



Soaring 220 feet above the intersection of I-70 & I-75 and seen by thousands of vehicles daily, this 120 foot wingspan monument to the Wright Flyer will symbolize Dayton, Ohio throughout the world.

# The Wright Icon News

Bringing an Icon to Dayton - The Birthplace of Aviation

Today's Modern Aerospace Hub - Tomorrow's Aviation Leader

July 2011  
Volume 3  
Issue 3

## First Fund-Raiser a Big Success!

Wednesday evening, May 11<sup>th</sup>, the Wright Image Group held its first major fund-raiser and chalked up 15% of its current \$200,000 financial goal for preliminary design development! The event was hosted at Dayton History's newly remodeled and impressive Carillon Park Education Center. Dan Edwards of WDTN Ch 2 provided background music and was an energetic Master of Ceremonies. He conducted a mock interview with Amanda Wright Lane, much to the delight and entertainment of the crowd. Also attending was Dayton Mayor Gary Leitzel who received a personal tour from Walt Hoy around the many project displays and posters in the room. During his own interview by Dan Edwards, the Mayor expressed enthusiastic support for the project. Complimentary hors d'oeuvres and beverages provided by the



Dan "interviews" Dayton Mayor Leitzel



Walter thanks Dayton Aerospace's Bob Raggio for his company's generous donation

### INSIDE THIS ISSUE

- 1 First Fund-Raiser a Big Success!
- 1 Important Notes to Members
- 2 From Pond to Pool....
- 3 Pledge Payment Schedule
- 3 WIG Has New Website
- 4 Board Member Spotlight

WIG helped set the stage for a successful evening.

Keynote speaker for the event was Tony Sculimbrenne, Executive Director of the National Aviation Heritage Alliance, who spoke about the evolution of our area's rich aviation heritage, indirectly highlighting the rationale behind building a monument right here in the Dayton region to the Wright Brothers and the birth of aviation. George Gianopoulos, WIG VP for Fund-Raising, followed with his own remarks and opened the door for this very productive donation session.

See [First Fund-Raiser](#) on page 2

## Important Notes to Members

- **Memberships and dues** – Look for changes starting next year. The July Board meeting proposed by-law changes that include combining the "Individual" and "Couple" memberships into an "Individual/Family" membership for \$20, with decreasing rates for memberships of 2 years (\$35) and 3 years (\$50). There will also be a decreasing rate for business memberships, \$50 for the first year, \$90 for two years, and \$125 for three years. Lifetime memberships will also be available - \$150 for a family and \$200 for a business.
- **Schedule of payment for pledges** – Pledges and expected times of payment are published on page 3 of this newsletter.
- **Desktop models** – The production process is almost ready. For those of you who are owed one, we expect to deliver them by Sept.
- **Website upgrade** – Our website has been upgraded. Go to [www.wrightmonument.org](http://www.wrightmonument.org) to check it out. (Same address)
- **Vectren Dayton Air Show** – the WIG will not be there with a display model, but we will be running a "branding" contest to name the monument. Vote, and you may win a ride on the Wright "B" Flyer!

## From Retention Pond to Reflecting Pool....

The Wright Image Group has long touted Singer Properties' commitment to provide the land for our monument at the southeast corner of the intersection of I-70/I-75. However, this parcel, along with a contiguous piece of land actually donated by the state of Ohio for the monument, forms a valuable combined parcel of land that has been the focus of competing requirements and expectations since it was created.

Complicating the picture is that the portion donated by the state of Ohio could not be deeded to the WIG as a private organization. It was deeded to Montgomery County, and subsequently assigned to Butler Township for management with the stipulation that it was to be used for the monument. For its part, the Township has to provide all necessary infrastructure capabilities for the developments envisioned, including, specifically, a storm water retention pond.

The pond is something that has to predate the monument since it is needed very soon. In fact, the township is currently moving ahead on construction. At the same time, our architect, Steve Brown, has been trying to work out the best location for the monument, trying to find the right balance between the location of the pond, the best terrain, etc. He has several choices, each with its own set of issues to resolve, but the one he has settled on as the most likely to maximize the benefits to all three parties – Singer Properties, Butler Township, and the Wright Image Group – is to erect the monument *directly* over the retention pond!

It sounds like more of a problem than a solution, but the reality is that it offers greater potential for a truly impressive monument. The key is converting the utilitarian retention pond into a uniquely shaped reflecting pool. That involves a new challenge that was not anticipated before, but on balance, may not significantly increase the cost and time required to build the monument. The new challenge is to modify the retention pond so that it can be properly shaped and landscaped for our purposes and maintain a relatively constant level of water, while still being able to accommodate the occasional really big flood. The objective is a beautifully landscaped pool holding a constant level of water that can rise about two feet to

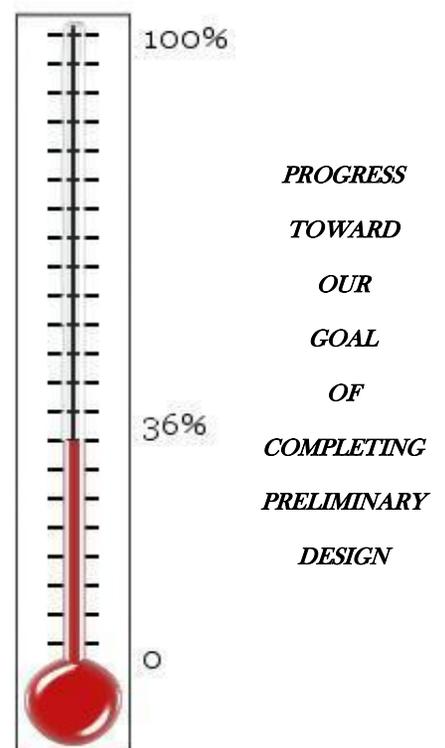
### First Fund-Raiser from page 1

See [Reflecting Pool](#) on page 3

Several board members made further contributions well beyond what they had already done, but the star of the evening was Dayton Aerospace, Inc., represented by its Executive Vice President, Robert Raggio, a former commander of the Air Force's Aeronautical Systems Center at Wright-Patterson AFB. The company set a fast pace for the evening with a donation of \$10,000!

