her formidable technique as a concert pianist. Her *Rhapsody for Piano* was written for Janis-Rozena while she was a piano major at Otterbein College. Influenced by Zenobia Perry's love of Romantic Literature, this passionate and moving work has a style uniquely her own, including some dissonances and unusual harmonies. *Promenade* and *Flight* are included in Perry's collection *Piano Potpourri* assembled in 1990 of piano pieces composed throughout her career. *Flight* was inspired by the exploration of the American astronauts.

The highlight of the concert was the *Song Cycle of Poems of Paul Laurence Dunbar* that Perry composed between 1977 and 1983; some premiered in New York City in 1979 by Janis-Rozena Peri. Zenobia Perry has a life long love of Dunbar's works, having heard his poetry when she was a child, recited by her mother while performing household tasks. The final song of the cycle, "*Drizzle*" is in the style of a 19th-century folksong or minstrel tune. The poetry, written in

Negro dialect, tells how a damp drizzling day reminds the poet of how some people talk incessantly and say nothing.

Performing Zenobia Perry's works were John Crotty (D.M.T. Eastman School of Music) of West Virginia University faculty; Janis-Rozena Peri (M.M. Miami University) West Virginia University faculty; Jeannie Gayle Pool (Ph.D. Claremont Graduate University) Fullerton College faculty in California; Berkeley Price (D.M.A. Eastman School of Music) West Virginia University and Winward School, Calif.; Deon Nielsen Price (D.M.A. University of Southern California) commissioned composer and prize-winning pianist; and Darryl Taylor (D.M.A. University of Michigan) vocal artist whose performances in opera, oratorio, recital and recordings are highly lauded.

At the completion of the concert Zenobia Powell Perry was presented to the audience and she recited her favorite Dunbar Poem ending an enchanting historical moment at the Paul Laurence Dunbar State Memorial.

LaVerne Sci

Paul Laurence Dunbar State Memorial



During the past year, the memorial has undergone a number of changes. The most noticeable from the outside is the expanded visitor center. The center expanded to provide new space for a gift shop, orientation area and a new classroom area. The classroom is available for community meetings by contacting the Dunbar House staff. The orientation area has new interpretive

panels serving as a portal to enter the museum exhibit area of the "Cole House" which displays numerous literary and personal items of Mr. Dunbar. Of special interest to the cyclist is a Viking bicycle given to Dunbar by the Wright brothers. Several interactive exhibits allow the visitor to read or hear a selection of Paul's works. Still under develop in the Mundig House is a resource library (non-lending) which will focus on the history of Dayton and Dayton writers.

After leaving the visitor center visitors are in for a delight upon entering the home that Paul purchased for his mother in 1904 and in which he spent the last years of his life. In many of the rooms, new custom reproduction wallpapers backdrop many of the original furnishings, giving the home a comfortable and



authentic appearance. Plans are in the works to continue with work in the kitchen and back "porch".

When you have the chance, visit the Dunbar State Memorial at the corner of Dunbar and Edison this winter. Hours are Monday through Friday, 9:00 AM to 4:30 PM with the last tour of the home starting at 3:30 PM.

Fundamentals II Training at the Albright Center, Grand Canyon National Park

New permanent personnel at the Dayton Aviation Heritage NHP were given the opportunity to attend training at the Albright Center, Grand Canyon NP. Gregg Smith and Julia Frasure attended this introductory training 6-17 October, 2003, and found it to be a very insightful experience. Along with the classroom training at the Albright Center, they traveled to Glen Canyon National Recreation Area and were apprised of the particular problems associated with the management of such a site (protection of cultural and natural resources while providing recreational facilities to the public, waste management, safety issues for boaters, etc). Many of these issues paralleled those managed at the Grand Canyon NP. Gregg and Julia were able to experience how the Grand Canyon NP personnel handled these issues from the visitor perspective while sight-seeing over the weekend. Gregg took a 7-mile hike into and out of the canyon; he said it was an unbelievable experience. Julia stuck to the rim trails.



October Fundamentals II class at Lake Powell field trip -- Gregg with binoculars and Julia to Gregg's left.

This training is part of a 5-part course geared to new employees which covers all aspects of the National Park Service (NPS). Fundamentals I concentrated on the history and organization of the NPS. Fundamentals II at the Albright Center concentrated on the responsibilities of the NPS and why it exists. Fundamentals I, III, and IV are accomplished on-line while

Fundamentals II and V are completed off-site at the Grand Canyon NP and Harper's Ferry NHP, respectively. Other personnel from Dayton Aviation Heritage NHP who have completed the course include Darrin Palean, and Mandy Murray who attended during the publication of this newsletter.

