At the beginning of this year, Jay Jabour decided to step down as Chairman of the Wright “B” Flyer Board of Trustees. However, he remains an active participant in the life of the Wright “B” Flyer.

Jay’s entire career pointed him toward leading the Wright “B” Flyer……pilot, test pilot, Air Force acquisition leader and flag officer, and aerospace industry leader. Brigadier General Jay Jabour, USAF (Ret), has over 45 years of experience directing large, complex defense and industry organizations in challenging engineering, test and acquisition roles.

He entered the Air Force as a 1973 graduate of the U.S. Air Force Academy. After completing pilot training, he flew the F-4 and AT-38 aircraft. Then, after graduating from USAF Test Pilot School, he was a test pilot on numerous aircraft including the A-10, F-16 and YF-22. He was then selected to be the System Program Director for the B-2 bomber program, followed soon afterwards by System Program Director for the F-22 fighter program and the Program Executive Officer at the Pentagon for all fighter and bomber programs. He also served as the Vice Commander of Aeronautical Systems Center at Wright-Patterson AFB.

Following his Air Force retirement in 2003, Jay became Northrop Grumman’s corporate lead executive for the Dayton, Ohio region developing next-generation weapons systems until his retirement in 2013. Jay was then a sought-after consultant with Dayton Aerospace, Inc.

**Inside this Issue:**
- Chairman Jay Jabour Retires
- New WB-X Update
- NAHA Grants
- Armstrong Museum
- How can you help?
- Read a book and win a flight on the “B”
- Event Calendar

**Jay Jabour Retires as Board Chairman**

**New WB-X Status by Jim Papa**

The new Wright “B” Flyer has been in design and construction for the past 4 years. A dedicated group of experienced WBF volunteers are nearing completion of the aircraft, and ground tests are scheduled for this summer. The ground tests include thrust runs, control surface checks, weight and balance measurements, and test instrumentation checks. After ground tests the aircraft will be flown on runway hops down the runway at Wright Brothers Airport. A forty flight hour test program will follow to establish the airworthiness of the new aircraft and gather data to be used in its operation and maintenance. It is anticipated to be fully operational by the end of the summer. Besides the ability to do HAM flights over the runway, the new aircraft will be our primary asset to support off site fly overs, airshows, and static displays as part of our outreach program. With its ability to be partially disassembled and be placed into a standard shipping container we can support events anywhere in the world.
In late January we were awarded a $4,090 grant by the National Aviation Heritage Area for the Wright “B” Flyer 1911 look-alike preservation. With these funds our volunteers replaced the engine drive chains, rebuilt the drive “clutch” system, replaced various other parts of the propeller drive system, and updated the tires to a higher weight bearing capacity. Yearly, hundreds of American and international visitors delight in flying with us as “honorary aviators” in the Wright “B” Flyer. Our organization is THE ONLY ONE in the world that provides this Wright-like flight experience. The preservation maintenance funded by this grant allows us to continue providing honorary aviator flights.

The National Aviation Heritage Area is guided by the National Aviation Heritage Alliance, a private, not-for-profit corporation designated by Congress as the management entity of the heritage area. The organization seeks to conserve, interpret, develop, and promote the historic resources of the National Aviation Heritage Area. The vision of the Alliance is to make the Dayton region the recognized global center of aviation heritage and premier destination for aviation heritage tourism, sustaining the legacy of the Wright brothers. The National Aviation Heritage Area encompasses an eight-county area in Ohio (Montgomery, Greene, Miami, Clark, Warren, Champaign, Shelby, and Auglaize counties.) The Wright “B” Flyer is one of the National Aviation Heritage Area partner sites.

**Hangar Lighting Upgrade**

The Wright “B” Flyer was awarded a grant from Funds of The Dayton Foundation, which enabled us to upgrade the lighting throughout the facility.

The 30+ year-old mercury hydride and fluorescent lights were upgraded to energy efficient LED lighting — this included the hangar, museum, office, gift shop, lower level workshop and break room, and the mezzanine work shop and storage areas. Eight large fixtures were installed in the main hangar area. Throughout the other areas a total of about 43 LED 4-foot fixtures were installed.

