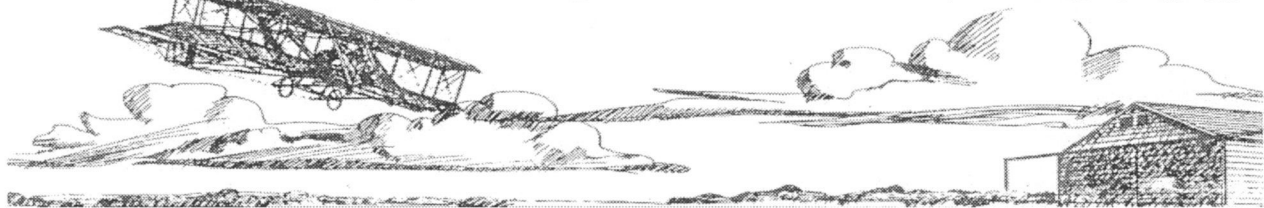


# WRIGHT LANDINGS



## W R I G H T " B " F L Y E R I N C

### NEW WRIGHT "B" FLYER

#### 2007 Wright "B" Flyer Schedule

June 15 – 17 Muncie Summer Heat Festival

June 29<sup>th</sup>—AFMC Tattoo—NMUSAF

July 21<sup>st</sup>–25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration

July 27–30—Vectren Dayton Air Show

Aug 25–26— "Capitol City Ford Indianapolis Air Show" Mt Comfort IN

Sep 3—Cincinnati Riverfest

Although the existing Wright "B" Flyer has served the organization well and will continue to do well into the future it has become too difficult to disassemble, transport, and assemble. There are numerous events coming up in the near future (2008) for which a new Flyer is needed. We have already had to cancel some appearances we would have loved to have made. We hope to begin construction on a new Flyer early this year. To make this new Flyer a reality we will need both volunteers and sponsors. No offer will be refused! Come visit us for our 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary celebration and find out how you can become a part of

continuing our proud legacy. The Board has authorized



the expenditure of up to \$100K for the building of the new plane. Because the anniversaries are quickly approaching we have embarked on a very aggressive schedule with a goal of having the plane in flight test by November 1st, 2007. Walt Hoy has volunteered to lead the effort to build the plane. We think that new volunteers will show up when there is a new plane to work on. The new plane will be made to

the maximum extend possible on machines that will automatically cut all the parts. We want to use our volunteers for assembly not cutting brackets and wing ribs. The engine already is in the hanger and Dayton Wire Wheel & Diamond Chain have already promised support. We expect more contributions and are accepting donations. The new plane represents a new chapter in our history. If a sponsor steps forward to support our ambitious plans we will have an update as soon as it happens. A model of the plane should be available in the late spring and on display for the July 21st Anniversary party.

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### Winter Work Continues on Iron Bird

The past few months have been a busy time as Harold Edinger and the volunteers have been performing the annual inspection of the Iron Bird. Thanks to Frank, the inspection was made easier and more hi-tech this year through the use of a mini-camera routed into the wing access areas

which was then viewed on a TV screen. It appeared the aircraft had successfully survived another season of flying without too much wear and tear. A cracked chain guide needed to be welded as did cracks in the undercarriage. It wasn't determined whether some of the dam-

age was due to the unscheduled landing two years ago or from abuse by the new pilots! In any event, the original aircraft components and structure will be sound and ready for flight when the weather improves.

Continued on page 2...

## Winter Work Continues on Iron Bird (continued from page 1)

### Lightweight Tail

Work is nearing completion on the replacement of the existing empennage, horizontal stabilizer, rudder assembly, and elevator with new, composite components. The volunteers have spent the last year or more building a new tail assembly that should

considerably reduce the weight in the rear of the aircraft. Hopefully, after reducing ballast from the front skids and crossbar the resulting weight loss will improve the performance, particularly hot-weather performance, of the aircraft.

*Zot and crew working on the new tail. (right)*



## Wright "B" Flyer Begins Work on Strategic Plan

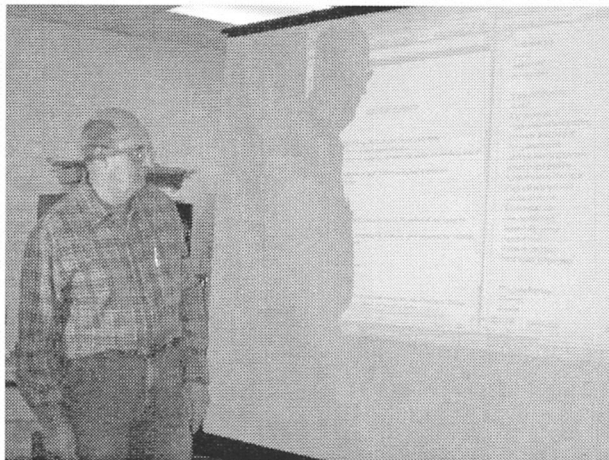
The Trustees and volunteers of the Wright "B" Flyer have been spending Saturday's at the hangar developing a strategic plan. The board decided last Fall to develop a strategic plan to guide the Wright "B" Flyer organization beyond its first 25 years.

