

Wright "B" Flyer, Inc.

## WRIGHT LANDINGS



Issue 1, 2011

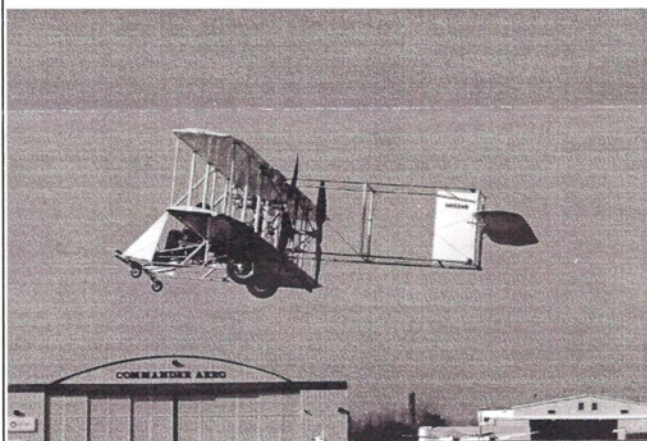
Dayton, Ohio

Winter 2011

### Updates—Silver Bird and Yellow Bird

#### Silver-Bird

The Silver-Bird continues to proceed well and will start its flight test program as soon as weather permits.



We were able to conduct numerous runway lift-off trials during the Fall months, and this experience has allowed us to make several modifications that we feel will improve our flying performance once we are able to commence our actual Flight Test program. The test program is being correlated by Tom Walters with input from all of the pilots, who have also had opportunities to runway test the airplane.

Based on tests undertaken with the ground adjustable propellers very kindly supplied on a consignment basis by Sensenich Propellers in

Florida, a decision has now been taken to purchase these props. Further action is also being taken to make the props appear more like Wright-like.

#### Yellow Bird

The Yellow-Bird (Valentine Airplane) has been in storage during the Winter months following the Summer exhibition season at Huffman Prairie which was in collaboration with the National Park Service.

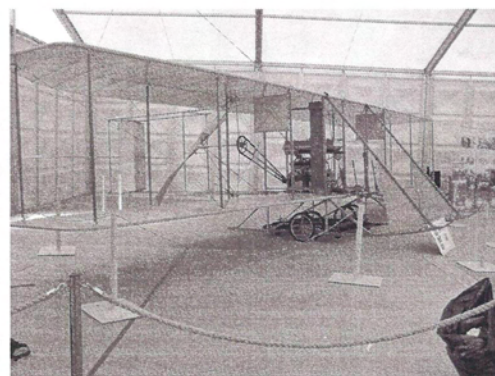
As most members are aware, the fabric covering on the Yellow-Bird which is the original cotton material applied when the airplane was built has deteriorated very badly, and is very much in need of replacement.

As the airplane is again scheduled to begin its 2011 Summer exhibi-

tion season on Memorial Day, Wright B Flyer volunteers have brought the tail assembly and blinkers down to our hangar in Miamisburg to

begin partial recovering.

The overall recovering program is intended to be undertaken in two stages, part this Winter, with the remainder next year.