These new lights significantly enhance the professional look of the facility, better illuminate the museum wall displays which were partially hidden by shadows, greatly improve safety in the work areas by eliminating extension cords and work area floor lights, yield a 78% energy savings and very significantly reduce facilities maintenance costs. We anticipate reducing utility bills by $190 per month! Including reduced maintenance costs, we will save over $5,000 each year.

Our prime contractor, Eco Development, specializes in design and installation of energy management services and efficient lighting solutions. They are teamed with Halophane, provider of the hangar fixtures. Each of these companies was able to obtain excellent product pricing for us.

Upgraded lighting will enable us to serve the community much more efficiently in a much safer and more enjoyable environment. It will bring the facility up to the national OSHA standards, provide a safer work and visitor environment, significantly lower annual costs, and enable more flexible use of the facility for community events.
When you visit the Wright B, one of the volunteers you will probably meet and interact with is Sam Strother. I had the privilege of having Sam give me a tour the first time I visited the hangar in 2015. As we were talking, he mentioned they needed volunteers.

Sam started volunteering after his wife gave him a flight in the Wright B about 15 years ago. Sam said the flight got him so interested in the Wright “B” organization that he wanted to start volunteering regularly. Sam wasn’t sure what he wanted to do initially when he started volunteering. It didn’t take long for him to be assigned to fabricating and installing the multitude of wire cables that can be seen on the new WB-X. Sam had never worked fabricating cables before, but many of the other volunteers helped him learn a new skill. Over the past 15 years, Sam has made roughly 1000 feet of new cables. Sam stated that when he started volunteering, he learned a lot about the Wright “B”. Now he is probably one of the most knowledgeable volunteers and he is always available to give tours to our visitors.

Sam grew up in Missouri and graduated from high school in 1941. While in high school, Sam played basketball and hockey. His ambition after high school was to go to one of the Military Academies. He ended up being the First Alternate on the Appointee List. Did you happen to notice the year he graduated High School? Pearl Harbor was still a few months off, but the war clouds were looming on the horizon. Sam enlisted in the Army Air Corp, the Navy and then went thru Basic Training at Naval Station Great Lakes. Sam served with the US Coast Guard in St. Louis performing Port Security duties for 2 years during the war. His time with the US Coast Guard wasn’t the path that he originally wanted to go down, but it did make him feel like he was contributing to the war effort during that time frame.

Sam got his undergrad degree in Physics from Washington University in St. Louis. He joined the Frigidaire Division of General Motors. He started as an applications engineer working on refrigeration units then became a Product Manager for Refrigerators. He spent a total of 49 years in the Refrigeration field during his career. He started out with Frigidaire in St. Louis then transferred to the Home Office in Dayton, was later transferred to Pittsburgh and then Kansas City.

Sam’s daughter Nancy currently volunteers at the Wright “B” and manages the gift shop. His oldest daughter is a computer programmer supporting Wright-Patterson AFB, OH. She volunteered with the Wright “B” for several years.

Sam emphasized that one of the things that he has learned is that you don’t have to have a natural talent for something. What it takes is for a few people to invest some time in you and help you perfect a new skill.
HAVE YOU EVER WANTED TO FLY LIKE THE WRIGHT BROTHERS?

THE WRIGHT B FLYER

CALL 837-885-2327 TO ARRANGE FOR YOUR FLIGHT

VISIT US ONLINE AT WWW.WRIGHT-B-FLYER.ORG
Summer Moon Festival

Celebrate the 50th anniversary of Apollo 11, the first manned lunar landing, July 19-21 at the Armstrong Air & Space Museum and throughout Wapakoneta, hometown of the first man to walk on the moon, Neil Armstrong. Enjoy presentations from astronauts, exhibits from NASA, aviation inflatables, free activities, science demonstrations, face painting, mini golf, your favorite Star Wars characters, live entertainment, the Lima Area Concert Band, animals from an area zoo, the Run to the Moon races, and so much more!

Want more information? Contact programs@armstrongmuseum.org.

