

MS-483 Brad Tillson Inventing Flight Collection

Collection Number: MS-483

Title: Brad Tillson Inventing Flight Collection

Dates: 1912-2004 (Bulk 1989-2004)

Creator: Tillson, J. Bradford

Summary/Abstract:

This collection contains the personal papers of J. Bradford Tillson, the chairman of the Inventing Flight Celebration held in Dayton, Ohio. It documents his correspondence and work on the Inventing Flight Celebration Commission and his involvement with the U.S. Centennial of Flight Commission; the committee for the national celebration of flight. This collection contains personal correspondence, financial documentation, planning information and other materials related to the Centennial of Flight Celebration.

Quantity/Physical Description: 9.5 linear ft.

Language(s): English

Repository:

Special Collections and Archives, Paul Laurence Dunbar Library, Wright State University, Dayton, OH 45435-0001, (937) 775-2092

Restrictions on Access: There are no restrictions on accessing material in this collection.

Restrictions on Use:

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Preferred Citation:

MS-483, Brad Tillson Inventing Flight Collection, Special Collections and Archives, University Libraries, Wright State University, Dayton, Ohio

Acquisition:

Donated to Wright State University Special Collections and Archives by Brad Tillson January 2010.

Accruals: No further accruals are expected.

Physical Characteristics and Technical Requirements:

Electronic media will need specific devices to view material.

Related Material:

SC-214- Centennial of Flight

Additional information on the national celebration of flight can be found on the website of the National Commission of the Centennial of Flight, this site will be remain accessible to the public in perpetuity. <http://www.aahs-online.org/centennialofflight.net/index2.htm>

Processed by: Adam Becker, April 2014

Arrangement:

The Brad Tillson Inventing Flight Collection is arranged into seven series and two subseries:

Series I: Administrative

 Subseries IA: 2003 Committee/Inventing Flight

 Subseries IB: U.S. Centennial of Flight Commission

Series II: Correspondence

Series III: Speeches and Presentations

Series IV: Publications

Series V: Related Events

Series VI: Memorabilia

Series VII: Audio Visual

Biographical/Historical Note:

Brad Tillson joined the Dayton Daily News in 1971 becoming editor of the newspaper in 1984 and publisher in 1988. He was named President and CEO of Cox Ohio Publishing in 1996. He served as the chairman to the Inventing Flight Commission, established to celebrate the centennial of flight in Dayton.

This collection details the work that Brad Tillson performed as chair of the Dayton Commission. This celebration was a large program developed to honor the Wright Brothers first flight on December 17, 1903. The celebration included many events throughout Dayton with the main event and ceremonies running July 3-20, 2003. Some of the events include: International Airship meet, educational exhibits, the Dayton Air Show, and other events to celebrate the centennial of flight.

The Inventing Flight Commission was first established in 1989 as the 2003 Committee, dedicated to the organization of the centennial celebrations that were to occur in 2003. The 2003 Committee officially became the Inventing Flight: Dayton Celebration Commission on April 19, 1999. This organization not only planned the events that would become the Inventing Flight Celebration, but they aided in creating a lasting legacy in Dayton by partnering with Aviation Trail, Inc. to create the Dayton Aviation Heritage National Historical Park. This includes the Wright-Dunbar Interpretative Center, Wright Aviation Center, Huffman Prairie Flying Field Interpretative Center and the Paul Laurence Dunbar State Memorial, four different locations that were saved, preserved and made available to educate the public.

Scope and Content

Brad Tillson was chair of the Inventing Flight Celebration and a member of the U.S. Centennial of Flight Commission that helped plan and publicize the events celebrating flight around the country. These events took place in many different states, which celebrated with symposiums, reenactments, tours, exhibits and many more events. The collection records his work with the U.S. Centennial of Flight Commission and his position of chairman for the Inventing Flight Celebration. The collection is divided in to seven series and two subseries.

Series I, Administrative, includes meeting minutes, event reports, plans and budgets for the U.S. Centennial Commission and the Inventing Flight Celebration. This extensive collection contains information from the beginning of the Inventing Flight Commission first established in 1989. The collection contains information on the planning, board meetings, finances, marketing and other administrative functions of the commission. The documents are broken into ten separate sections. One section, the Dayton Aviation Heritage National Historical Park and Related Events. This section details the work completed by the committee to help establish the historical park and the surrounding community as a lasting legacy of the Centennial Celebration of Flight.

