

# The Triumph of Flight®

Bringing an Icon to Dayton - The Birthplace of Aviation

From the Sand to the Stars -  
Memorializing the Achievement of Flight

Soaring 270 feet above  
the intersection of  
I-70 & I-75  
and seen by thousands  
of vehicles daily, this  
144 foot wingspan  
monument to the  
Wright Flyer will  
symbolize Dayton, Ohio  
throughout the world.

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## OAA Convention Opportunity

As their website states, "The Ohio Aviation Association is the voice for airports that contribute to the economic vibrancy and well-being of Ohio, the birthplace of aviation." They advocate for Ohio's airports at the federal, state, and local levels; they communicate the value and economic benefits of the state's airports and its aviation/aerospace

industry; they educate and engage their membership and the public as appropriate. The organization is a non-profit committed to airport development and safety throughout Ohio.

Every spring, the OAA holds a conference where a wide variety of people throughout Ohio's aviation community can learn, network, and gain valuable information they can carry back to use in their daily endeavors. This year the conference was held on April 18<sup>th</sup>-19<sup>th</sup> at the Sheraton in Columbus, Ohio, and the Wright Image Group secured space to display our model and spread the word about the Triumph of Flight. This was our first major step toward reaching out across the state to generate interest and identify potential donors from areas other than southwestern Ohio.

Joe Lehman, a new Wright Image Group member and donor within the last year, headed up the WIG's participation, arranging for registration, transporting the display model to and from Columbus, coordinating the folks who would be assisting, and creating the capability for on-scene donations. Linda Kahn did a great job in getting reduced registration rates for us, and George Gianopolos contributed \$1000 to the effort - making it very affordable.



(L to R) Joe Lehman, Byron Kentner, and Bob Doyle "on duty" at the OAA Convention.

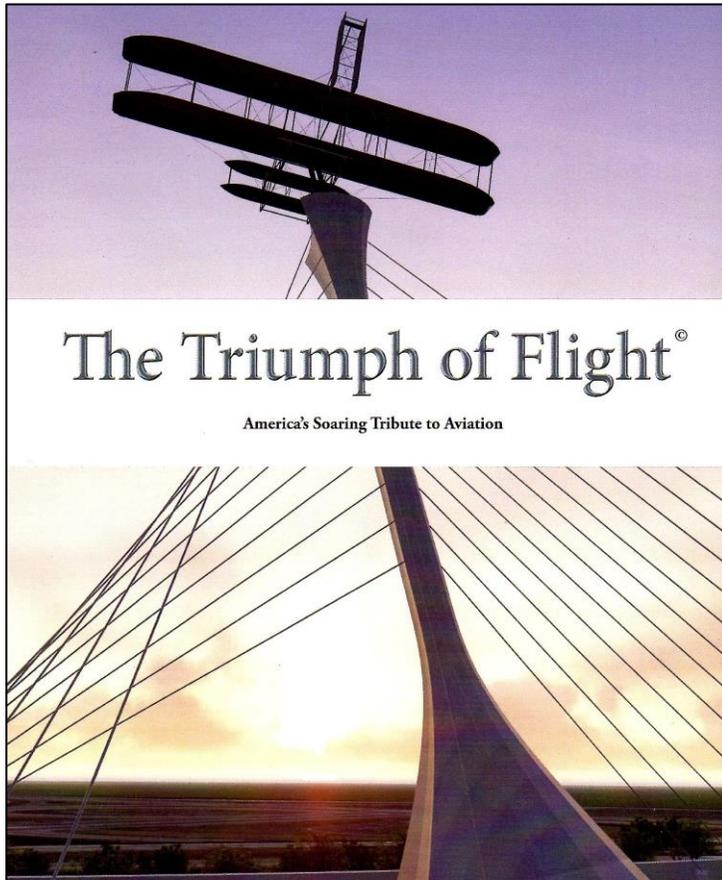
Joining Joe on the 18<sup>th</sup> to help man the display space were Byron Kentner and Bob Doyle. On the 19<sup>th</sup>, Joe Koenig pitched in and helped him.