50th Anniversary Celebration
Apollo 11 Mission to the Moon
Ten Days of Celebration: July 12-21

July 12-13
Hot Air Balloon Rally
The Auglaize County Fairgrounds will be the site of a 50th Anniversary Celebration Hot Air Balloon Rally. Join the Community in the Grand Stand to watch balloons launch and learn about the history and operation of hot air balloons. Balloon launches on July 13 at 6:30 p.m. and July 13 at 6:30 a.m. and 6:30 p.m., and a Night Glow event at 9:30 p.m.

July 14 — 3:00 p.m.
50th Anniversary Parade
After Neil Armstrong’s historic step on the moon the community of Wapakoneta celebrated his return to earth with a parade in his honor. Join as the community celebrates the 50th anniversary with another parade in Mr. Armstrong’s honor. The parade will begin at the Auglaize County Fairgrounds and end in the historic downtown—with a concert and dinner at the Armstrong Air & Space Museum after the parade.

July 15
60s Day at the Wapakoneta Waterpark
Grab your bathing suit and join us at the Wapakoneta Waterpark for a day of 1960s-themed fun. Special evening programming will include a viewing of the film First Men.

July 15-16 — 8:00 a.m. to Noon
Aerocraft Flights at Neil Armstrong Airport
At the age of 56, Neil Armstrong took flying lessons at local Fort Kent field. He earned his pilot’s license before his driver’s license. Taking off from Neil Armstrong Airport, you can fly in one of the same Aerocraft Champion planes in which he learned to fly. There is a cost and you must be 18 years old to participate.

July 16
Launch Day at Armstrong Air & Space Museum
Celebrate the 50th anniversary of the Saturn V’s launch of the Apollo 11 mission to the moon at the Armstrong Air & Space Museum with model rocket workshops and launches—a big day of fun and learning.

July 16
Back to the 60s Dinner at St. Paul Church
Enjoy a delicious meal of 1960s-recipe food at the Armstrong family’s home church. Following dinner, Chris Hart, First Person Interpreter of Neil Armstrong, will make a presentation.

July 16 — 7:30 to 9:00 p.m.
Miss Summer Moon Festival Pageant—Wapakoneta High School Performing Arts Center
The Miss Summer Moon Scholarship Pageant provides an evening of entertainment showcasing local students from Wapakoneta High School. In addition to awarding over $2,000 in scholarships and prizes, contestants receive valuable training in public speaking, interviewing and social skills while building their inner strength, beauty and uniqueness.

Summer Moon Festival @ Two Great Venues

July 17-20
Downtown Wapakoneta
Historic Downtown Wapakoneta comes alive as the streets are closed for four days and nights of celebration. It’s about honoring the past while living in the present. For over 25 years people from near and far come together for a giant street party commemorating “one small step.” The 50th anniversary will be our biggest festival yet. Here are some of the highlights. For a full schedule of events, be sure to check www.summermoonfestival.com.

- Carnival Games & Attractions
- Live Music
- Beer Garden
- Food Trucks
- Vintage Car Show
- Antique Tractor Show
- Local Shops & Restaurants
- Fishing Derby
- Bed Races
- Wiener Dog Racing
- River Booting
- Street Market
- World’s Largest MoonPie

July 19-21
Armstrong Air & Space Museum
Continue the celebration at the Armstrong Air & Space Museum, built to honor Wapakoneta’s own Neil Armstrong and other Ohioans involved in space exploration. The museum has a remarkable collection of items related to Mr. Armstrong, including his Gemini 8 capsule. It also has a selection of interactive exhibits, simulators, and an informative film in its Astro Theater. Festivities on the museum grounds include a 5k and 10k Run to the Moon that includes visiting NASA astronauts, space inflatables, interactive science experiments, rocket launches, and more. Shuttle service between the museum and downtown activities is available. Visit www.armstrongmuseum.org for the full schedule of events.

- Run to the Moon 10k & 5k
- Visiting NASA astronauts
- Star Wars Characters
- Replica Wright Bros. Flyer
- NASA Astronaut Presentations
- Interactive Science Experiments
- Rocket Launches
- Games, Attractions, Food

July 21 — 7:00 p.m.
Lima Area Concert Band Wink at the Moon Concert
at the Armstrong Air & Space Museum
Bring the 50 days of celebration to a close by joining the community at our “Wink at the Moon” closing event. Enjoy the music of the Lima Area Concert Band, a long-standing tradition at the Summer Moon Festival. When the concert ends, join us, as suggested by Mrs. Armstrong at her husband’s passing in 2012, in giving Mr. Armstrong a little wink at the moon.
How can you help keep the Wright “B” flying?

