



Soaring 250 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.

# The Wright Icon News

Bringing an Icon to Dayton - The Birthplace of Aviation

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

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## Good Words from NAHA

In 2004, the federal government created a National Aviation Heritage Area, consisting of eight counties in southwest Ohio, one of 49 other similar heritage areas through the country. This particular area was so designated because of its rich aviation history, and the presence of multiple aviation-related sites. The central component of this Aviation Heritage Area is the Dayton Aviation Heritage National Historical Park, created in 1992 and managed by the US National Park Service. This specific Park's mission is "...to preserve, enhance, and interpret... the historic and cultural structures, districts, and artifacts associated with



NATIONAL AVIATION  
HERITAGE AREA  
Come. Discover. Fly!

*Dayton, Ohio*

the Wright Brothers, the invention and development of aviation, and the life and works of Paul Lawrence Dunbar ...through the creation of partnerships." Those partners are familiar to all of us: Aviation Trail, Inc; Wright-Patterson AFB; Dayton History; the Ohio Historical Society; the Nation Museum of the USAF; the Wright "B" Flyer; Wright Dunbar, Inc; Air Camp; the Wright Image Group; the City of Dayton; Montgomery County; and Greene County. The sites within the park are also well known: Huffman Prairie Flying Field and Interpretive Center; the Wright Cycle Co complex; The Wright Flyer III in Carillon Park; the Wright Company Factory; the Paul Lawrence Dunbar home; and Hawthorn Hill.

Language in the 1992 act that created the Dayton Aviation Heritage National Historical Park also directed the creation of a management body to advocate for the park and all its sites. What emerged in 2004 as a result of that directive was the Aviation Heritage Foundation, Inc., now doing business as the National Aviation Heritage Alliance (NAHA). NAHA's mission is "... to leverage and enhance the resources and assets of the

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## The Car Is Sold!!



Ms Zoe Dell Nutter donated her classic '57 Thunderbird to the Wright Image Group late last year. Since then a small team of WIG board members headed up by Jon Kurtz explored different marketing strategies and worked out all the details for the transfer and eventual sale. Then during a regional Thunderbird show and gathering at the National Museum of the US Air Force in July, Ms Nutter's representative displayed her classic '57 T-Bird and let it be known that it was for sale. Marvin Hill of Hill's Classic Cars in Racine, Ohio, spotted it, recognized its quality, and wrote a check on the spot as down payment on the agreed-to sales price.

Marvin will be doing some minor repairs and further restoration, and will offer it for resale. If you are kicking yourself because you didn't buy it earlier, it's not too late. Call Marvin at 740-949-2217 to discuss a second chance!

All that money is now in the Wright Image Group's coffers, and we thank Zoe Dell from the bottom of our hearts!

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NAHA from page 1

National Aviation Heritage Area, foster collaboration among its partners to promote aviation and aviation heritage tourism, and to educate and inspire current and future generations, nurturing the future of flight.”

NAHA has its work cut out for it. All the partners mentioned above, as well as others who have come onboard over the years, frequently have common interests but different goals, and possess limited resources to achieve those goals. The lack of clear branding and limited resources often make it difficult for the Alliance to be the unifying force that it would like to be in making the Region the recognized global center of Aviation Heritage. Outgoing Chairman of the Board, Anthony Perfilio, in farewell remarks to NAHA’s Annual Meeting on August 20, 2013, said, “...it is essential that we work collaboratively to achieve greater levels of success when compared to the past several years of operations.” NAHA has long recognized that a key component of

success is the existence of a unifying symbol that will “brand” the area and all of its aviation heritage components, cementing the world’s perception of the National Aviation Heritage Area as a coherent whole.

The Wright Image Group’s monument is exactly that symbol. As a soaring, inspiring monument to Ohio’s unique aviation past, current aerospace muscle, and future aerospace role, it will become the single symbol for the Aviation Heritage Area, boosting Alliance partner cohesion and providing visible credibility to the rest of the world – including those who will make decisions about designating a World Heritage Site here. Perfilio noted in his closing, “As we explore different ways to market our region, we can take a giant step toward achieving success by constructing the Wright Monument at the I-70/75 intersection. That is THE place to tell one of America’s greatest stories. The monument, honoring the Wright Brothers’ inventiveness and entrepreneurship, serves as the perfect message of what you can expect from the people of the region. Great cities have great monuments to great people and great achievements, and Dayton should be no different. ...I believe that construction of the Wright Image Group’s Wright Brothers Monument is one of the highest priorities for branding this community and region as not only the birthplace but the home and future of aviation.”

## What’s at the Base of the Monument?

In June, the Wright Image Group’s Design and Engineering Committee took a hard look at the question posed by several of our Board Members, “What, if any, tourist attraction should be at the bottom of the monument and what is the supporting rationale?” Over the past few years the answer to that question had evolved from landscaped terrain and a parking lot to vaguely defined kiosks and shelters. We felt that if the question were asked by a potential major donor, we needed a better answer with a solid rationale.

