

Wright "B" Flyer, Inc.

WRIGHT LANDINGS



Issue 4, 2010

Dayton, Ohio

Fall 2010

Wright "B" Flyer Shines at F-15 SPO Reunion

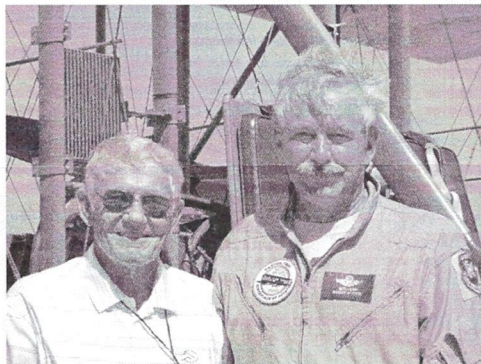
Wright "B" Flyer was honored to be a part of the F-15 SPO Reunion held at WPAFB and Hope Hotel this July 24th. We performed a flyover prior to an F-15 demonstration and (I might humbly argue) we

stole the show by arriving in front of the crowd with the honored guest at this reunion, former F-15 SPO Director and former AFMC

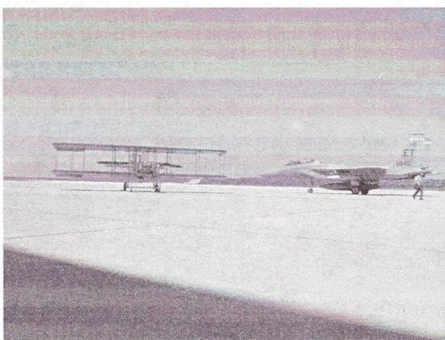
Commander General Ron Yates. General Yates was also a test pilot

and former Commander of the 4950th Test Wing. He had not been at the controls of an aircraft in nearly 17 years, but had certainly not

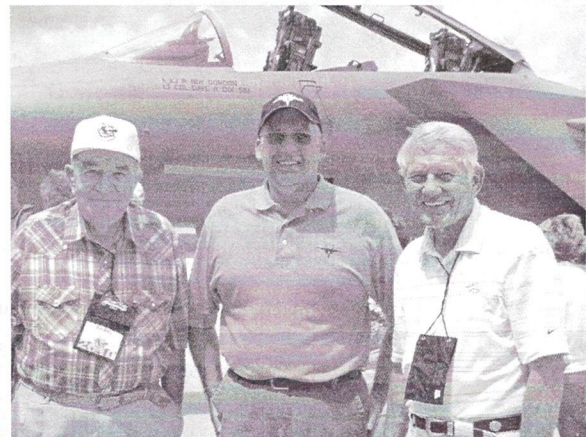
lost his touch. It was a rare privilege and honor to fly with him again.



Gen Ron Yates and Mitch after their flight



The "Old" and the "New" sit proudly near Huffman Prairie at Wright-Patt



Three generations of F-15 Program Directors: (l-r) Lt Gen Ben Bellis (Ret), Mr. Bob Regazzi, current program director, and Gen Ron Yates (Ret)

Gen Don Hoffman Flies the Wright "B"

A little over a week after flying the first commander of Air Force Materiel Command we were honored to welcome the current commander, Gen Don Hoffman, as an Honorary Aviator Member. General Hoffman received his orientation flight on August 7th. We also had the privilege of welcoming Col William Gideon as an Honorary Aviator Member as well.



Barry helps Gen Hoffman

Wright "B" Flyer Joins Antique Fly-In at Hagerstown

In late July, the Wright "B" Flyer made a "return trip" to Hagerstown, Indiana for the Annual Hagerstown *Flying Circus*. The event included over 50 pre-1947 aircraft, including: several Pietenpols with Model A engines, 4-Waco Biplanes, a Waco WWII training biplane, a Stear-

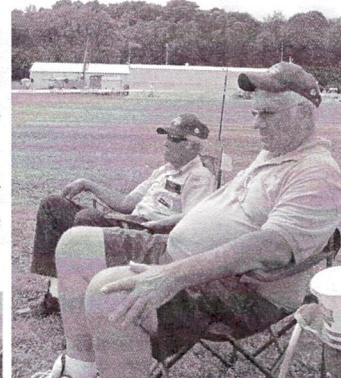
"B" Flyer. Once again the Wright "B" was featured at the beginning and the end of the event. There is a unique atmosphere at this event and we hope to be a part of it again next year.