Series II, Correspondence, is the record of communication between Brad Tillson and others involved in the planning process. Some correspondence is made of responses to Tillson, while others are copies of letters and emails that Tillson sent. Related documents were left attached to provide greater detail into the relationship of the communication. They are arranged in chronological order and cover all aspects of Brad Tillson's and the committee's work, from sponsorship and marketing to event schedules and budgets. The correspondence represents the line of communication for many of the planning processes that took place.

Series III, Speeches and Presentations, is a small series dedicated to the speeches and presentations that Brad Tillson gave while acting as chairman for the Inventing Flight Commission. These include slideshows given to showcase the main event.

Series IV, Publications, are the many newspapers, magazines, pamphlets and brochures printed for and about the events taking place for the Inventing Flight Celebration. Researchers should, in the first folder of the series is an index to all newspaper articles printed in 2003 pertaining to the Inventing Flight Celebration. The index documents the publishing newspaper, the date of printing and other information related to each article.

Series V, Related Events, is a collection of materials that represent many of the other events that occurred in Dayton and around the country to celebrate the centennial of flight. While the items contained are brief, they represent an overview of the events that took place. The Inventing Flight Commission partnered with groups like Wright-Patterson Air Force Base, the National Aviation Hall of Fame, and many more, to create events for the public to celebrate the centennial of flight. Other events that occurred outside of Ohio include the First Flight Centennial in North Carolina, National Air and Space Museum exhibits, and the Aviation World's Fair '2003'.

Series VI, Memorabilia, includes materials that Brad Tillson collected throughout his time as chairman. It includes certificates awarded to him, tickets to events he attended, and first flight USPS stamps. Of note is a bank receipt signed by Orville Wright.

Series VII, Audio Visual, includes informational videos produced about the Inventing Flight Celebration, as well as presentations and historical information regarding the Wright Brothers.

Subject Terms:

Persons/Families

Glenn, John, 1921-
Tillson, J. Bradford
Wright, Wilbur, 1867-1912
Wright, Orville, 1871-1948

Organizations/Corporate Names

Carillon Historical Park
United States. Centennial of Flight Commission.
Standard Register Company

Places

Dayton (Ohio)
Kitty Hawk (N.C.)
Dayton Aviation Heritage National Historical Park (Ohio)

Subjects (General)

Flight – History – 20th century
Aeronautics - - United States--History

Material Types

Correspondence
DVD
Memorabilia
Newspapers
Pamphlets
Brochures
VHS TM

Collection Inventory

Series I		Administration	
Subseries IA: 2003 Committee/ Inventing Flight Commission			
<u>Box</u>	<u>File</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Date</u>
Planning			
1	1	2003 Century of Flight Concept Planning	1992-1994
	2	2003- Arts & Culture	1994-1998
	3	2003 Plan	1998
	4	2001 Annual Report	2001
	5	Campaign Timeline	2001 Jul. 23
	6	Event Schedules	2002-2003
	7	Centennial Celebration Schedule	2003
	8	2003 Committee and State Capital	1995
	9	Stakeholders	1997
	10	Ohio Bicentennial Funding Request	1991
	11	IF Sports	1995-1998
	12	USATS- U.S. Air and Trade Show	1995-1998
	13	Visitor Center	1997
	14	Consultants	1997-1998
	15	2003 Committee Relationships	1998
2	1	Transportation	1998
	2	RTA Service	Undated
	3	AIAA- American Institute of Aeronautics and Astronautics	1998-2001
	4	AIAA/ICAS Symposium Report	2002 Apr. 9
	5	Experimental Aircraft Assoc. Meeting Minutes	2001 Jan. 12
	6	National Aviation Hall of Fame Relationship Summary	2002 Jun. 20
	7	Dayton Air Show Planning Documents	2000 Oct. 7
	8	Dayton Air Show Schedule	2002
	9	MC2 Report & Correspondence	2003
	10	EDC Report & Correspondence	2003
	11	Request for Entertainment Developer Proposals	2000 Sep. 26
	12	IF Additional Events	2002-2003
	13	Deeds Point Information	2002
	14	Visitors Service Plan	2003
	15	IF Guide Book	Undated
	16	Itinerary of Dedication Ceremony	2003 Jul. 4
	17	Pre-collegiate Task Force	1995-1998
	18	IF Class of 2003	2003 Apr. 7