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**“...the I-70/75 intersection ...is THE place to tell one of America’s greatest stories.”**  
**-Anthony Perfilio**

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### What's at the Base from page 2

The Committee identified five criteria as being drivers: 1) simplicity, 2) low cost, 3) low maintenance, 4) easily protected, 5) focused on the monument as a "brand." It then specified two objectives: the first – to provide information to visitors on all the aviation-related sites, facilities, and activities in the Dayton region; the second – to address the evolution of flight throughout human history, reinforcing the branding nature of the monument by expanding its focus beyond Dayton, even beyond Ohio, and encompassing mankind's historical fascination with flight – its achievement and its future. The Committee recognized this as a tall order, but highly feasible and beneficial.

Our project architect, Steve Brown, proposed a different approach to achieving this, using two "ornamental retaining walls." These would be similar to the Viet Nam Memorial – a flat surface carved out of the landscape. This would mean a different landscaping plan, something easily done at this design stage. Steve envisioned the two walls as forming a gateway to an environment around the base of the monument that would be quiet and contemplative, focused on the shimmering pool and the towering monument above. Initially, the Committee agreed that each wall would be dedicated to one of the two objectives – a "directory" wall and an "evolution of flight" wall.

This concept was what the Committee recommended to the Board. In September, after due consideration, the Board approved a slight modification to that plan. Both the ornamental retaining walls will be dedicated to the "evolution of flight," and the functions of the "directory wall" will be undertaken with a separate kiosk or other structure compatible with that purpose. This means that we have the potential to create a major work of art on those two vertical walls – a work of art that would not only enhance the monument that rises above them, but serve as a significant attraction itself!

## Oakwood Deli Promotes Flyer Monument



*Co-owner Steve Crandall shows off his Wright Flyer Monument display at Flyboys Deli, 2515 Far Hills Ave, Oakwood, OH*

In January 2013 retired Air Force Colonel Steve Crandall and his wife Eunice Kim opened a new business venture, Flyboys Deli in Oakwood. Their deli is a two story building that offers New York-style fare on the ground floor and an Aviation Hall on the second floor. Their motto is, "Eat in NYC without leaving historic Dayton." The Aviation Hall celebrates Dayton's status as the birthplace of aviation and its 110 years of aviation heritage.

WIG Board Member Ralph Link discovered Flyboys shortly after its opening and suggested Steve incorporate a display devoted to the monument project into his Aviation Hall. An avid collector of aviation memorabilia, Steve enthusiastically agreed, and Ralph provided the requisite renderings.

The result is as shown. To celebrate the display, show our gratitude, and help support the venture, the WIG Board will hold its October Board of Directors Meeting in the upstairs Aviation Hall. We look forward to a long and mutually beneficial relationship with Flyboys.

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

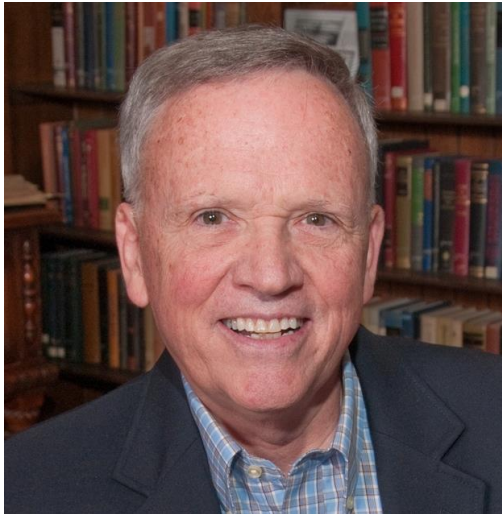
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[www.wrightmonument.org](http://www.wrightmonument.org)

**Annual Membership Dues\***

1 year - \$20  
2 years - \$35  
3 years - \$50

*\*Applicable to Individuals, Families or Businesses*

**Board Member Spotlight**



**Bob Raggio**

Robert F. (Bob) Raggio is a management and technical consultant to the aerospace industry. He served 35 years in the Air Force, retiring as a Lieutenant General, Commander of the Aeronautical Systems Center at Wright Patterson Air Force Base, where he supervised the acquisition of all USAF aeronautical weapon systems, managed a workforce of 12,000 and an annual budget of more than \$10 Billion.

He has been an executive consultant to many defense industries, and has led the review and development of numerous industry proposals to the government. He served on the Air Force Studies Board of the National Research Council; the Air Force Scientific Advisory Board; the DARPA IXO Board of Advisors; the Ohio Governor’s Aviation and Defense Council; the Wright Brothers Institute Board; and Miami Valley Goodwill Easter Seals Board.

Bob is richly experienced in military aviation, logging over 3,200 flying hours, including 150 combat missions, in 24 different types of aircraft.

He holds a Bachelor’s degree in Electrical Engineering from Montana State University and a Master’s degree in Industrial Engineering from Purdue University. He was also a Distinguished Graduate of both the Naval Test Pilot School and the Industrial College of the Armed Forces.

Bob and his wife, Karme, currently reside in Centerville, Ohio.

**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

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



**Make checks payable to:**

**Aviation Heritage Foundation, Inc.**

With the following comment on the “For” line:

“Restricted for WIG”

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