Julia Frasure

Huffman Prairie Flying Field

July was a huge month for the Huffman Prairie Flying Field, with record crowds attending the *Time Flies* events, and the



rededication on July 16. Those who were on hand to dedicate plaques in honor of the significance of Huffman Prairie Flying Field included the host Lt. Gen Dick Reynolds, Aeronautical Systems Center commander, and Larry Blake, Park Superintendent. Also included in the ceremony was Mayor Rhine McLin, Amanda Wright Lane, former shuttle

astronaut Jerry Ross, and representatives from the Ohio Bicentennial Commission and the American Institute of Aeronautics and Astronautics. The event was kicked off with a flyover by the Wright "B" flyer.

Since July, there have been continued interpretive enhancements to the flying field. New to the site are a replica catapult with launch rail, an outline of the 1910 hangar site, renovated boundary markers with larger flags (visible from the overlook at Wright Memorial), and a new site identifier sign on Marl Road.

New exhibits in the replica 1905 hangar will be open to the public with completion of a ramp to the hangar and a permanent prop to keep the hangar door safely open.

The replica Valentine Wright B flyer that was on periodic display at the field over the summer has returned to its winter home at Wright Brothers Airport, home of the Wright "B" Flyer organization. The flyer is scheduled to return May, 2004.

Jan Ferguson



Dayton Aviation Heritage Commission

On December 31, 2003, the Dayton Aviation Heritage Commission will cease to exist, in accordance with the congressional legislation that established the Commission and the Park in 1992. Finding a federal commission actually going out of business is a surprise to many, and especially to critics of government who believe that such never occurs! However, it was the intent of the original proponents for the legislation that



Facade of the Wright Engineering Laboratory, 15 North Broadway, October 2003.

the Commission operate as needed to prepare for the Centennial celebration and would come to an end with the close of 2003. Since its creation, the Commission has played a significant role in the re-development of the Wright Dunbar

neighborhood, along with generating support for the construction of the National Park facilities. The last few months for the Commission will be busy, as it finds itself very involved in several, significant activities.

These include the following:
Creating a follow-on organization, the Aviation Heritage Foundation, Inc. This organization will help facilitate collaborative activities among the region's aviation heritage groups beyond 2003. Completing development of the Orville Wright lab site at 15 North Broadway Street.

Preparing a concept plan for the future development of the Wright's Fifth Cycle Shop at 1127 West Third Street. The concept plan will guide the construction of exciting elements at the site where the world's first airplane was designed and built.

Laying the groundwork for the presentation of Time Flies, on permanent basis, as an educational and cultural program throughout the Park in 2004 and beyond.

With the Commission approaching the sunset date, it is clear that creating the follow-on group represents one of its final, but most important projects. Over the past 20 years, much progress was made in transforming the undeveloped sites of Dayton's aviation past into the "jewels" they are today. The Aviation Heritage Foundation, Inc, by encouraging a collaborative approach, will help promote what has been built, and to further develop those sites and programs that currently exist as "diamonds in the rough". Telling the story of aviation developments in Dayton has just begun, with many interesting and exciting sites not yet open and available to the public. The Foundation, just as the Commission has done most recently, will work to maintain interest among the public to hear that story. The Commission fully anticipates the Foundation will become a permanent part of the community's efforts to preserve and protect the treasures of aviation that all began with the Wright brothers in Dayton, Ohio nearly 100 years ago.

Educational Programs

Dayton Aviation Heritage's education program served 4,607 students in 107 programs, ranging from pre-school through continuing education. Judi Hart, Education Specialist for the park states: "These educational programs involve developing engaging lessons to create environments where all students have the opportunity to learn."

Students and teachers alike are fascinated by the stories portrayed about the Wright brothers and Paul Laurence Dunbar at the park's facilities which offer an increased understanding of their contributions to the nation.

Programs are free and offered through ranger visits to the school, or ranger led

programs at park facilities. These programs help students understand the significance of the park, as well as bring to life the accomplishments of the Wright brothers in a fun presentation. A new curriculum guide is in the development stage and should be finished early next year. For more information or to schedule a program, please call Judi Hart at (937) 225-7705 x222.