	19	IF for Schools	Undated
Board Meetings			
3	1	IF Chair Comments	1999-2000
	2	IF Chair Goals	2000-2002
	3	IF Goals	2001-2003
	4	Committee Board	1992-1997
	5	Committee Board	1997-1998
	6	Committee Board	1996-2002
	7	Board of Trustees	2001-2003
	8	Board of Trustees Minutes	2003-2004
	9	Executive Meeting Minutes	2001-2004
	10	IF Meeting Agendas	2002-2004
	11	WSU- Aerospace Conf. Advisory Board	1998
Financial Documentation			
3	12	Fund Raising	1997-1998
	13	IF Sponsorship	2001
4	1	IF Sponsorship Information	2001-2003
	2	HASC Itinerary and Sponsorship	2003 Jul. 2
	3	Fundraising/ Angels	2003
	4	Campaign Donors	Undated
	5	IF Sponsorship	Undated
	6	2003 Fund Balance Sheets	2001-2002
	7	2003 Fund Budgets	2001-2004
	8	2003 Fund Cash Flow Projections	2003-2004
	9	Campaign Status Report	2001
	10	Income Tax Return	2001
	11	Audited Financial Statements	2001 Dec. 31
	12	Vendor Payment Summary	2003
	13	Various Creditors	2003
	14	IF Shut-down information	2003 Mar.-Nov.
	15	IF General Financial Information	2001-2003
Marketing & Media			
4	16	2003 Committee Marketing	1997-1998
	17	Marketing Committee	1999-2003
	18	IF Media Budget and Broadcast Schedules	2003
	19	Media Relations Plan	2003 Jan. 22
	20	News Releases	2000-2004
	21	Press Releases	2003-2004
Event Agreements			
5	1	Centennial Celebration Event Agreements	2001-2002

	2	IF Event Agreements	2001-2003
	3	IF Event Agreements	2003
		Dayton Aviation Heritage National Historical Park & Tourism Projects	
5	4	Resolution for the Dayton Aviation Historical Park	1990
	5	Dayton's Aviation Heritage: Study of Alternatives	1991
	6	Huffman Prairie: Study of Alternatives	1990 May 15-18
	7	Historical Park Designation	1990-1991
	8	Dayton Aviation Heritage Environmental Assessment	1996 Nov.
	9	Wright-Dunbar Commercial District	1996-2000
	10	Dayton Aviation Heritage: General Management & Interpretative Plan	1997 Nov.
	11	West Third Common Plans	1998
6	1	Dayton Aviation Historical Park- General Information	2000
	2	Dayton Aviation National Historical Park Transportation Study	2001 Feb.
	3	Remarks & Speeches for Fran Mainelle's Historical Park Visit	2002 May
	4	Fran Mainelle's Historical Park Visit	2002 Aug.
	5	Dayton Aviation Heritage Commission update	2002
	6	Economic Impact Survey: Heritage Tourism & National	2003 Jul. 3-20
	7	Dayton Historical Park update	Undated
		Inventing Flight Impact Studies	
6	8	Preliminary Project Assessment	1997 Sep. 8
	9	Feasibility and Implementation	1997 Nov.
	10	IF Economic Impact Study	2004 Jul.
	11	IF Economic Impact on Tourism	2004
		Inventing Flight Final Reports and Assessments	
7	1	IF Consultant Visit Notes	2003 Jul. 13
	2	Preliminary Event Summary	2003 Aug.
	3	IF Legacies	2003-2004 Sep.-Mar.
	4	IF Final Report	2004 Mar.
	5	Celebration Central Exit Survey	Undated
7		General Inventing Flight Information	
	6	Performance Reviews	1998 Dec.
	7	Position Descriptions	1998-2002
	8	General donation and Flight Information	2000-2003
	9	Ohio Seal Modification	2002

