



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.

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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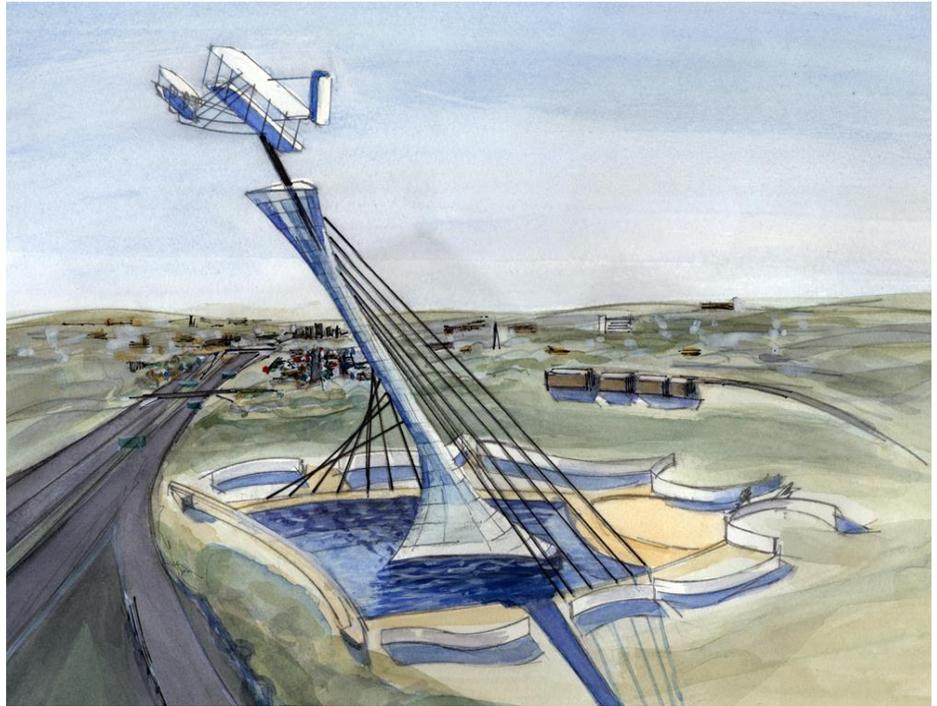
The Design Progresses

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The Flyer is now banked 5 degrees and pitched up 7 degrees – a change suggested by Dan Patterson to make it look more like it's flying. His sketch on the right makes the point – it works!

Dan is working hard on his designs for the base of the monument. Each of the



Patterson's sketch of the monument with Dayton in the background

curvilinear panels you see in the sketch will hold relief etchings of famous aviators and historical aviation events. Walking around the reflecting pool at the base of the pedestal, with the **Triumph of Flight** soaring high overhead, the overall impression that visitors will have is one of quiet reverence, reflection and awe. Much of what Dan is doing now will soon be published in new promotional materials and used to enhance our fund-raising ability.



Return to NASA Glenn

NASA's Glenn Research Center near Cleveland, after brokering the highly productive collaboration for computational fluid dynamics and wind tunnel testing between the Wright Image Group and the Ohio State University last year, was forced into a lower profile by the federal government's sequestration. Because of the possibility of some budget relief this year, and because GRC has a new Director, several WIG representatives made the trip to Cleveland to renew that relationship. George Gianopulos, Chuck Stevens, Curt Nelson, and George Mongon visited with Director James M. Free on March 5th, giving him a thorough familiarization on our monument project and reviewing everything we have previously done with NASA. Additionally, we emphasized that NASA Administrator Charles Bolden was well aware of the project and had expressed support for it in the past.

A year ago, we were actually on the verge of a Space Act Agreement with NASA, codifying the specific things both parties would undertake in

See [NASA](#) on page 2

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further testing, when sequestration hit and NASA's participation had to be curtailed. On this visit, we requested a resumption of that effort. We are specifically interested in wind tunnel testing of both pedestal and flyer together, as well as investigations into potential problems with icing and de-icing the monument, to include shedding sheet ice and icicles. Of course, we asked for all that to be done at no cost in exchange for the data gathered and information learned!

Director Free was very receptive and interested in the project. He directed Dr. Joe Shaw, who had been working with us previously, to scope the effort in concert with Chuck Stevens, to see what could be done and what costs would be incurred. As this newsletter goes to press, that work is ongoing.

WIG Gets “Shout-Out” in Congress from Mike Turner



Mike Turner, former mayor of Dayton and currently the U.S. Representative from Ohio's 10th District, the Dayton Region, took the floor of the U.S. House of Representatives on February 5th to tell the assembled body about the **Triumph of Flight** and the Wright Image Group.

Ostensibly limited to just one minute, but well-armed with facts and graphics, he delivered a polished and passionate 1 minute and 20 second speech highlighting Dayton, Ohio as the birthplace of aviation, extolling Ohio's muscular aviation industry and leadership, and saluting the virtues of that volunteer organization known far and wide as “The Wright Image Group!”

His speech is in a video clip on the WIG's Facebook page, and also posted in the Gallery on our website, wrightmonument.org.

Thank you, Mike!

Battelle's Intriguing Capability

Founded in 1929 and headquartered in Columbus, Ohio, Battelle Memorial Institute is the world's largest nonprofit R&D organization with over 22,000 employees at more than 130 locations around the world – including major technology centers and national laboratories. It is a charitable trust whose philosophy is that business and scientific interests can go hand-in-hand as forces for positive change. (See www.battelle.org)

In past discussions between the WIG and NASA Glenn Research Center, Battelle was mentioned as developing new capabilities for aircraft anti-icing and de-icing – work that might be useful in addressing a concern of the Wright Image Group's engineers – ice accumulation and shedding on the 270' tall **Triumph of Flight**.

