



“AVIATION IS PROOF THAT GIVEN THE WILL WE CAN DO THE IMPOSSIBLE”
Eddie Rickenbacker



WBAC
2006

The background of the page is a collage of aviation-related images. A large, central image shows a space shuttle launching vertically, with a massive plume of white smoke and fire trailing behind it. To the left, a smaller image shows a biplane being hoisted by a crane. To the right, another image shows a person running on a runway. The overall color palette is dominated by warm, orange and brown tones.

PIREP

The word "PIREP" is written in a large, white, serif font across the bottom of the page. It is overlaid on a rectangular frame that contains an image of a biplane on a runway. Several people are visible around the plane, some appearing to be working on it or preparing for flight. The background of the entire page is a collage of aviation-related images, including a space shuttle launch and a person running on a runway.

pī'-rep, n. a pilot report to fellow aviators enroute containing timely and valuable information to assist in the successful outcome of their flights.

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West Milton, OH 45383
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Test Facilities:**

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MARY JANE FAVORITE
Deputy Director

DREW ACHTERMANN
Chief Builder

LOUIS CHMIEL
Wright Historian

Telling the Wright story

The **Wright Brothers Aeroplane Company** is an educational foundation composed of aviators, historians, teachers, and other folks who share an interest in the invention of the airplane. Our mission is simply **to tell the story of the Wright brothers**. This story captivates audiences of all ages but it is especially potent for young people. Not only does it inspire the next generation of aviators, engineers, and scientists, it encourages kids to dream and do the work needed to achieve those dreams.

Because the most exciting way to tell an aviation story is to use airplanes, we build and fly Wright aircraft, conducting expeditions in **Aviation Archaeology**. We then bring these aircraft and the personal experience we have gleaned from test flights to our audiences, displaying and demonstrating the aircraft as we tell our story. In doing so, we have developed a unique "portable museum" of the Wright brothers complete with historic artifacts, interpretive materials, interactive displays, and informative media.



Our traveling museum also *expands and contracts*. We can bring you the **Birth of Aviation Pavilion**, a 20,000-square foot walk-through timeline, or "**The Secret of Flight**" Program, designed to fit in a schoolroom – or anything in between! We tailor our presentation *to your needs*, providing an enlightening and entertaining experience for schools, conferences, air shows, any institution or event. We adjust the numbers and types of **Wright Airplanes and Artifacts** in a display, arrange specific **Lectures and Demonstrations**, provide merchandise from our **Wright Company Store**, even advertise your event to the world at our **Virtual Museum** on the Internet. In short, we do all we can to make your experience with us – and the Wright brothers – wonderfully successful and thoroughly enjoyable.

Wright Brothers Aeroplane Co. is the production and program management arm of the First-To-Fly Foundation, Inc., a 501(c)(3) institution.

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Bringing the Wright story to life

To tell a good story, you need hands-on experience with your subject. So we conduct **expeditions in aviation archaeology**, recreating the invention of the airplane. We have built the experimental aircraft the Wright brothers designed between 1899 and 1905 in their quest for a practical flying machine – their scientific kites, gliders, and powered Flyers. Then we fly them, traveling to the North Carolina Outerbanks near Kitty Hawk where we can experience the winds and sands that were the Wright brothers' laboratory.

In many of these expeditions, we partnered with members of the United States armed forces, test pilots and instructor pilots from the **US Army, Navy, and Air Force**. Drawing on their unique

ability to analyze the performance of an airplane, we designed flight test programs and conducted hundreds of flights to establish the performance envelope of these primitive Wright aircraft and teach ourselves the skills needed to make them fly.

We have documented our expeditions in photographs and video, as well as test pilot reports and engineering drawings. All of these are woven into our presentation. The Wright gliders and Flyers that we bring to you are not static models, but actual flying machines, and your audience can see the flights and hear the words of the men and women who flew them. We don't just tell the Wright story; we bring it to life.



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**Recreating the adventure
of the first flights**

The culmination of our expeditions in aviation archaeology is the Birth of Aviation Pavilion. Inside this 20,000-square-foot clear-span tent, Wright airplanes are arranged in a **walk-through timeline**. Beginning in 1878 with the childhood of Wilbur and Orville and their first experiences with a flying toy, the timeline continues through 1905 when the brothers finally achieved what they considered a “practical flying machine.”

Along the way, visitors fly the rubber-band powered toy that inspired the young Wright brothers, print a copy of their first newspaper, perform the inner-tube box experiment that revealed the secret of flight,

even fly the 1903 Wright Flyer I on our unique Wright flight simulators. Experts demonstrate the Wright wind tunnel, show how to carve a wooden propeller with vintage hand tools, and fly a radio-controlled model of the 1905 Wright Flyer III.

At each station along the timeline, aviation archaeologist Nick Engler demonstrates the relevant glider or Flyer in a brief video, collectively titled **The Machines of the Wright Brothers**. In a replica of the Wright’s first hangar, visitors watch a segment of the groundbreaking PBS documentary, “Kitty Hawk.” The Birth of Aviation Pavilion isn’t just an exhibit; it’s an adventure.

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THE BIRTH OF AVIATION PAVILION PICS

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Wilbur and Orville visit your school

As an educational foundation, ***we bring the Wright story to schools.*** “The Secret of Flight” Program is a much-acclaimed experience in science, history, and character development, built around nationwide proficiency requirements. It tours America with a special portable museum – ***including a full-size 1902 Wright Glider*** – designed to fit in school gyms, cafeterias, libraries, anywhere there is space enough for an airplane.