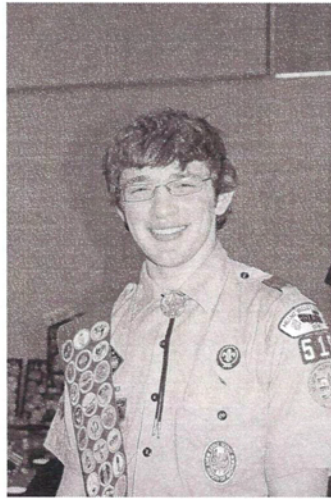




## David W. Milam, Jr. Eagle Scout

by Mitch Cary

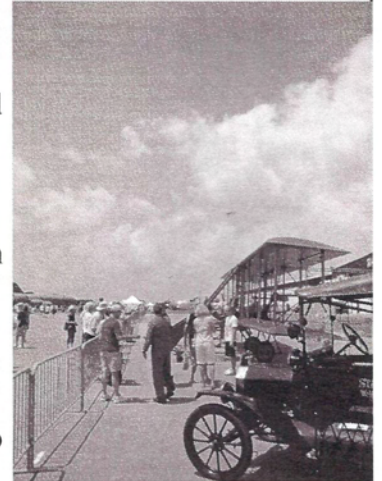
On Saturday, February 5th, I had the honor of attending the Eagle Court Ceremony conducted by Troop 516 at the Southminster Presbyterian Church, Centerville, Ohio. Four new Eagle Scouts were inducted that evening: David W. Milam, Jr., Murray Chelette, Jr., Stephen Miller, and Stuart Moss. David Milam's Eagle Project was the new display case currently in the lobby at the Hangar. David designed and led the construction effort by other Boy Scouts in Troop 516 with the able assistance of Pat Roberts. Wright "B" Flyer is grateful to the Scouts for this wonderful addition to our hangar. Congratulations from all of us at Wright "B" Flyer to the newest Eagle Scout, David W. Milam, Jr.



David Milam, Jr.

## Model "T" Steals the Show(s)

2010 was an interesting year for the Wright B Flyer 1916 model T staff car. It was used at the hanger to drive people to the center of the runway during orientation rides. We used it at the Dayton Air Show to pick up the announcer at the speakers stand and drove to the Wright B where he boarded and did commentary while flying on it.. We drove it to Huffman Prairie for the Parks Service Family Fun Day exhibition along with other model T's. Frank and Key Sager decorated the car and drove it in the Springboro Christmas Parade. This was a good time to show the staff car. This winter maintenance is been. This includes a new brass radiator and floor boards.



## Ohio Rolling Hoopstars Take Flight



Hoopstars L-R: James Terpenning, Brent Hilliard, Chris Rodney, Zack Sikora,

On Sat Sep 25th, the Ohio Rolling Hoopstars, a National Championship Division Wheelchair Basketball team,

joined the ranks of Wright "B" Flyer Honorary Aviators. Greg Carter, a Wright "B" Flyer volunteer pilot and two year Assistant Coach



James Terpenning Mounting the Brown Bird

of the Hoopstars organized the special day. The Hoopstars made it a team building outing for fun, photo ops, and the thrill of flight. None of the players had ever flown in anything other than an airliner. They all absolutely loved the open cockpit flight experience.





## CHAIRMAN'S CORNER

### John Bosch

At our January board of trustees meeting Tony Perfilio submitted the nominating committee's recommended slate of officers for 2011 stating that they be accepted by acclamation. This was a fitting touch since history was being made. There have only been two presidents in the last 30 years. John Warlick was associated with the organization since it was founded and served as its president for over a quarter century. Everyone in the Dayton area knew the names John Warlick and Wright "B" Flyer were synonymous. Under his leadership the organization completed the construction of the Brown Bird, built a hangar at Dayton Wright Brothers Airport, attracted an outstanding group of talented and loyal volunteers and established a financially strong balance sheet.

When John felt he needed to spend more time with his wife Evelyn we were fortunate to have Mitch Cary take the lead. During his 5 years as president the Silver Bird was constructed, the museum was enhanced to honor the original Wright "B" Flyer, and the group of volunteers was expanded. Like any good manager Mitch took the initiative of training Phil Beaudoin to take his place as president with the understanding that he will remain active by continuing to improve the museum and by keeping the title of Chief Pilot. Phil assumes his new responsibilities with a wealth of experience as a former business owner and current Chair of the Director's Council for NAHA as well as past Chair of the Volunteers Association at the National Museum of the USAF.

Bill Simpson has replaced Phil as Vice President. Bill spent most of his professional life as an executive managing international businesses. Bill and Phil share an office at the Wright "B" Flyer hangar giving them the opportunity to work closely together. We are indeed fortunate to have highly qualified officers who are so directly involved with the day-to-day operations.

