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The Next Generation – Making a Difference

People who have been members of the Wright Image Group for a while probably realize that the turnover on our board of directors has not been high, and that, slowly but surely, leadership is aging....

We are extremely happy to report that in recent months we have welcomed two high-energy, tech-savvy members of the younger generation who are excited about the Triumph of Flight®, and have joined our Public Information Committee, assuming key roles – Sean Cornett and Paul Selm.

The WIG initially contacted Sean over a year ago after noticing that he had become a rather consistent donor to the project. During that phone conversation, he accepted our invitation to join the group as a committee member, and since then has become an important member of our team.

Sean is a certified public accountant (CPA) employed as a senior tax accountant by the CPA firm Clark Schaefer Hackett here in the Dayton area. He has been working with the WIG for over a year as our "Social Media Director." That means he manages our presence on social media – principally FaceBook – and patiently

tries to educate the rest of us as to how it works, what it can do for us, how we need to support it, etc. Since he assumed that role nearly a year ago, our FaceBook page has become a vibrant, active tool that is steadily widening the Triumph of Flight's exposure and base of support. He takes advantage of WIG activities whenever possible to generate postings that keep the public abreast of what's going on, but in slow periods he also generates other postings that keep excitement high about the prospect of finally building a national monument to flight!

Born and raised in the Dayton region, Sean attended Wright State University, graduating in December 2014 with a bachelor's degree in accounting. He admits to being a big "pro-Dayton" guy and consequently loves to get involved in the community – one of the big reasons he is with the Wright Image Group today. He enjoys working with small local businesses, familiarizing himself with their operations and helping them keep their accounts in order. He also leads a committee at his firm that focuses on community outreach by organizing volunteer events for employees.

Sean considers himself a Star Wars nerd, a gym rat, and a future world traveler. The Wright Image Group considers him a valuable asset!



Sean Cornett, backed by a tennis ball motif – his favorite sport.

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Paul Selm, and friend, enjoying an afternoon with the Dayton Dragons.

Paul Selm, the second young man to join us, was the subject of a short article in our May '17 newsletter on how he reached out to the WIG and became our new webmaster. Over this summer, Paul worked closely with the Ohlmann Group graphic arts specialists in their total redesign of the Triumph of Flight® website. When it went active on August 25th, he assumed his role as webmaster. He has since completed the first tranche of updates and corrections to the site.

He also is a Dayton area native and attended Wright State University, graduating with a Bachelor's Degree in Business/Management Information Systems and a Master's Degree in Project Management. Paul was on his track team in high school, and still enjoys racing – he plans to run the 5K hosted by Wright State

University as part of the Air Force 2017 Marathon on September 15th. He enjoys ultimate frisbee, rollerblading, barbecuing, tomato-gardening, and pinball.

As a certified Information Systems Auditor, he brings an important skill set to the Wright Image Group's internet presence. As a member of Omicron Delta Kappa, the National Leadership Honor Society, he also brings the character and values that we need going forward.

The Wright Image Group is delighted to have both these young men on our team, and looks forward to the day they can stand with us on the plaza at the Triumph of Flight®, gazing upward at that Wright Flyer III, a breath-taking 270 feet in the air – symbol of the achievement of flight and the birth of aviation!

Our New Database

Since building our custom database back in 2011, we had reached the practical limits of maintaining the old database and

living with its limitations; so, this spring the board of directors approved migrating our data to a new home with a commercial vendor. Happily, the commercial options available to non-profits for distributed-access databases had exploded during the intervening years. We ran a limited source-selection process over the summer, and by the end of July, we had settled on NeonCRM, one of the top-rated, yet affordable, constituent resource management (CRM) software providers. Joe Lehman, with his extensive background in information technology, volunteered to manage the complicated task of moving our old data to the new platform.

Joe spent many hours during August and early September scrubbing, reformatting and mapping our data and preparing to import it into NeonCRM. The WIG signed a contract with Neon for one year and will continue on a month-to-month basis provided everything works to our satisfaction.

The new software will provide vastly improved reporting, tracking, correlating, and communicating capabilities. It is also readily scalable to accommodate operations when the Triumph of Flight® transitions from plan to reality and the WIG is managing daily maintenance and operations instead of fund-raising.

As soon as a few key people are trained, we will be up and running more smoothly than ever!