Along with this museum comes aviation archaeologist Nick Engler, who spins a spirited and humorous tale of two ordinary brothers – Wilbur and Orville – who did something extraordinary by virtue of their courage, imagination, and perseverance.

He presents an interactive experience for students, allowing them to perform the same experiments as the Wright brothers and drawing them along on the adventure that was the invention of the airplane. Volunteers from the audience even get a little “stick time” aboard the Wright glider!

Nick’s presentation and the artifacts he brings are easily adapted to your students’ special needs. He can modify each presentation for grade level and content. There are plans for follow-up projects. With advance notice, he can incorporate local proficiency requirements,, insuring a memorable and valuable experience for you and your students.



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“THE SECRET OF FLIGHT” PROGRAM PICS

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**Telling the Wright story
your way**

Because we have a number of Wright aircraft and offer a variety of entertaining and instructive experiences, ***we can tailor an exhibition to your needs and your pocketbook.*** For air shows and major events, we can set up the Birth of Aviation Pavilion with six full-size Wright airplanes, bicycles, wind tunnel, simulators, interpretive signage, and videos. For schools, we offer "The Spirit of Dayton" Project with the 1902 Wright Glider, several interactive displays, and a captivating multimedia presentation. But these are just two of many possibilities.

We have created special exhibitions for a remarkable number of venues, including not

just air shows and schools, but also parades, conventions, museums, fund raisers, and banquets. For example, we provided the centerpiece for the Society of Automotive Engineers (SAE) annual conference, including four of Wright aircraft. Members of the Airplane Owners and Pilots Association (AOPA) dined beneath our 1902 Wright Glider. Film crews from several networks have taped our gliders and Flyers in the air for major documentaries. Students in Dare County, North Carolina saw special demonstrations of the Wright Wind Tunnel and learned how to make their own. In short, we can make the Wright story your story.

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**Enhancing and enriching
your aviation event**

In addition to airplanes and artifacts, ***we also provide the people and the experiences*** that make an aviation event a resounding success. Among our members are Wright scholars, demonstrators, impersonators, and pilots. Nick Engler is a member of the American Institute of Aeronautics and Astronautics Board of Distinguished Lecturers who gives a humorous account of our archaeological expeditions, the Wright brothers' journey of invention, or both. The military pilots who test our replicas describe or even demonstrate what it takes to fly a Wright airplane. Master machinist Terry Hesler fires up his replica of the 1903 Wright engine. Joey Green and Dan

Morehead impersonate Wilbur and Orville, while Betty Darst portrays Katharine Wright and tells what it's like to live with these two geniuses.

You can engage these people through us to provide lecturers or demonstrators in conjunction with an exhibition of our airplanes or as an event by themselves. Weather and the FAA permitting, we can even fly for you. Our speakers liven up conferences and banquets with their humor and enthusiasm, and our demonstrators and pilots create newsworthy experiences that, properly promoted, can draw media attention to your endeavors.

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**Momentos of a story
well told**

It isn't always enough to make an event entertaining and enlightening. Often, your **success is measured by how well people remember it**. This builds your audience and your reputation, insuring continued success for future events.

To turn a wonderful experience into something truly memorable, all that's required is something of value that folks can take home with them. To that end, we have partnered with marketing professionals to create a line of attractive, elegant souvenirs that not only remind folks of their visit with us, but also speak highly of the Wright brothers – and you. These include always-popular items such as shirts, hats, mugs, pins, and patches. We also offer special items such as an all-wood model of the 1903 Wright

Flyer I, an embroidered leather aviator's jacket, hand-carved Wright propellers, James Tobin's book *Conquering the Air*, and a special two-volume DVD containing the new documentary *Kitty Hawk*, all eight episodes of *The Machines of the Wright Brothers* (the short videos we show in the Birth of Aviation Pavilion), and footage of our test flights.

Depending on your event and its intended audience, we will work with you to stock a booth at the event to market these items directly, or we can wholesale to you so you may carry the items in your own outlet. You can also obtain inexpensive items (such as mugs and pins) from us for those all-important give-aways that show your appreciation to sponsors, supporters, volunteers, and dignitaries.



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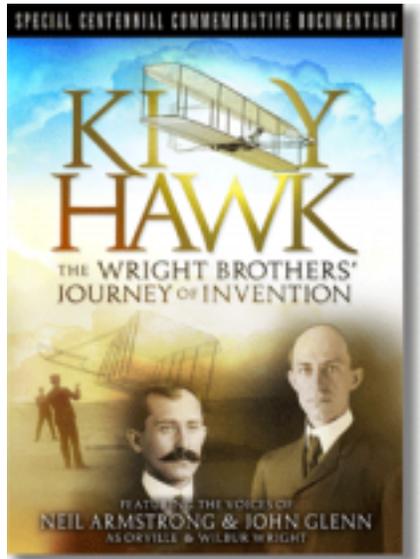
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Reaching a worldwide audience

In addition to our portable museum, we also maintain a “virtual museum” on the Internet at www.wright-brothers.org. This web site is *a respected source of information on the Wright brothers for scholars and students worldwide*. It is also one of the busiest aviation sites on the net, serving between 200 and 2000 visitors per day.

We use this site not just to support our own efforts, but also yours. We list your event on our home page, along with the Wright airplanes we will be bringing to you and a link to your web site. You can reference our web site in press releases and

use information from the site to help write them. From special blind pages, we provide high-resolution photos to your local media to promote your event.

There are special benefits for schools such as downloadable activity books and detailed instructions for Wright-related aviation experiments. A hypertext biography of the Wright brothers lets students to delve into the story in any level of detail wanted. With little effort, teachers can transform a one-day visit from “The Secret of Flight” Program to weeks of exploration in science, history, and character development.