John takes a well-deserved break

man WWII trainer, a rare 1929 New Standard D-25, 1930 Great-Lakes, a Piper Cub, and our own Wright

Rich and Joe relax near the plane

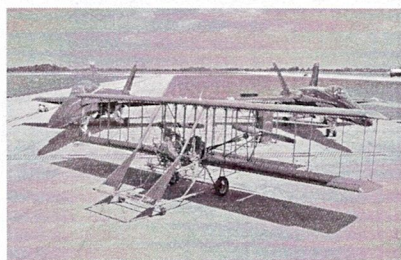


Don Gum takes a ride in the New Standard



Dayton Air Show 2010, by Rich Stepler

The Wright Airplane Demonstration team flew what is generally accepted as

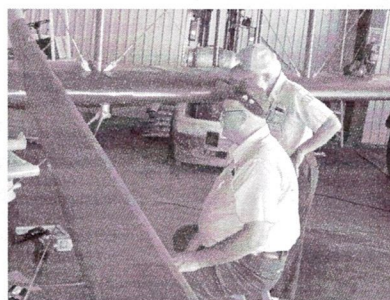


the first air show in America in 1910 near what is now the Indianapolis Motor Speed Way. To celebrate the centennial of this event, the Wright "B" Flyer organization invited Rob Reider and Danny Clisham, the air show announcers, to join us on our opening flights of the 2010 Dayton air show. The day before the air show, both Rob and Danny were given a flight around the pattern at Dayton International Airport to acquaint them with the unique characteristics of the "B," and give them a view of the air show venue that is not available from any other airplane. Rob and Danny are both experienced air show commentators and pilots, and both reacted to their flight in the "B"

with awe and astonishment! Low clouds and limited visibility added to the mystique of flying in a historic, open cockpit airplane. Rob Reider, flying with Rich Stepler on Saturday, and Danny Clisham, flying with Greg Carter on Sunday, broadcast their opening remarks from the Wright "B" Flyer as we flew for the crowd, highlighting their enthusiasm for the



Rich and Rob Reider



John and Barry inspect the progress

Rich Stepler on Saturday, and Danny Clisham, flying with Greg Carter on Sunday, broadcast their opening remarks from the Wright "B" Flyer as we flew for the crowd, highlighting their enthusiasm for the

practical and historical aspects of flight in their commentary. — Rob and Danny are masters of capturing in words the full range of emotional and sensory impressions of flying, and during their flight in the "B" both did a marvelous job of verbalizing the joy and excitement of the Wright "B" Flyer experience.



Joe and Syl repair brakes—AGAIN!

Wright "B" Retraces Route of First Cargo Flight

by Tim Gaffney

DAYTON, Ohio – Wright "B" Flyer Inc. volunteers today re-enacted the world's first cargo flight, following close to the original route from historic Huffman Prairie near Dayton, Ohio, to Rickenbacker International Airport near Columbus. Phil Parmelee made the original flight on Nov. 7, 1910.

The flight marked 100 years since the first flight took place in 1910 when the Wright brothers-built airplane piloted by a young, but skillful, aviator Philip O. Parmelee delivered a cargo of silk cloth to a Columbus merchant, Max Morehouse.

Descendents of both families were at the gate waiting for the Wright B Flyer and its crew, Mitch Cary and Rich Stepler. The pilots had started their journey at Wright-Patterson Air Force Base, where they circled over spectators on Huffman Prairie, the Wright brothers' hometown flying field, before heading east to Madison County Airport and then into Rickenbacker. "We were a little chilly but overall had good weather, good tailwinds and made great time into our mid-point stop," said pilot Cary. A crowd of aviation enthusiasts met them at the airport. They were treated to a close-up look of the aircraft and a chance to talk to the pilots.