Many other companies and individuals came forward with donations and pledges of varying amounts totaling \$35,000. Included was a surprise visitor, Air Force Col (Ret'd) Joe Kittinger, Jr., who holds the record for the world's highest free fall/parachute jump, made in 1960 from an altitude of 102,800 feet. In town to visit the Paul Brown family and offer condolences on his passing, Joe dropped into Carillon Park to join our architect Steve Brown, Paul's son, and stayed long enough to be "interviewed" by Dan Edwards, receive a round of applause from the crowd, and make a donation!

This first in a series of fund-raising events the WIG is planning set the bar high; but as our record lengthens, and we develop even better fund-raising techniques, we fully expect continued success!



Reflecting Pool from page 2

accommodate a "50 year flood" without spoiling the appearance of the pool, and then maintain that level even in the event of a "100 year flood" by harmlessly shunting the extra water off to side "ponds", which are really just shallow depressions in the ground.

Steve has taken on a consultant at Stone Environmental to help him with this part of the design. They will again go over all the inflow, capacity, outflow, and piping calculations for the pond, redesign the pond's shape, design the auxiliary flood basins, and re-plan the property lines as necessary between the new pool and the remaining property. Converting the pond into a reflecting pool will then be one of the first tasks of monument construction.

The result will be as depicted in the graphic to the right – an inspiring pool for an inspiring monument!



WIG Has New Website

Our Supporting Communities

- Beavercreek
- Butler Twp
- Centerville
- Clayton
- Dayton
- Fairborn
- Kettering
- Miami Twp
- Montgomery Co
- Oakwood
- Washington Twp
- Xenia

Since the Board approved the project back in January, the WIG has been working closely with CreativeFuse Initiative, Inc., a non-profit associated with Tech Town here in Dayton, to redesign its website. The new site incorporates more modern graphics, updated information, more pictures, and more interactive capabilities for visitors – including the ability to vote for their preference of a name for our monument! There are also active links to You Tube, Facebook, and the National Aviation Heritage Alliance, as well as an online donation capability. Although not completely finished, the site is now active and can be found using the same address as the old site:

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

Check it out! Use the "contact us" function for suggestions, questions, or problems.

*"The desire to fly is an idea handed down to us by our ancestors who, in their grueling travels across trackless lands in prehistoric times, looked enviously on the birds soaring freely through space, at full speed, above all obstacles, on the infinite highway of the air."*

-Wilbur Wright

*"Dad, I left my heart up there."*

-Francis Gary Powers describing his first flight at age 14.

Expected Donation Pledge Payment Schedule

- Up to \$1000 – 1 month
- \$1001 to \$2500 – 3 months
- \$2501 to \$5000 – 6 months
- \$5001 to \$10,000 – 12 months
- \$10,001 to \$50,000 – 18 months
- \$50,001 to \$100,000 – 24 months
- Over \$100,000 – Negotiable

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

Monument  
1605 N. Main St  
Dayton, OH 45405

### Board Member Spotlight



#### Anthony J. Perfilio (Legal Counsel)

Tony holds a Bachelor of Science in Mechanical Engineering from Utah State University and Juris Doctor, Cum Laude, from the University of Pittsburgh School of Law. He has also completed Harvard University's John F. Kennedy School of Government Program for Senior Executives in National and International Security.

He is Senior Associate and General Counsel at Dayton Aerospace, Inc. and Of Counsel with Rendigs, Fry, Kiely & Dennis, L.L.P., Cincinnati and Dayton.

In 2005, Tony retired from the Senior Executive Service of the United States with over 31 years of experience as an attorney and legal services manager for the Department of the AF. He served as Director of the AF Materiel Command Law Office at WPAFB, where he supervised AF contract dispute resolution and legal services provided in support of the Aeronautical Systems Center, the AF Research Laboratory, and the AF Security Assistance Center.

Tony is an active member of the Federal Bar Association and past president of the Dayton, Ohio Chapter. He is a past chairman of the Dayton-Wright Chapter of the Armed Forces Communications and Electronics Association and continues to serve on the Board. He also serves on the Board of the Wright B Flyer, Inc., and chairs the Board of the Aviation Heritage Foundation, Inc. and the National Aviation Heritage Alliance.

<u>Annual Membership Dues*</u>	
<i>Individual</i>	<b>\$20</b>
<i>Couple</i>	<b>\$30</b>
<i>Business</i>	<b>\$50</b>
<i>*Through 12/31/2011</i>	

**Make checks payable to:**  
  
**Aviation Heritage Foundation, Inc.**  
  
With the following comment on the "For" line:  
  
"Restricted for WIG"

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  - George Gianopulos – VP, Fund Raising
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**Published by:** Wright Image Group, Inc.  
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Dayton, OH 45405-4198

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