Results were mixed. Not as many donors signed up as hoped, but Joe has numerous follow-up contacts to pursue with folks who expressed an interest. He also had an opportunity to address one of the break-out sessions.

Overall, we consider this event a moderately successful initial step forward in our state-wide outreach. We will be following up with the potential donors Joe has identified, and looking for similar opportunities down the road.

## A Facelift for the Wright Image Group

Over the last several months our long-time host and benefactor, the Ohlmann Group, has undertaken to give the Triumph of Flight® a facelift! Not in terms of design changes to the monument itself, but in the materials and the media we use to interface with the public and with potential donors. Walter's daughters, Linda Kahn and Lori Ohlmann, now running the company, have turned their highly talented graphics and art department loose on our brochures, folders, slides, and social media to upgrade and standardize our image as we go about the business of raising awareness and finding donors.



As an example, over the years we have generated a series of two or three-page color folders that list the important features of the monument and present illustrations of various aspects. All those have now been replaced by a single two-page bi-fold – polished, professional, and consistent with what will be a uniform, standardized series of images, colors, formats and information relevant to the Triumph of Flight®. (See the front page of the bi-fold to the left.)

Even better, the “look” and “feel” of our material will be the same across handouts, brochures, folders, website, and social media. This is a big step forward in positioning the Wright Image Group as a serious organization, readily perceived as worthy of partnering with major donors to get the monument built.

Heartfelt thanks to Jim Hausfeld, Gary Haschart, Gary Hinsche, Andy Kittles, and the many others in the Ohlmann Group who are having such a dramatic impact on our image!

## Welcome to Our New Webmaster

Earlier this year, the WIG received a surprising and welcome inquiry from a gentleman who had seen the Triumph of Flight® website and exercised the “Contact Us” option on there. He was so impressed by the magnitude and appeal of the monument project that he was moved to see if there was some way he could help.

The gentleman's name is Paul Selm. He is a resident of Grove City, OH, and works as an information technology professional in Columbus. The initial phone conversation we had with Paul turned relatively quickly to the IT aspects of our project and the prospect of upgrading our current website and migrating it to a different host. Paul traveled to Dayton for a lunch meeting with Sean Cornett, our social media manager, and Curt Nelson, Executive Director. After that meeting, we had a brand-new internet/social media team! Welcome aboard, Paul!

Paul's work will be visible later this summer in the form of the revised [www.triumphofflight.org](http://www.triumphofflight.org).

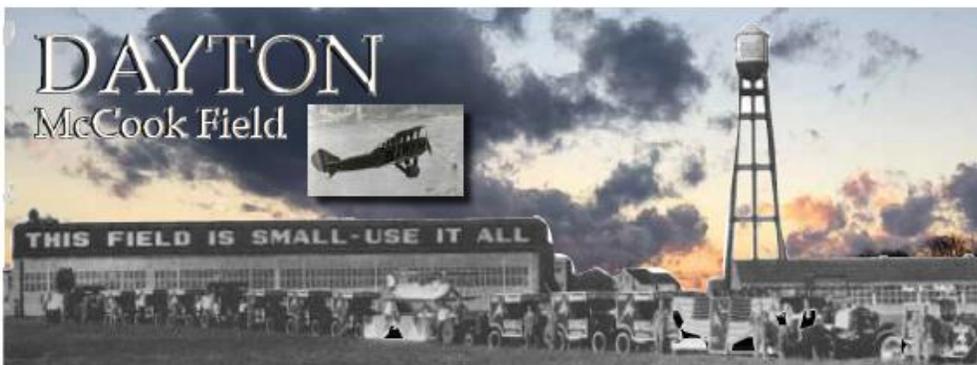
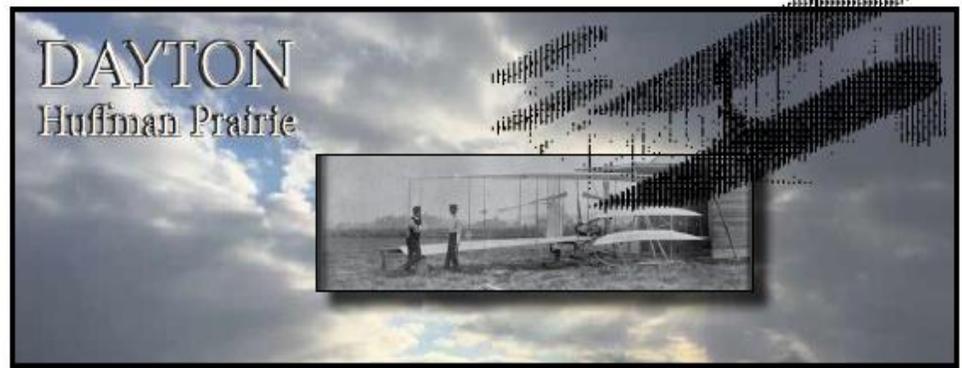
## New Tableaux For The Park