The organization would like to thank all of the members and previous donors for their help to keep our education efforts of early aviation and flight alive.

In case you are wondering where your donations go,

- First, they help to keep the hangar open and operating as a Free Museum to the public. The direct result of that is you help give the public and next generation of potential aviators a place to grow their interest in Aviation.
- The Wright “B” is also a stop on the National Aviation Heritage Area’s (NAHA) Aviation Trail and “Wilbear Wright” program (see page 2).
- Your donations also enable our presence at Airshows and fly-overs for local parades and events.
- Donations also support our ongoing fabrication, flight testing and certification of the WB-X, our second and easily transportable airplane, as well as the existing Brown Bird.
- They help support the Half Scale’s appearance at local and away events and airshows.
- They also help us keep our Ford Model “T” 1916 Sedan and 1917 Pickup operating, and yes we hear the visiting children have fun blasting the old style horns on them in the hangar.
- Future donations will help support these efforts, make upgrades to our Wright Aircraft Simulator, computer systems around the hangar, newsletters, hosting our Annual Membership Dinner and keeping us open to the public.

Any future donations would be greatly appreciated and are tax deductible. Please contact us or drop by the hangar to make your donations.

![Displaying the “Leader in Flight”](image)

Don’t forget: Displaying the “Leader in Flight” license on your car proclaims your pride in Dayton’s Heritage as the true birthplace of flight! And it means $15 more to the Wright “B” Museum and a tax deduction for you!

**Want to know how to receive this Wilbear Wright bear?**

While touring the Dayton, Ohio Aviation Trail, receive a stamp at the one required site—The Wright-Dunbar Interpretive Center, plus a minimum of seven of the remaining sites to qualify for the free “Wilbear Wright” aviator teddy bear. Pick up a folder at any Dayton Ohio Aviation Trail sites.

**What do you receive for your money:**

⇒ Membership is tax deductible!
⇒ Four informative newsletters each year!
⇒ Honorary Aviator also receives Orientation Ride!

**How to become a Member!!!!!!!**

Levels of support:

**Aviator Member**—$25.00/year
Receive Newsletter, guest at annual membership dinner, participate in Wright “B” Flyer activities.

**Honorary Aviator**—$100/year
All Aviator Member benefits plus Orientation Ride in the Wright “B” Flyer.

**Life Member**—$200
Receives all of the above benefits for life.

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**Don’t forget:**

Displaying the “Leader in Flight” license on your car proclaims your pride in Dayton’s Heritage as the true birthplace of flight! And it means $15 more to the Wright “B” Museum and a tax deduction for you!

**Wright “B” Flyer, Inc.**

Dayton-Wright Brothers Airport
10550 Springboro Pike
Miamisburg, Ohio 45342
Phone: 937-885-2927
Fax: 937-885-3310
www.wright-b-flyer.org
Dayton Metro Library  
Summer Challenge 2019

When: May 17-August 3, 2019
Categories: All ages of children from babies through high school.
How: Both online and paper tracking is available for participants to log the time spent reading, being read to, attending Library programs, or —for the youngest participants—accomplishing simple learning activities.

Grand prizes will be awarded at each branch of the Dayton Metro Library. All participants who reach the 3600-minute level (60 hours of reading and activities) will be entered into drawings for:

- **Membership to Wright “B” Flyer, Inc.** includes ONE FLIGHT ON THE Wright “B” Flyer, grades 7-12 (Height limits apply).
- Admission for 4 to the National Museum of the U. S. Air Force, includes a choice of the Digital 3D Theater or Flight Simulator, grades 1-6 (height limits apply)
- Admission for 4 to Carillon Historical Park includes a ride on the carousel for kindergarten & younger.

Sign up for the Summer Challenge all branches of the Dayton Metro Library starting May 17, or register online starting May 1 at DaytonMetroLibrary.org/Summer. Call (937) 463-2665 for more information.

