



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

October 2011  
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Issue 4

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## Building The Team

Brown & Bills Group, our project architect and construction manager, is moving steadily toward the completion of design development. The preliminary design, beautifully illustrated by the artist's rendering of a single pedestal tower (published in the January 2011 newsletter) is complete, and they are now identifying and reviewing the various engineers and consultants that will be needed to complete preliminary design documentation, identifying those best qualified and most likely to be effective members of the project team. Six basic tasks encompass the design work yet to be done, and Steve Brown, partner at Brown & Bills and one of our founding board members, is working to select a single source for each of those

tasks. Each firm selected will then submit a formal proposal with cost and estimated duration, further broken down into discrete phases if practical. Our current fund-raising goal of \$200,000 (estimated) will give us the funds necessary to contract with these entities and complete the initial documentation. These six tasks are a prerequisite to begin approaching potentially major donors.

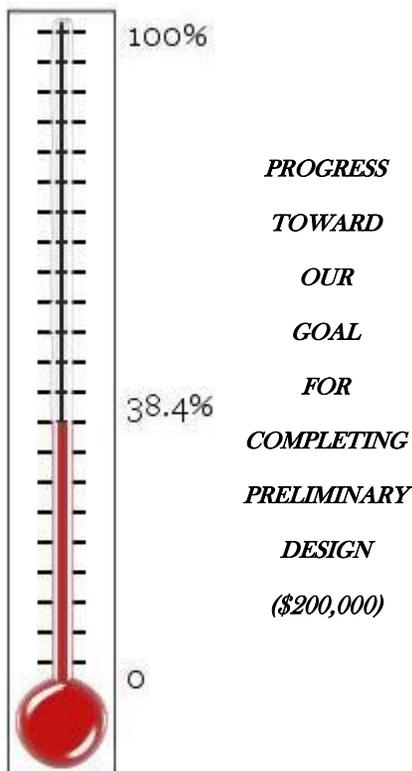
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## Important Note to Members

Last quarter we published a revised schedule of WIG membership dues and added new options for lifetime memberships - all to take effect on January 1<sup>st</sup>, 2012. (The current "Couple" single year membership for \$30 will be discontinued.) Since most of our members will be receiving renewal notices before they receive our next newsletter in January, the Board of Directors would like to remind the entire membership about these upcoming changes.

There will be several options for both individuals and businesses to consider. Individual & Couple memberships have been combined into the "Individual/Family" membership with dues of \$20 for one year, \$35 for two years, and \$50 for three years. Business memberships will be \$50 for one year, \$90 for two years, and \$125 for three years.

We also strongly encourage current and new members to consider the lifetime membership option - \$150 for an Individual/Family, and \$200 for a business. It's a considerable savings for you, and at the same time it gives our project the crucial upfront support we need to complete preliminary design development and have the information needed to successfully solicit major donors.



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***These six tasks are a prerequisite to begin approaching potentially major donors.***

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The six basic tasks are:

- Structural Design of the Pedestal and Cables – includes foundations, loads analysis, attachment to the Flyer, tower skin design, and all materials.
- Collection of Wind Tunnel Data and Analysis – includes construction of the wind tunnel model(s).
- Construction Design of the Flyer – includes materials and connection to the tower.
- Civil Engineering – includes storm water control, retention pond capacity
- Site Work – includes paving, retention pond conversion to reflecting pool, and landscaping.
- Lighting – includes considerations for the Flyer, the tower, and the grounds.

Formal proposals in each of these areas will make it possible to determine the funding required to complete preliminary design documentation. Specifically, that documentation will be preliminary engineering drawings, an Analysis of Materials, wind tunnel test results and recommendations, a Preliminary Plan and Elevations, a Storm Water Control Analysis and Plan, and a three dimensional model. Completing preliminary design documents will also give us a much better estimate of total project cost.

Preliminary design documentation, coupled with a successful fund-raising campaign, will allow Brown & Bills to begin the construction drawings necessary for contracts. Based on general architectural project experience, which may or may not be accurate for this unique project, generating these construction drawings could run as high as \$500,000!

## Memories of Orville and Wilbur....

By Amanda Wright Lane



The thing that always amazed me about the stories my great aunts and uncles shared about THEIR famous uncles was the seemingly everyday way in which Orville and Wilbur went about the business of changing the world.