"The most interesting information comes from children, for they tell all they know and then they stop."

Mark Twain



Wright's Fifth Cycle Shop: Archaeological Study Due Soon

From June 30 through July, 2003, Dr. Robert Riordan, director of the Field School in Archaeology at Wright State, directed students during their archaeological study at 1127 West Third Street, Dayton, Ohio – the Wright brothers' fifth cycle shop. Public viewing

of the West Third Street area enabled many to watch and talk with those conducting the dig. The Dayton Aviation Heritage Commission sponsored the study and a report in the near future authored by Dr. Frank L. Cowan will be available.



Wright State University students getting hands on experiences at 1127 West Third Street dig.

Dayton Staff Help in Fire and Hurricane

National Park Service (NPS) representatives from Ohio traveled to Montana, August 30 to September 11, 2003, to work on the "Roberts Fire" in the Flathead National Forest and Glacier National Park. NPS crew members were from Perry's Victory, Cuyahoga Valley, and Dayton Aviation Heritage, including our own Leonard Simpson. Other agencies represented were from the Wayne National Forest, state parks, Hocking College as well as fire trained citizens and Volunteer Fire Department employees. The fire was part of a "Mega-plex", i.e. 6-10 fires in a given area, consuming approximately 120,000 acres.

Another disaster relief opportunity arose after Hurricane Isabel. Dayton NPS staff Robert Stemple and Leonard Simpson traveled to eastern Virginia and worked

from October 9 thru 19, 2003. Their primary efforts involved assisting National Parks and other park areas from a base camp in Williamsburg, Virginia. Support was provided to Fredericksburg, Richmond, George Washington's Birthplace, Petersburg and Colonial parks and battlefields. Separate Incident Command teams in North Carolina assisted Hatteras, Kitty Hawk, Cape Lookout, etc. NPS staff came from as far away as Fairbanks, Alaska.

These two details, and similar assignments, support part of the NPS mission "...to preserve and protect the natural and cultural resources for future generations."

New Faces at Dayton's NPS

Timothy S. Good, Management Assistant, comes to the park from Cuyahoga Valley NP. Tim served as the IT Specialist at Cuyahoga, and at Lincoln Home NHS. He also served as an interpretive ranger at Lincoln Home, and four other NPS sites: The National Mall, the National Park Service's Washington Office, Ford's Theatre NHS, and the Chesapeake and Ohio Canal NHP. Tim has a B.A. from Valparaiso University and a M.A. from the University of Durham, England, both degrees specializing in history. He has one book published, *We Saw Lincoln Shot: One Hundred Eyewitness Accounts*, which covers the Lincoln Assassination. Most importantly, Tim's wife, Cindy, is pregnant with their first child which is due in late April.



Tim Good & Ed Roach

Edward Roach transferred to Dayton Aviation NHP as the site's new historian. Roach holds a B.A. in history from Moravian College, in Bethlehem, Pennsylvania, and an M.A. in history from Indiana University of Pennsylvania. He was a historian at Prince William Forest Park (NPS), a 15,000-acre eastern piedmont forest 30 miles south of Washington, D.C. He is a 2003 graduate of the National Park Service's Service-wide Intake Program. He taught English with the U.S. Peace Corps in Ivano-Frankivsk, Ukraine, from 1998 to 2000.

As historian at Dayton Aviation, Edward is responsible for environmental and historic preservation compliance projects, topical research and writing, and various other projects concerning the history interpreted by the park. He also serves as a member of the steering committee for the NPS Early American Sites Network.

Record Visitation at Dayton Aviation Heritage

In fiscal year 2003, the Park experienced an increase in visitation, a record 82,049. Even before the opening of the new west Dayton anchor, the park's visitation had exceeded previous years. A major contributor was the opening of the Huffman Prairie Flying Field Interpretive Center in December, 2002. As of June, 2003 the park had in excess of 14,000 visitors. In the past few months that number has nearly doubled reaching over 49,000 visitors for both the Wright-

Dunbar Interpretive Center and Huffman Prairie Flying Field Interpretive Center. Factoring in Carillon Historical Park and Paul Laurence Dunbar State Memorial, a record 82,049 visitors experienced the story of Paul Laurence Dunbar, Wilbur Wright and Orville Wright.