Volunteers and trustees have gathered at the hangar on Saturday mornings to define the "as is" state of the organization as well as the desired "to be" state. The "future" was defined as being 2010 - 2012, essentially, the next 5 years.

Numerous areas were addressed: organization, financial, programs/services, operations, community impact, membership, and business development.

Trustees Tony Perfillo and Ed Mechenbier led each of the sessions, facilitating the work of the team of trustees and volunteers. The sessions have been very productive.

Among the many topics discussed are the need for a more transportable aircraft, the need for increased levels of sponsorship, membership, and volunteers, and increased levels of support to the community and a more visible role in promoting Dayton's aviation heritage.



**Left:** Tony Perfillo leads strategic planning session.



**Right:** Board Members and Volunteers share ideas.



## WRIGHT "B" FLYER WELCOMES NEW TRUSTEES

### Tim Gaffney

Tim Gaffney joined the board after retiring from a 33-year newspaper career. For the last 21 years he was the aviation writer for the Dayton Daily News, where his first aviation assignment, in July 1985, was a media ride on the Wright "B" Flyer. Tim is a trustee with the United States Air and Trade Show Inc. and a member of the Aviation Heritage Foundation's marketing council. He continues to write and is an author of children's books, including the picture book *Wee and the Wright Brothers*. He lives in Miamisburg.

### Jay Jabour

Jay Jabour manages the Northrop Grumman office in Dayton Ohio. Prior to working with Northrop Grumman, Jay completed over 30 years in the United States Air Force, retiring as a Brigadier General in 2003 from Wright-Patterson Air Force Base. He was then Vice Commander of The Aeronautical Systems Center. Prior to that Jay was a Fighter Pilot and Test Pilot in the Air Force, flying over 67 different types of aircraft including the A-10, F-16, B-2 and YF-22. He had a long career at Wright Patterson as an acquisition official on the B-2 Spirit and F-22 Raptor airplanes. Jay also had two tours in the Pentagon where he managed not to screw up too badly. His operational assignments include Commanding the F-22 Test Squadron at Edwards AFB California. Jay entered military service as a graduate of the U.S. Air Force Academy in 1973. He has Bachelor and Masters Degrees in Mechanical Engineering.

### Amanda Wright Lane

Amanda Wright Lane didn't really know that her Uncle Orv and Uncle Will were the Wright Brothers till the light bulb went on during a fourth grade history lesson...true confession. After all, the men she knew from conversations around the dining room table on Sunday nights were babysitters, pranksters, and candy chefs. There was never any mention of a flying machine, let alone changing the course of history forever. But, as an adult, Amanda has made a study of the engineering science that her great grand uncles introduced, and has worked to preserve the story their early aviation history that was born in Dayton, Ohio, at the turn of the 20<sup>th</sup> century. Today, Amanda is a co-trustee of the Wright Family Foundation, and serves a board member of the Aviation Heritage Foundation, the Wright Image Group, Dayton History, Wright Dunbar Inc., and the Engineers' Club of Dayton. She is an honorary co-chair for both the LeMans Sarthe Wright Centennial Committee and Pau Wright Aviation, the French organizations designated to plan the European centennial celebration of flight. As a Wright Family spokesperson, along with her brother Stephen Wright, Amanda has spoken to groups about her Uncle Orv and Uncle Will (the Wright Brothers!) around the nation, and the world.

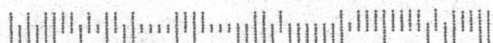
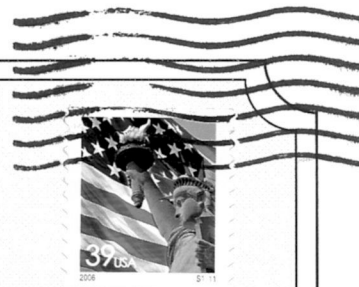
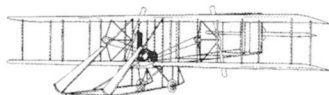
### ***New Board Members Pictured below:***

*Amanda Right Lane, top left  
Jay Jabour, second from top left  
Tim Gaffney, top right*



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### Wright "B" Flyer



### Free "Honorary Aviator" Memberships

The lucky winners of the free  
"Honorary Aviator" Memberships  
this quarter are

**Gary Drummer, Cedarville**  
**Gayle Gorman, Mansfield**

Purchase your plates today  
and see your name here  
in our next issue!

### ***We need volunteers!***

If you are able to overhaul an aircraft engine or can overhaul a Microsoft Word document, we can use your help. Volunteers keep the Wright "B" Flyer alive. We need your talents whatever they may be. We plan to begin construction on a new Wright "B" Flyer soon and will need skills we can not even yet identify. Visit the Wright "B" Flyer and talk with our dedicated volunteers. Let us know you are willing to help. We are open Tuesday, Thursday, and Saturday from 9:00 AM until 2:30 PM. We have and need volunteers of all ages to keep the Wright "B" Flyer flying and Dayton history alive.

Mitch Cary

PS. Please purchase our "Leader in Flight" license plates!



[http://bm.ohio.gov/vehicle\\_registration/leader\\_in\\_flight.htm](http://bm.ohio.gov/vehicle_registration/leader_in_flight.htm)