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From the OHIO COBRA CLUB NEWSLETTER

Several OCC members enjoyed their visit to the Wright “B” Flyer Museum on Saturday, May 4th.

The group listened to a presentation by Wright “B” Flyer, Inc. Lead Pilot and Chairman, Mr. Rich Stepler. Mr. Stepler spoke about how the Wright brothers, Wilbur and Orville, had an idea about an airplane, worked to achieve the first powered and controlled flight and then continued to work to develop and fly the Wright Flyer III, the first fully practical fixed-wing aircraft. Mr. Stepler also spoke about how the Wright’s were zealous in protecting their patents on the aircraft controls that made fixed-wing powered flight possible. He also discussed others, such as American, Glenn Curtiss, and German, Otto Lilienthal that at the time were also working on developing an airplane.

The museum’s Wright “B” Flyer is a replica of the first airplane that was sold to the United States Government by the Wright Brothers. It is painted as the airplane was delivered to the United States Army Signal Corps. In addition, the group was able to view various items of Wright memorabilia, get close to both of the museum’s Wright “B” replicas as well as speak with several of the museum officials.

Several club members even set at the controls of the “B”. Due to weather conditions that caused a low cloud ceiling, the planned flights on the Wright “B” Flyer had to be canceled. After the presentation, several club members stayed for a photograph with the Wright “B” Flyer, Mr. Stepler, and Cobra club members. Once photographs were taken, the group left the museum and enjoyed lunch together at the Submarine House Bar and Grill in Centerville. After lunch, a short club meeting was conducted.
## 2019 Calendar of Events

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<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<td>Dayton—Christian Home School Network</td>
<td>Tour Hangar</td>
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<td>Feb 20</td>
<td>Beavercreek—Grand Opening Harbor Chase</td>
<td>Display</td>
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<tr>
<td>Feb 21</td>
<td>PSU, Inc.</td>
<td>Tour Hangar</td>
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<td>May 9</td>
<td>34th TFS Reunion (F-105s)</td>
<td>Tour Hangar/HAMS</td>
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<td>May 11</td>
<td>International Symposium of Aviation Psychology</td>
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<td>May 23</td>
<td>Randolph AFB OPT 70E Reunion</td>
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<tr>
<td>May 29/31</td>
<td>Aviation Writers Summit</td>
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<td>Jun 21</td>
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<td>Jun 22-23</td>
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<td>Display</td>
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<td>Jul 4</td>
<td>Centerville—Americana Celebration</td>
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<td>Jul 4</td>
<td>Beavercreek—4th of July</td>
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<td>Jul 14</td>
<td>Wapakoneta-Armstrong 50th Anniversary</td>
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<td>Jul 19-21</td>
<td>Armstrong Museum 50yh Anniversary Celebration</td>
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<td>Jul 21</td>
<td>Youth Aviation Event (Closed to Public)</td>
<td>Tour Hangar</td>
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Be part of Dayton, Ohio Aviation history—Volunteer

**Give us a Day!**

Work on the “B”  
Volunteer in the Gift Shop!

Help with events!

Help in the Museum or Grounds!

BECOME A VOLUNTEER AT THE WRIGHT “B” FLYER MUSEUM
Calling All Aviation Enthusiasts!

Open Season has been declared for those hunting a “One of a Kind Flight” in the elusive Brown Bird! After a long, cold Winter, our flying season has begun! If you know of anyone seeking a Honorary Aviator Membership Flight, please call us at the hangar or drop on in to schedule your HAM. We also accept walk-ins! Flights are weather permitting.

2019 Wright “B” Flyer Board

Board Chairman: Rich Stepler
President: George Forest
Vice President: Fred Tegarden
Secretary: Bob Matthews
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Tom Greeneisen
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John R Kennedy
Amanda Wright Lane

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Ed Mechenbier
Jim Papa
Bill Simpson
Craig Willan

Nicholas Georgeff-Park District Liaison

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David Garcia-Rodriguez
Jay Jabour
Don Stroud
Tom Walters
Jim Wilson

Available speakers for Presentations

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Rick Gladon
Rich Stepler