82,049
82,049
82,049

A busy season for Dayton Aviation Heritage NHP Interpretive programs

The most significant accomplishment for the park's interpretive program this summer was the addition of new park facilities – a new interpretive center and signage around the Dayton area. Adding to a new and unified identity for our park and partners are new signs at each site. For many visitors their first comment when arriving to our park was often ... “We could not find you. You need to do something about getting some signs up so it's easier to find this place.” Now, throughout Dayton, on major arteries and along city streets, signs point the way to our four park units.

Our new Wright-Dunbar Interpretive Center and Aviation Trail Visitor Center (a.k.a. The Wright Cycle Company Complex) opened its doors and began telling the story of three incredible individuals from Dayton, Ohio – Wilbur Wright, Orville Wright and Paul Laurence Dunbar. In October, the exhibits in the Wright-Dunbar Interpretive Center have had finishing touches added to them. For many returning visitors the new additions have given them a wonderful second first time experience.

The development and updating process for The Wright Cycle Company Complex will continue this winter with the closure of The Wright Cycle Company building from January thru March, 2004 to repair

the interior and install new exhibits. These exhibits will highlight the development of the bicycle, the brother's business, their technical skills and the link between bicycles and airplanes.

Complimenting the new centers, the growing staff of interpretive rangers provided programs, talks, walks and demonstrations. Programs included special events such as The Wright Cycle Company Complex and Walk of Fame dedications and re-dedication of the Huffman Prairie Flying Field, and hosting touring groups like the cyclist from the Great Ohio Bike Adventure. Many of our rangers visited groups and organizations throughout the greater Dayton area as part of the park's community outreach. The replica Wright Flyer B was on hand

this past summer at Huffman Prairie Flying Field where visitors were able to learn more about the Wrights and their flying machine. The opportunity of telling the story of the Wright brothers and Dunbar has never been greater with the restoration of the Hoover Block and Setzer building and Paul Laurence Dunbar State Memorial, the events of *Time Flies* presented by Carillon Historical Park and this year's centennial celebration of flight through out the greater Dayton area.

With the success of these programs, Dayton Aviation Heritage National Historical Park is now truly a park with a sound foundation and spirit to tell the story of three extraordinary individuals special to Dayton, Ohio.



Park Ranger Darrin Palean gives a talk to a group of visitors.

The National Park Service says Goodbye to a Valued Team Member

On December 31, 2003, Mary Mathews will retire as Executive Director of Carillon Historical Park after over 18 years of dedicated service.

Carillon Historical Park, founded by Col. and Mrs. Edward Deeds in the 1940's, was set up as a subsidiary of the Dayton Foundation.

As an employee of the Dayton Foundation, Mary was asked by Fred Smith, at that time, Chairman of the Foundation's Board of Trustees, to study the Park's organizational and operational structure and submit a recommendation for the Park's future. Mary's recommendation was to establish an Executive Director position for the Park to steer the operation in a new, growth direction. The rest is pretty much history.

Mary was asked to assume the duties of this new position and since that time Carillon Historical Park has grown from a beautiful, quiet green space with a few historic buildings into a vibrant regional historical museum and Park.

Under Mary's leadership, a Governing Board was established, a membership program initiated, a staff gradually added, the grounds improved, educational programming begun, the collection enlarged and the finances improved.

In 1993 the Board of the Park commissioned a master plan to be developed, and a three-year capital campaign was launched that raised over 13 million dollars. That campaign resulted in the addition of the Kettering Family Education Center, the John W. Berry, Sr.

Wright Brothers Aviation Center, the James F. Dicke Family Transportation Center, and Culp's Café.

Mary was also instrumental in the establishment of the Dayton Aviation Heritage National Historical Park, was appointed to the Ohio Bicentennial Commission and the First Flight Centennial Federal Advisory Board, and served as Vice Chair of Inventing Flight. Suffice it to say that without Mary, Dayton and the region would not have a Park that is today so vibrant, growing and admired as is Carillon Historical Park.

Mary, we will miss you as you embark on your much deserved retirement. You are leaving a wonderful legacy that the community and our visitors will enjoy for a very long time to come.

