

# Summer Newsletter

June 2025



## IT IS SUMMER AND IT'S HOT!

*Forget swimming and visit the Wright B Flyer Museum!*

Wright Landings is published for the information of members and volunteers of the Wright B Flyer, Inc., a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization. Dayton-Wright Brothers Airport; 10550 Springboro Pike Miamisburg, Ohio 45342  
Phone: 937-885-2327

## Hours of Operation

Tuesday,  
Thursday, Saturday  
9:00 am – 12:30pm

**Retired? Need something to do? See page 4!**



## THE VALENTINE

Tom and Nancy Valentine built the "Valentine" Wright "B" Flyer replica for the 1978 movie "The Winds of Kitty Hawk." The aircraft was flown in the movie.

The Valentine Flyer, as it was known, accumulated 2.5 hours in the air over about 50 flights. It was damaged in the final flight of the movie.

The Flyer was patterned after the Model B in the Franklin Institute in Philadelphia, but they also referred to drawings for the 1905 Wright Flyer III since no Model B drawings existed.

### Valentine Model B Specifications

**Registration:** N2283D

**Powerplant:** 1929 Model A Ford, 40 hp @ 1,550 rpm

**Propellers:** 2 chain driven Wright pusher propellers counter rotating. Hand-carved from aircraft -grade spruce

**Wingspan:** 38 ft. 11 in.

**Height:** 8 ft.

**Length:** 30 ft. 11 in.

**Weight:** 823 lb. empty, 1237 lb. max gross

**Wing Area:** 489 sq. ft.

**Wing Loading:** 2.53 lb./sq.ft.

**Wing Foil:** Wright design

# Major White Bird Activities Planned for 2025

- **Spring/Summer/Fall 2025**

- 50<sup>th</sup> Birthday Party in the Hangar
- Eagle Riders Motorcycle Group Museum Visit and Tour
- All Day Indian Wedding Party at the Museum
- Celebration of Life for Pilot Gary Warlaumont
- AFWERX Commander Retirement Ceremony
- **Dayton Airshow with the Valentine on Display**
- GE Beavercreek Anniversary with the 1/2 Scale on Display
- Kettering Holiday at Homes Parade
- Hall of Fame Inductees Event
- Hops and Props Event with Craft Breweries and Food Trucks
- USAF Marathon
- And More to Come



**Want to  
learn how  
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 a free "Wilbear Wright" aviation teddy bear. Pick up a folder at any Dayton Ohio Aviation Trail site.

**BE SURE TO VISIT  
THE GIFT SHOP  
WHILE AT THE  
MUSEUM. TEE  
SHIRTS, POLO  
SHIRTS,  
SWEATSHIRTS,  
BALL CAPS,  
BOOKS, AND LOTS  
OF GREAT WRIGHT  
BROTHERS  
MEMORABILIA.**

**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!



We are an all-volunteer Museum and welcome all donations to help us continue to celebrate the accomplishments of the Wright Brothers.

Just use the QR Code on the right.





# Childhood Inspiration: The Toy That Sparked an Obsession

A toy launched their flying obsession. When the Wright Brothers were youngsters in 1878, their father returned home one evening with a gift that he tossed in the air. “Instead of falling to the floor, as we expected,” the Brothers recalled in a 1908 magazine article, “it flew across the room till it struck the ceiling, where it fluttered for a while, and finally sank to the floor.”

The model helicopter made of cork, bamboo and paper and powered by a rubber band mesmerized the boys and sparked their passion for aviation.



## Some Wright Brothers Trivia

- Wilbur and Orville had discovered during their years of building planes that narrower wings gave the planes better lift. This discovery contributed to the current design of planes of all sizes.
- In 1902 the brothers designed the tail rudder to be movable. This improved control of planes, and also contributed to the modern design of planes. The brothers were instrumental in contributing to the modern flight controls of today's planes.
- The Wright Brothers designed wing movement based on what they observed when watching birds and the angles of their wings during flight. They tested various angles using a system of pulleys.
- Orville Wright survived eight major plane crashes beginning in 1902 and ending in 1911.
- Orville and his assistants experimented with aeroboats. They used the Great Miami River in Dayton to try them out. Eventually a seaplane base was established there.





**The Valentine and the  
Model "T" on Display at  
the CenterPoint Energy  
Dayton Airshow**

**2025**





Want to be Part of Dayton Aviation History? You can be!



## We need interested volunteers!

- \* Mechanically inclined? Help work on the Wright B.
- \* Love People? Greet guests visiting the Museum.
- \*\*Retail Experience? Work in the gift shop.**
- \* Computer Skills? Help manage website, archive images and mass mail newsletters.

**Learn, Contribute and Have Fun with Great People!**

### Front Office

#### Dispatch

#### Operations

Tom Rose

#### Archivist

Linda Madaffer

#### Events

#### Coordinator

Steve Donaldson

#### Gift Shop

Clayton McDaniel

Mike Miller

Gayle Sachs

#### Information

#### Technology

Tom Dermis

#### Landscape

Neal Charske

#### Museum Supplies

Fred Tegarden

#### Media

Don Adams

Dominic Barone

Carlos Monzon

Bob Sachs

#### Model T

Frank Goepferich

Jim Perrine

### Wright B Flyer Executive Committee

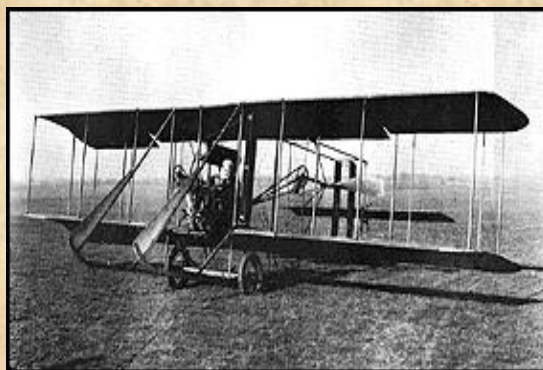
Jim Papa – Chairman

Don Adams – President

Fred Tegarden – Vice President

Jeff Stands – Secretary

Amanda Hayes - Treasurer



### The Wright B Pilots

Rich Stepler, Chief Pilot

Hank Griffiths

Jay Jabour

Jeff Stands

Tom Walters

Don Stroud, Pilot Emeritus

### Trustees

Don Adams

Sam Carbaugh

Steve Donaldson

Nicholas Georgeff

Amanda Hayes

Jay Jabour

Amanda Lane

Al Leland

Ed Mechenbier

Jim Papa

Tony Perfilio

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Fred Tegarden

Tom Walters

Craig Willan

### Park District

#### Liaison

Nicholas Georgeff

#### Speakers for

#### Presentations

Don Adams

Jeff Stands

Rich Stepler

### Ground Crew

Jerry Troidl, Chief

Dave Barrington

Paul Bauer

Tony Bonser

John Brugger

Mark Culbertson

Carl Harlacher

Bill Jamison

Eric Rothwell

Dean Sollman