At the WIG's invitation, on March 14th, three representatives from the Institute's headquarters in Columbus traveled to Dayton to meet with WIG representatives. The purpose of this meeting was to familiarize Battelle with the monument's design and purpose, learn what proprietary work Battelle was doing in the anti-icing/de-icing arena, and explore the possibilities of a collaboration that might benefit both parties.

After a two hour conversation, the gentlemen from Battelle returned to Columbus, leaving behind a promise to look into what they might be able to do – technically and financially – to support the project. We look forward eagerly to continuing these discussions!

Governor Submits Capital Budget

On Tuesday, March 18th, Ohio Governor John Kasich submitted to the Ohio General Assembly his 2015-2016 Capital Budget. Of the \$2.4 billion in the proposed budget, the bulk will go to schools, colleges, universities, prisons, roads, bridges, water and sewer, state and local parks, and community housing – catching up after the great recession on needed maintenance and construction of public facilities. Importantly, when passed, this will be the first capital improvements budget that includes local projects Ohio has seen in six years. At this point, approximately \$160 million is slated to go to locally sponsored projects all around the state.

The budget process started with hearings in the House Finance and Appropriations Committee. When the committee reports out, debate on the House floor will begin, and upon a favorable vote, the bill will be passed on to the Senate. Whatever the shape of the bill that emerges with both House and Senate approval, it must be signed by the Governor before July 1st, the beginning of the 2015 fiscal year.

Our **Triumph of Flight** project has been actively competing for local priority through the Dayton Development Coalition's Priority Development Advocacy Committee process, and also directly in the Governor's selection process. Some projects in the Dayton Region are included for funding, but as of yet, **Triumph** is not. Many of our local legislators support this project, and we are (and will remain) in close contact with them as the budget moves through the approval process. We continue to be cautiously optimistic that some funding will be found within the bill for the **Triumph** – enough to demonstrate state government support and take a step forward on further wind tunnel testing.

Fund-Raising Committee Sets the Pace

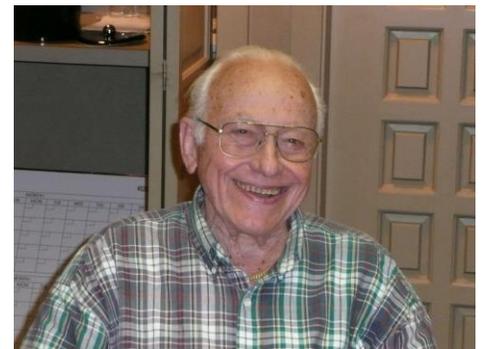
Our Fund-Raising Committee, headed up by George Gianopulos, has developed into a dynamic group that continuously brings in fresh blood and new ideas. Several original board members along with our fund-raising consultant, George Mongon, formed the core of his original committee, but many other distinguished members of the community have served:

- Ralph Link - former president, Airtron, Inc.
- Bob Raggio - Lieutenant General (Ret) US Air Force
- Judi Law – former president, Judo Steel
- Al Pierce - former president, HHP Corporation
- Ed Phillips - chairman, Phillips Sand & Gravel
- Dave Eidsaune - Major General (Ret) US Air Force
- Dave Hulme - owner and manager, the Pine Club
- Roy Smith - general manager, Holiday Inn Airport Northwest
- Franz Hoge - president, Greater Dayton RTA Board
- Al Leland - Leland Consulting, LLC
- Sabrina Pritchett - marketing manager, Greater Dayton RTA
- Mike Stark - sales engineer, Rawdon Myers, Inc.

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George Gianopulos, VP Fund-Raising

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Many of these individuals have now been elected to the Wright Image Group Board of Directors, but continue to make contributions on the Fund-Raising Committee.

With an active group like this, great ideas frequently emerge. For example, at a recent meeting someone came up with the idea of asking well-known politicians and celebrities to act as WIG "spokespersons," or "champions." Sabrina's idea was that they might prefer to be called "ambassadors" instead, and the WIG Ambassador Program was born! (Watch as we go down the road. This one will blossom...!)

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
or visit our website,
www.wrightmonument.org

Annual Membership Dues*

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

**Applicable to Individuals, Families or Businesses*

Editor's Note – Social Media

Last year brought with it recognition that the WIG was not capitalizing on its social media capabilities. Three years earlier we had set up a Facebook page, a YouTube account, and a website – all of which had fallen into disuse and out of currency. The reason was simple. As with most of our Directors, yours truly is not really in tune with, nor technically capable of operating and maintaining all that social technology. It was suggested that we look for pro bono assistance from Wright State University or the University of Dayton. After a few phone calls last summer, we found Professor Steve Hall in the Management Information Systems Division at UD, and learned that he is also the Director of the Center for Project Excellence. The Center does exactly the kind of thing we were looking for – matching businesses and organizations in the community with students who are looking for experience in the outside world and are willing to volunteer their talents and expertise. By December Professor Hall had found an ideal match, and sponsored a meeting with me and Ms Fallon Edelmann, a third year Business Administration student pursuing a major in management information systems. Ms Edelmann already had an impressive resume from several other intern-like positions, and she was enthusiastic about helping to move the Wright Image Group towards literacy in social media. Fallon and I have met several times to work on that.

We have met our first modest objective – a Facebook page that no longer looks, in her words, "...unused and abandoned." Further, she has convinced me that it will take some measure of constant attention to keep it looking that way.

At a much higher degree of difficulty, we are now working on the WIG website, making structural and cosmetic changes, struggling with the software as we go.

The impact of this effort on the **Triumph of Flight** is hard to predict at this point, but I am confident that without it, we will find the going much harder.

Fallon is scheduled to show the Directors what we have done and where we are going at the April Board meeting. Look for another article next quarter!

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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- Curt Nelson