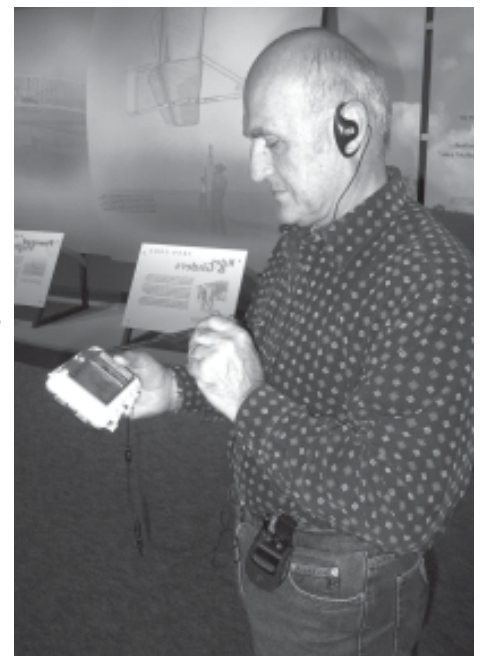
Reprinted from Carillon's newsletter

Huffman Prairie Flying Field Interpretive Center Selected as Test Site for NPS

The National Park Service (NPS) selected Huffman Prairie Flying Field Interpretive Center (HPFFIC) as a pilot site for the use of Navigator handheld units. These interactive handhelds augment museum displays enabling visitors to dig deeper into aviation history and provide film footage and statistics on the museum's Sky of Honor. The Navigator units are easy to use and have received rave reviews by visitors.

This cutting-edge technology was developed by InTouractive Planet and its partners, Discovery Wings Channel and Hewlett-Packard. The Navigator handheld units came to the facility in August and will be available for visitor

use for no charge. We feel very fortunate to have been selected by the NPS to test these units and encourage everyone to come by and examine one for yourself!



Parviz Niknam from Wichita, Kansas, uses one of the center's Navigators to learn more about local aviation.

THANKS Volunteers!

Volunteers helped the park in many ways this year: they provide assistance in the operation of new facilities, assisted in the operation of our expanded library and archive facilities, and lent a hand with restoration work on our historic facilities.

Harley Rose, son of NPS employee Bob Stemple, worked 78 hours with park staff to remove and re-build the porch on the cycle shop and accomplished other maintenance related duties. **Joe Honious**, working toward this Eagle Scout status, led members of Boy Scout of America Troop 236 in a restoration project at The Wright Cycle Company building where they replaced framing materials and



Eagle Scout project

Painted the exterior prior. Joe worked with staff to identify the elements of the project, prepared a plan, and recruited volunteers. The crew: **Brian Roberts, Kevin Roberts, Michael Huelsman, M Roth, Matt Barthlemy, Mike Harbaugh, Dan Honious, Dusty Honious, Matt Kaper, Quintin Neihelsel, Will T O'Hanlon, Theo Leakas, Matt Jeckering, Lou Schirack, and Nick Suman**. In total they worked 31 days, 155 hours. Good job guys!



Steve Weaver

As the park was preparing for its expansion, Ford Motor Company

provided financial support to the National Parks Foundation to facilitate transportation planning geared toward park visitors. To complete this task, intern **Cairon Walker** worked with Greater Dayton RTA to establish a park shuttle



Andrea Alberico

system and developed a transportation plan in support of the Park and the Heritage Commission. Cairon helped plan and design local routes throughout the Miami Valley and signage locations on the local thoroughfares. While her principal duties were transportation planning, she also helped monitor construction



Lewis Goodman

activities on Paul Laurence Dunbar Street during recent renovation of the street.

Volunteers assisted with grand opening ceremonies at the Wright-Dunbar Interpretive Center in June and continue to support day to day operations. Two regular volunteers, **Andrea Alberico** and **Steven Weaver** have been working weekly since the facility opened at the front desk. **Mara Curran** and **Betty Darst** were available when needed for special events. **Lewis Goodman**, recruited to archive the parks photo collection began working in October. **Al Howey** and **Mark Dues** are assisting with historical research.

Volunteers help the park in a variety of ways and are instrumental to its success of the operation. They relieve park staff to perform other duties, offer valuable insights, new perspectives and abilities that supplement the staff. They add services sometimes not affordable within the budget of the park.

VIPs

To become a volunteer, go on-line at www.nps.gov/daav/ and select the volunteer link with instructions. You can also contact Park Volunteer Coordinator Arthur Currence at 937-225-7726, ext 225 or write <arthur_currence@nps.gov.>



Mark Dues

Cooperative Education Employer of the Year

The NPS Midwest Region was designated The Cooperative Education Employer of the Year, while Mary Beth Wester of the Midwest Region was named The Cooperative Education Recruiter of the Year by Wilberforce University. Park Guide, Damany Dillard was named a Cooperative Education Student of the Year. The program is designed so that students alternate academic study on campus with paid employment in related fields and have a chance to field test a specific career.