Rounding out the slate we have Jay Jabour as our secretary. Jay is the senior manager for Northrop Grumman Corporation in the Dayton area and served as emcee at our Christmas Party in December. Dennis Cable is our treasurer and has the distinction of being the longest tenured officer. He recently introduced a computerized financial system that provides the board with greater insight as to how we are performing.

And finally I am most proud to be chair of the Wright "B" Flyer board. Having my office at Commander Aero right next door gives all of us the opportunity to have easy access to each other.



### So Long ... Sort Of

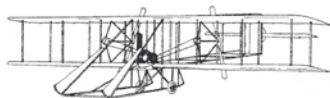
Several years ago I received a phone call from a former commander. Gen Peet Odgers called to ask if I wanted to fly the Wright "B" Flyer. Thinking he was talking about just one ride, period, I jumped at the opportunity. What test pilot wouldn't want the opportunity to fly the Wright "B"? For that life-changing phone call that led to a checkout in the Wright "B" and began my journey with the Wright "B" family I will be forever grateful. A few years later when John Warlick was retiring I agreed to serve as president or Wright "B" Flyer. Serving as your president has been one of the most fulfilling experiences of my life. A few years after becoming president, a good friend of a good friend stopped by the hangar and soon became a volunteer. I recognized immediately that Phil Beaudoin had a rare combination of vision, organizational, people skills, and drive that would greatly benefit Wright "B". Through hard work and dedication he assumed the role of Vice President even before he was elected to the office. For the past year or so I've relied extensively on Phil to run the organization. He has been the perfect Vice President. This fall I decided it was time to "turn the reins" over to Phil and, in effect, formally acknowledge the leadership he was already providing. I plan to stay active in the organization. My best friends and "family" are at Wright "B". How could I leave? I ask that you give Phil and Bill the same great support you gave me. I am forever grateful for the support I received from John Bosch, the board, volunteers, members, and friends of Wright "B". My life has been enriched beyond description. Thank you.

Mitch Cary

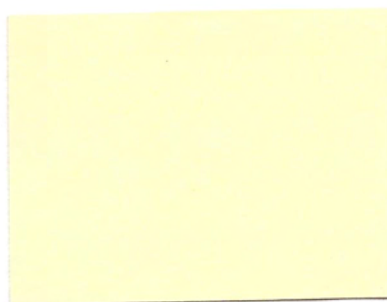


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**Wright "B" Flyer**



Newest Eagle Scouts in Front Row: David W. Milam, Jr., Murry Chelette, Steven Miller, and Stuart Moss. A slightly older Eagle Scout is in the 2nd Row behind David: David W. Milam, Sr.

### President's Corner

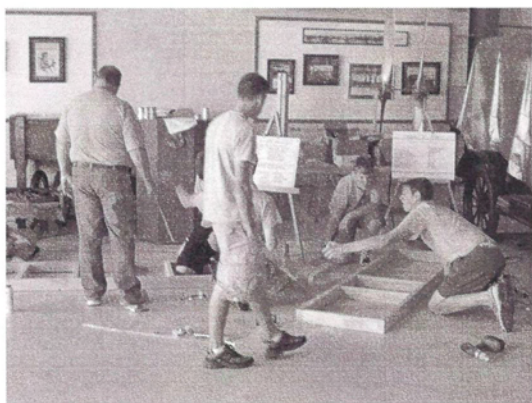
Wright B Flyer, Inc. is planning for a very busy and exciting year in 2011. As we have done for many years we will be flying in the Dayton Air Show. The line up of other flying events is starting to come together. Our museum is undergoing a make over by our Curator, past President and Chief Pilot, Mitch Cary. Wright B Flyer is an all volunteer non-profit organization. Our group of volunteers is the best possible. They do everything from maintain the facilities, to building and maintaining the aircraft, to flying our 1911 Wright B Flyer look-a-like aircraft. Please contact us if you are interested in volunteering. Come and visit us on any Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday from 9:00 am to 2:30 pm. I look forward to meeting you.

Phil Beaudoin  
937-885-2327

**Please purchase our "Leader in Flight" license plates!**



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



**Eagle Project in Work**