One of the stories my great Aunt Ivy (Ivonette Wright Miller) told had to do with Orville's all-important demonstrations for the US Army at Ft. Myer, Virginia. The brothers were hoping to sign a contract with the US Army for the #1 Signal Corps "aeroplane," but before that, many demonstrations and tests were required of them and their flying machine. It was Uncle Orv who had the assignment of completing those flying tasks in the early fall of 1908.

On the day of the first demonstration, Uncle Orv left his Washington D.C. hotel, the Cosmos Club, and took a streetcar to Fort Myer. Ivonette remarked, "It was doubtful if any of the others on the car suspected that this fellow passenger was about to perform a miracle." But Orville did. For his first flight he circled the Ft. Myer parade ground 1 1/2 times for a duration of just over a

### Our Supporting Communities

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

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minute, and the spectators went absolutely crazy! When Uncle Orv landed, he found the professional newsmen who were there to interview him completely speechless, with tears running down their cheeks!

Ivonette wrote of that day, "Now for the first time the world believed that man could fly, and Wilbur and Orville were world heroes. From this time on their lives belonged to the ages, though it was doubtful they realized it, and I am sure we didn't".

***From this time on, their lives belonged to the ages....***

*[Editor's Note of Interest: That was the first flight of the day, September 9<sup>th</sup>, 1908. The second flight, with Army Lt. Thomas Selfridge as a passenger, ended in tragedy when, after 4 minutes aloft, the aircraft crashed. Orville was severely cut and bruised, and Lt Selfridge became the first powered aviation fatality.]*

**Kettering Man Wins Airshow Drawing**



**Board Member Jon Kurtz, daughter April, and wife Karen, with Mr. Kuzma's winning ballot.**

During the Dayton-Vectren Airshow this past July, the Wright Image Group conducted balloting in an effort to judge public opinion on the candidate names for its monument to the Wright Brothers and the birth of aviation. Ballots listed the names already in hand and also provided space to suggest new names. As a result, we eliminated several of our current candidates from the list and added several new ones!

We then held a drawing with those ballots to select a single voter to win an Honorary Aviator's License for the Wright "B" Flyer and the accompanying free orientation ride.

Our winner was Mr. Albert Kuzma of Kettering, who enthusiastically accepted the prize!

**Wright Image Group Memorable Moments**

As we move down the road towards completion of this iconic monument, let's highlight those memorable moments in the history of the project. One of the earliest was in 2007 when Jon Kurtz and his son erected the pole and windsock at the southwest corner of the intersection of I-70/75, the location for our monument. It still stands today, visible to all who pass.



<u><b>Expected Donation Pledge Payment Schedule</b></u>
<b>Up to \$1000 – 1 month</b>
<b>\$1001 to \$2500 – 3 months</b>
<b>\$2501 to \$5000 – 6 months</b>
<b>\$5001 to \$10,000 – 12 months</b>
<b>\$10,001 to \$50,000 – 18 months</b>
<b>\$50,001 to \$100,000 – 24 months</b>
<b>Over \$100,000 – Negotiable</b>

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



**Jon D. Kurtz Sr.**

Jon was born and raised in Goshen, Indiana. After high school, he spent four years in the United States Air Force working as an Aircraft Control and Warning Technician. After leaving the Air Force, he worked at different times for Winters Bank, the Ponderosa Art Department, and Merchandise Displays, until in 1978 he purchased a small sign shop in Dayton. By 1984, that sign shop, Creative Banners Flags and Poles, had evolved into a successful niche business, and four years later Jon moved it to South Main Street in Dayton. In 2007, he expanded and moved the business again to its current location, 656 S. Main St.

In 2007, Jon and his son installed a pole with a red windsock attached to the top at what had been determined would be the site of the future Wright Brothers Monument, the southwest corner of the

intersection of I-70 and I-75. The pole and windsock remain in place today, clearly visible, as the monument will be, to more than 52 million vehicles traveling through that intersection every year.

Jon is an active and enthusiastic supporter of the Boy Scouts, Habitat for Humanity, and the North Riverdale Lutheran Church. His spare time is devoted to his grandchildren, fishing, and Volkswagens.

### Annual Membership Dues\*

<i>Individual</i>	<b>\$20</b>
<i>Couple</i>	<b>\$30</b>
<i>Business</i>	<b>\$50</b>

*\*Through 12/31/2011*

**Make checks payable to:**

**Aviation Heritage Foundation, Inc.**

**With the following comment on the "For" line:**

**"Restricted for WIG"**

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