	10	IF General Information	2002-2003
	11	Opening Ceremonies Remarks by Glenn & Armstrong	2003
	12	Manager's Communicating Meeting	2003 Oct. 22
	13	WSU IF Involvement	2003
	14	John Glenn Appearances	2003 May
	15	IF POTUS Invite List	2003 Jun. 23
	16	Green Ticket update	2003 Jul. 1
	17	Event Invitation Lists	2004
	18	IF Retreat Notes	Undated
	19	Volunteer Forms	Undated
	20	Supplies	Undated
		Additional Events and Proposals	
7	21	Fund Resource Material #1- Proposals	1989-1997
	22	Fund Resource Material #1- Railroad Proposals	1997
	23	Global Youth Peace and Tolerance Awards	1999
	24	Standard Register Proposal	2001 Jun.
8	1	First Flight Musical	2003 May 17
	2	Kentucky Speedway	2003 Jun. 12
	3	Kettering Bldg. Dedication Invite List	2003 Jun. 25
	4	B.I.K.E. Shop Project	Undated
	5	Discovery Magazine Proposal	Undated
Subseries IB: U.S. Centennial of Flight Commission			
<u>Box</u>	<u>File</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Date</u>
8	6	First Flight Centennial Commission- North Carolina	1996
	7	First Flight Centennial Commission- North Carolina	1997-1998
	8	2003 National Commission	1998
	9	Commemoration Act	1999 Oct. 6
	10	Annual Report to Congress	2000
	11	First Flight Centennial- Kitty Hawk, NC	2000
	12	Commission Meeting	2000-2001
	13	Commission- General Information	2000-2003
	14	Strategic Plan	2001 Oct. 4
	15	National Plan for the Centennial of Flight	2001 Nov.
9	1	Media Patron Program	2002 Mar.
	2	Financial Audit of 2001	2002 Jun. 3
	3	National Plan for Commemoration of Flight	2002 Nov.
	4	Commission Meetings	2002-2003
	5	Financial Audit 2002	2003 Jul. 31

	6	Commission Itinerary	2003 Oct. 23-24
	7	Commission Activity Reports	2003
	8	North Carolina Trip	2003
	9	First Flight Celebration Wright Brother's National Memorial Trip	2003
	10	Commission Final Report	2004 Apr.
	11	Financial Audit 2003	2004 Jun. 18
	12	Commission- Honeywell and Primedia Endorsement Proposal	Undated

Series II: Correspondence

<u>Box</u>	<u>File</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Date</u>
9	13	Correspondence	1992-1993
	14	Correspondence	1995
	15	Correspondence	1996
	16	Correspondence	1997
10	1	Correspondence	1998 Jan.-Jun.
	2	Correspondence	1998 Jul.-Dec.
	3	Correspondence	1999
	4	Correspondence	2000
	5	Correspondence	2001 Jan.-May.
	6	Correspondence	2001 Jun.-Jul.
	7	Correspondence	2001 Aug.-Dec.
	8	Correspondence	2002 Mar.- Jun.
11	1	Correspondence	2002 Jul.-Sep.
	2	Correspondence	2002 Oct.-Dec.
	3	Correspondence	2003 Jan.-Feb.
	4	Correspondence	2003 Mar.-May
	5	Correspondence	2003 Jun.
	6	Correspondence	2003 Jul.
12	1	Correspondence	2003 Aug.-Oct.
	2	Correspondence	2003 Nov.-Dec.
	3	Correspondence	2004 Jan.-Apr.
	4	Correspondence	2004 May-Jun.
	5	Correspondence	2004 Jul.-Aug.
	6	Correspondence	2004 Sep.-Dec.
	7	Correspondence	2005-2006
	8	Correspondence	Undated

Series III: Speeches and Presentations

<u>Box</u>	<u>File</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Date</u>
13	1	Speeches	2002-2003
	2	Presentations	2000
	3	Presentations	2001
	4	Presentations	2002
	5	Presentations	2002
	6	Presentations	2003
	7	Presentations	2003
	8	Presentations	2004
	9	Presentations	Undated
	10	Presentations	Undated

Series IV: Publications

<u>Box</u>	<u>File</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Date</u>
14	1	Newspaper Article List	2003
	2	Newspaper articles	1988-1996
	3	Newspaper articles	1989-2003
	4	Newspaper articles	2003
	5	Dayton Aviation Historical Park Newsletter	1997 Jun.
	6	Magazines	2002-2003
	7	Pamphlets/Brochures	2003
	8	Dayton Guide Books	2002-2003
	9	General IF Publications	2003
	10	Re/Max Balloon Celebration- Media Kit	2001 Dec. 6
	11	Re/Max Balloon Celebration- Packet	2003 Jul. 4-6
	12	Centennial of Flight Educational Posters	2003
15	1	IF Business Sponsorship Packet	Undated
	2	IF Design Style Guide	2003
	3	IF Teachers Guide	2003
	4	IF Press Kit	2003 Jul. 3-20
		Oversized Location 89 File 9	
		Newspaper Clippings, Educational Posters	1912-2003