Thanks for Your Support

Early last spring, the Wright Image Group sent out a request to all our members, friends, and supporters requesting consideration of another annual contribution to the project. Your response has been overwhelming and extremely gratifying – you sent in over \$10,000! That was absolutely crucial in our “facelift” over the spring and summer. Expenses for migrating our website, upgrading our database, and upgrading our handout and presentation materials has been covered handily by your generosity. The WIG will succeed in building the Triumph of Flight® only with you all as partners! We appreciate you so much.

Many thanks also to board member Tom Kleptz for generating, funding, and tracking this mailing. We appreciate you as well, Tom!



The Ohlmann Group – Pro Graphics R Us!

It's been a long duration effort, with many, many hours logged as a contribution to the Triumph of Flight®, but we can now declare victory in our campaign for a new public image. We have a redesigned website, a redesigned presentation, and redesigned promotional materials – all harmonized and complementary – thanks to Linda and Lori Ohlmann and Creative Director Jim Hausfeld with his exceptionally talented staff! We owe you a lot! Thanks ever so much.



STEM Will Play a Role

Thanks also to Public Information Committee member Joe Koenig who spearheads a team focused on developing a relationship with the Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math (STEM) community in the Dayton Region. Our objective is to incorporate STEM educational capabilities into the operations of the Triumph of Flight® by coordinating with our Aviation Heritage Alliance partners to avoid duplication of effort, and partnering with the Dayton Regional STEM Center to develop that capability in parallel with the construction of the monument. Discussions with the DRSC are ongoing. So far, Joe has identified five candidates for STEM modules that appear to be unique and could be employed at the monument:



*How Did We Build the Triumph of Flight?
What Made the Wright Brothers Unique?
What Makes a “Practical” Airplane?
How Did the Flyer III Design Evolve?
What Control Challenges Were Solved in Flyer III?*

Notice of 2017 Annual Membership Meeting

The Wright Image Group's 2017 membership meeting will be held at 3:00 p.m., December 7th, immediately after the December Board of Directors meeting, at 1605 N. Main St, Dayton OH. Please telephone or email your planned attendance to Amber, 937-276-2963 or Amber@ohlmanngroup.com.

To join, make a donation, or get information explaining the different contribution and recognition levels, write to us at:

Triumph of Flight®

1605 N. Main St
Dayton, OH 45405
or visit our website,

www.triumphofflight.org

Annual Membership Dues*

1 year - \$20

2 years - \$35

3 years - \$50

** Applicable to Individuals, Families or Businesses*

Board Member Spotlight



Joseph Lehman

Joe accepted a directorship on the WIG Board this summer. He holds a bachelor's degree in chemistry from Loyola College, Baltimore, and a master's degree in systems management. He spent 20 years in the United States Marine Corps as a Naval Aviator and officer, accumulating 4,000 flying hours in both rotary and fixed-wing aircraft. After retiring as a Lieutenant Colonel in 1990, he began a second 20-year career in the defense industry, working in and around Northern Virginia. He spent the last ten years as a director of business development – first at Northrop Grumman, and later at Harris Corporation. After retiring a second time in 2010, he moved to Dayton, and in 2011 married Kelly. They reside in Bellbrook, OH.

Joe is the group administrator for the *100+ Men Who Care* of Dayton. He has grown that group from fewer than 60 members to over 100. Since 2007, together with the *100+ Women Who Care* of Dayton, they have donated over \$1 million to greater Dayton-area charities!

Family members include his brother in Dayton, his sister and mother in Maryland, and his daughter and three grandchildren, all of whom reside ("...too far away!" he says) in Boston, Massachusetts. He enjoys woodworking, photography, traveling with Kelly, training (and being trained by!) their newest addition to the household, a labradoodle pup named Baxter.

The WIG is a proud partner of the National Aviation Heritage Alliance.

As such, we ask our donors to make checks out to the Aviation Heritage Foundation and mark them so that it is clear the donation is specifically intended for the Wright Image Group.

By flowing our donations through the foundation, the federal government will match a portion of them. This additional funding goes to support the aviation heritage of the entire region. (See instructions below)



Make checks payable to:
Aviation Heritage Foundation, Inc.

With the following comment
on the "For" line:

"Restricted for WIG"

and mail to:

Triumph of Flight®
1605 N. Main St Dayton OH 45405

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