Distinguished Visitor

US Senator John Glenn participated in the Inventing Flight ceremonies, July 3 and 4.

While in Dayton, he toured the WDIC and posed with staff in a group photo.



Senator John Glenn and Dayton Aviation Heritage park staff.

Carillon Historical Park Off Season Visitation Policy

Carillon Historical Park's exhibit buildings, including the *John W. Berry Sr.* - Wright Brothers Aviation Center are closed to the general public from November 1 until April 1.

The *John W. Berry Sr.* - Wright Brothers Aviation Center is open by appointment from November 1 until April 1, Monday through Friday, 9:30 am to 5:00 pm. To ensure fair and consistent application of this policy, and to make the most effective use of limited Education Department resources, the following guidelines apply to visiting the Wright Brothers Aviation Center:

- Wright Brothers Aviation Center is available by appointment only.
- Visits must be scheduled a minimum of two working days in advance of the visit.
- Approval will be dependent upon the availability of both staff and the facility.
- An admission fee is three dollars per individual.
- Carillon Historical Park members receive a 10 % discount.

Contact Alex Heckman, Carillon Historic Park 937.293.2841, ext 101

Park Schedule Winter Hours

Wright-Dunbar Interpretive Center
830 AM to 500 PM, 7 Days/Week,
Closed Thanksgiving, December 25
& New Year's Day

The Wright Cycle Company building
at 22 South Williams will close for
renovation in January to March, 2004.
Call 252.7705 for latest information.

**Huffman Prairie Flying Field
Interpretive Center**
830 AM to 500 PM, 7 Days/Week,
Closed Thanksgiving, December 25
& New Year's Day

Huffman Prairie Flying Field
Until further notice the field is OPEN
800 AM to 600 PM Monday, Tuesday,
Thursday to Saturday
*CLOSED Sunday and Wednesday to the
general public*
Subject to closure per base needs

Carillon Historical Park
Closed Until April 1, 2004
Wright Brothers Aviation Center tours
available by advance reservation
Call Alex Heckman at 293-2841 (ext.
101) for fees and information

Paul Laurence Dunbar State Memorial
Monday - Friday 930 AM to 430 PM
Last Tour starts at 330

2003 Speaker Series



Ann Birney, a.k.a. Amelia Earhart

Amelia Earhart visited the park November 13. Ann Birney presented a remarkable first person character relating stories of her childhood and flights, and sharing her motivation. At Wright-Dunbar Interpretive Center, 94 students had a chance to see her presentation while a mixed audience of 75 saw her at the Engineers Club.

Jerry Ross, former astronaut was a guest speaker July 17 at the Engineers Club. This seven flight veteran discussed his most recent launch dedicated to the assembly of the International Space Station.

Coming soon -- 2004 Speaker Series



Astronaut Jerry Ross



National Park Service
 U.S. Department of the Interior
 Dayton Aviation Heritage
 National Historical Park
 P.O. Box 9280
 Dayton, Ohio 45409

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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

National Park Service
 U.S. Department of Interior

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Park Evolution

(continued from front page)

The expanding volunteer program has provided the park with close to 1,500 hours of service with an estimated value of \$23,500. These dedicated members of the community have assisted with the planning for the new park highway signs, repainting the exterior of The Wright Cycle Company, and with the day-to-day operations of the park.

Park exhibits continue to grow and expand with several recent additions to the Wright-Dunbar Interpretive Center. Plans are also fast approaching for the rehabilitation of the interior of The Wright Cycle Company interior this winter, following the conclusion of the Centennial of Flight. The rehabilitation will include plaster repair, repainting, removal of some non-historic features, and the installation of new exhibits.

Expanded services and facilities are all supporting a growing awareness of

Dayton's important role in both the Arts and the Sciences. The Centennial of Flight Celebration has been a major element towards this increased awareness. The challenge of the future will be to build upon the public's new awareness, so that Dayton's role is not forgotten, but continues to be understood in the context of a century of development.

We hope you will continue to visit and explore the park, while also looking for new exhibits, programs and meeting new employees. We invite you to contact us to arrange ranger talks in the park or in your community.

Lawrence Blake
 Park Superintendent