Our newsletter readers are familiar with the public art that Dan Patterson and Don Hatcher will be creating as features of the Evolution of Flight Park at the base of the Triumph of Flight®. Dan is the idea guy, coming up with the right events, people and activities to focus on in the park, while Don will be doing the bronze castings that will accompany many of them. Dan has a total of eleven of these ideas now, and Don has made clay models out of several. (Photos of those clay models are extremely useful in our presentation materials.) We are now calling each of these



depictions a tableau, and plan to provide major donors the opportunity to sponsor them permanently. One of the most well-known at the moment is Neil Armstrong with the Lunar Lander. (Shown below)

*All four of these renderings plus the rendering of Eddie Rickenbacker on page 4 are provided courtesy of Dan Patterson Studios. The Armstrong tableau depiction includes Don Hatcher's clay model.*



*Armstrong tableau*

Dan has now added four more to our collection – depictions of the 1920's Cleveland Air Races, Huffman Prairie (the true birthplace of aviation!), McCook Field (the nation's first air base), and famous WWI Ohio aviator, Eddie Rickenbacker (see pg 4).

There will be about 30 of these tableaux incorporated into the Evolution of Flight Park. Each will consist of a background scene, etched with color, on perforated steel panels attached to the park's curvilinear walls. Many of them will include bronze castings or bas-reliefs of notable figures in aviation history. Our design team will also have the capability to work with donors to create additional tableaux, consistent with the park theme and standards, reflecting their unique desires.

Of course, sponsored tableaux will include the sponsor's name or company logo.

See [Tableaux](#) on page 4

To join, make a donation, or get information explaining the different contribution and recognition levels, write to us at:

**Triumph of Flight®**

1605 N. Main St  
Dayton, OH 45405  
or visit our website,

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

**Annual Membership Dues\***

1 year - \$20

2 years - \$35

3 years - \$50

*\*Applicable to Individuals, Families or Businesses*

**Tableaux** from page 3



**Key Member Retires**

We are saddened at the retirement this April of one of our most valued and beloved WIG members, Audrey Leonard. Employed at the Ohlmann Group and charged with administrative support of the WIG, she has been always a steady, reliable resource – and too many times to count, a clutch player in our team efforts. Thanks from all of us, Audrey. We wish you only the very best – you've earned it!

The WIG is a proud partner of the National Aviation Heritage Alliance.

As such, we ask our donors to make checks out to the Aviation Heritage Foundation and mark them so that it is clear the donation is specifically intended for the Wright Image Group.

By flowing our donations through the foundation, the federal government will match a portion of them. This additional funding goes to support the aviation heritage of the entire region. (See instructions below)



**Make checks payable to:  
Aviation Heritage Foundation, Inc.**

With the following comment  
on the "For" line:

**"Restricted for WIG"**

and mail to:

**Triumph of Flight®  
1605 N. Main St Dayton OH 45405**

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