Shortly before 11:30 a.m. the pilots took off for their final destination in Columbus. Just as they had done at their starting point, the pilots circled Rickenbacker Airport prior to landing and taxing to the gate.

There the crew unloaded the cargo they had carried on the flight, which included items that represent the

different type of material, ceramic composite cloth along with three, concept micro-unmanned air vehicles (UAVs).

David Whitaker, representing one of the flight's sponsors, Columbus Regional Airport Authority, told the crowd, "Rickenbacker Airport is a modern air hub in an industry that owes its start to the genius of the Wrights and the skilled flying of Parmelee."

A round of applause by the crowd greeted the pilots as they entered the terminal and presented the cargo to Wright family members, Amanda Wright Lane, her brother Steve Wright and Parmelee family members Lecia Lamphere and her brother Philip McKeachie.

"It was a moving experience to see the plane come to the gate as it gave me and my family a real appreciation what Uncle Phil had done a hundred years ago," Lamphere said.

Tony Perfilio, chair of the National Aviation Heritage Alliance and a Wright "B" Flyer trustee, recognized the significant contributions of the Wright "B" ground crew and sponsors Lane Aviation and Rickenbacker Airport.

Closing the ceremony was Joe Sciabica, Executive Director of the Air Force Research Laboratory, which is located on Wright-Patterson.

Sciabica's organization provided the cargo for today's flight.

"The Wrights were great scientists, they understood the challenges they faced and they weren't afraid of failure and on that they built their success," Sciabica said.

"Today, we continue that same great tradition in Ohio and only our dreams limit what we can achieve in flight in the next 100 years."



A sizable crowd of aviation enthusiasts attended the celebration

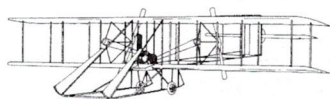


Lecia and Philip address the crowd

aerospace industry of the 21st century. While Parmelee carried silk cloth in 1910, today's flight brought a

Wright "B" Flyer, Inc
10550 Springboro Pike
Dayton Wright Bros. Airport
Miamisburg, Ohio 45342
Phone: 937-885-2327
Fax: 937-885-3310

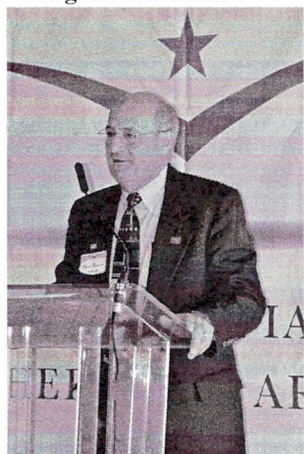
Non Profit Org
U.S. Postage
PAID
Miamisburg OH
Permit No. 16



Wright "B" Flyer



Lecia, Philip and Manda at the Cargo Flight Celebration



Tony Perfilio address the crowd at Columbus, his first duty as Chairman of NAHA

A Busy Year

This was one of the busiest summers in memory. This year has taken the Brown Bird to San Antonio, TX, Hagerstown, IN, and Columbus, OH. At San Antonio, Columbus and at Dayton Wright Brothers Airport centennial reenactments including the first military pilot flying a military aircraft from a military field, the first cargo flight, and the first U. S. President to fly in an aircraft were recreated. The Brown Bird also completed sixteen local area fly-overs including the Dayton Air Show and flew over 260 orientation flights for new Honorary Aviator Members. The aircraft has flown for over 25 years and has logged almost 3500 flights. In addition, this summer we have completed the construction of the Silver Bird. It passed its FAA inspection on 29 September and has begun taxi tests. We have much work to do over the winter to prepare for next year: fine-tuning the Silver Bird, making much needed repairs to the Brown Bird, and recovering the Yellow Bird. We are always thankful for new volunteers. Now would be the time to get involved and help us prepare for an even busier year next season.

Mitch Cary
President

Please purchase our "Leader in Flight" license plates!



http://bmvo.ohio.gov/vehicle_registration/leader_in_flight.htm