Series V: Related Event Publications

<u>Box</u>	<u>File</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Date</u>
15	5	Related events- pamphlets and brochures	1998-2003

	6	EAA's Countdown to Kitty Hawk	2000
	7	C. Forbes, Inc.- Commemorative Items Proposal	2001 Jan. 5
	8	National Aerospace Systems & Tech Conf.	2001 May 15-17
	9	Aviation World's Fair 2003	2003 Apr.7-27
	10	First Flight Centennial- North Carolina	2003 May 20
	11	Time Flies- Carillon Park	2003 Jul. 4-20
	12	International Air & Space Symposium	2003 Jul. 14-17
	13	Celebrating Powered Flight- Oshkosh, WI	2003 Aug. 4- Jul. 29
16	1	National Air Tour	2003
	2	Outer Banks	2003
	3	First Flight- North Carolina	2003
	4	Centennial of Flight Expo- Rockefeller Center	Undated
	5	Proposal for 1905 Wright Aircraft	Undated
	6	U.S. Air Force Museum	Undated
	7	Centennial of Flight Commission	Undated
	8	NASA	Undated

Series VI: Memorabilia

<u>Box</u>	<u>File</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Date</u>
16	9	Souvenir Programs	2003
	10	Souvenir Programs	2003
	11	Event Invitations	2003
	12	American Business Women's Assoc. Award	2003
	13	Tickets, Passes, Name Cards	2003
	14	Booklet- 100 Quotes on Flight	Undated
	15	The Ford Air Tours 1925-1931, by Lesley Forden	2003
17	1	Along Interstate 75, by Dave Hunter	2003
	2	Commemorative Stamps	2003
	3	Bank Receipt Signed by Orrville Wright	1947 Apr. 11
	4	Photographs/Drawings	Undated
	5	Coin, Patch, Button, Ornament	Undated
	6	License Plate	Undated
	7	Hat with buttons	Undated
		Oversized Location 89 File 9	
		AIAA Award	

Series VII: Audio Visual

<u>Box</u>	<u>File</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Date</u>
Floppy Disk			
18	1	2003 Presentation	Undated
CD			
	2	<i>Centennial of Flight Commission: Celebrating a Century of Wings</i>	1999
	3	Entertainment Developer RFP Presentation	2000 Sep.
	4	<i>Inventing Flight</i> Presentation to the Dayton City Commission	2001 Aug. 22
	5	<i>Way Up There-</i> Patti LaBelle	2002
	6	<i>Wilbur & Orville: A Musical Mayhem-</i> Willy Mac & the Airheads with Jim McCutcheon on the Guitar	2003
	7	<i>Inventing Flight-</i> inventingflight.com	Undated
DVD			
	8	NASA- In the Studio with Dr. Robert T. McCall Creating the Centennial of Flight Mural	2003 Jul. 30
	9	National Air Tour- Re-Creating the 1925-1931 National Air Tours	2003 Sep.
	10	<i>The United States Air Force</i> Centennial of Flight Tattoo	2003 Sep. 14
	11	<i>Kitty Hawk: The Wright Brothers' Journey of Invention</i>	2003
	12	<i>The United States Air Force Band-</i> Washington, D.C.	Undated
VHS			
	13	Century of Flight Promotional Video	1995
	14	Century of Flight #2 Promotional Video	1995
	15	Century of Flight #2 Promotional Video	1995
	16	John Glenn Interview	1998 Mar. 19
	17	<i>Celebration- 2003 Century of Flight</i>	1998
	18	Inventing Flight Video	1999 May
	19	AIAA: Evolution of Flight Video	1999
	20	U.S. Centennial of Flight Commission Presentation <i>Moments in Flight</i>	2002 Jan. 30
	21	Centennial of Flight Kickoff- National Air and Space Museum	2002 Dec. 17
	22	Cultural Scene- Wright B Flyer- Inventing Flight Town Hall	2003 Jun. 24
	23	Inventing Flight Opening Ceremonies- WHIO-TV	2003 Jul.
	24	Hall of Fame	2003 Jul. 27
	25	President's Club Award Ceremony- Brad Tillson	2003 Oct. 16
	26	<i>1903: The Wings of Dreams-</i> A Musical Flight	Undated

	27	BM 2000- Invention of Flight/ BM 2085 Delphi Through Timeline	Undated
	28	The Wright Flyer III- Carillon Historical Park	Undated
	29	Mike Peters	Undated
	30	Inventing Flight Multi-Media Teaching Kit	Undated