



National Aviation Heritage Alliance Board of Trustees

OFFICERS:

Chair - Richard T. Prasse, Hahn Loeser & Parks LLP
 Vice Chair - Col. Susan Richardson USAF (Ret.)
 Treasurer, Dr. Mike Heil, Ohio Aerospace Institute (Ret.)
 Secretary - Dr. Vince Russo, Air Camp
 Past Chair -Lt. Gen. C.D. Moore USAF (Ret), Caliburn Int.

AT LARGE MEMBERS:

John Beran, The Beran Group
 Dr. Tom Crouch, Smithsonian Air and Space Museum (Ret.)
 Kelly Cappoen, Independent Accountant
 Fran Duntz, Stellar Innovations and Solutions
 Jeff Jackson, Planned2Give
 Janet Kasmer, Boeing
 Stephanie Keinath, Dayton Area Chamber of Commerce
 Mary Mathews, Carillion Historical Park (Ret.)
 Dan McCormick, GE Aviation (Ret.)
 Anthony J. Perfilio, Esq. (Ret.)
 Judge Walter H. Rice, US District Court
 Harry Seifert, Standard Register (Ret.)
 Dave Shiffer, Champaign Aviation Museum
 Corianne Waller, Leadership Dayton designee

DESIGNATED TRUSTEES:

Dr. Vincent Russo, Air Camp USA
 Lt. Gen CD Moore USAF (Ret.), Air Force Museum Foundation
 Thomas S. Finkelmeier, Armstrong Air and Space Museum
 Marvin Christian, Aviation Trail Inc
 Brady Kress, Dayton Montgomery CVB
 John Balmer, Greene County Historical Society
 Dr. Kathryn Hughes, National Aviation Hall of Fame
 Tom Chema, Ohio History Connection
 Frank Winslow, US Air and Trade Show
 Ken Ott, Historic Waco Field
 Don Adams, Wright B Flyer Inc.
 Col. Curt Nelson USAF (Ret), Wright Image Group
 Rob Berner, Woodland Cemetery & Arboretum
 Amanda Wright Lane, Wright Brothers Family Foundation

ADVISORS/LIASIONS:

Kendell Thompson, Dayton Aviation Heritage National Historical Park
 Greg Leingang, 88th ABW, Wright Patterson AFB
 Jane Wildermuth, Wright State Special Collections & Archives

STAFF:

Mackensie Wittmer, Executive Director

Come. Discover. Fly!

Air Camp

Armstrong Air & Space Museum

Aviation Trail, Inc. Visitor Center
& Parachute Museum

Dayton Aviation Heritage
National Historical Park
Hawthorn Hill

Huffman Prairie Flying Field

*Huffman Prairie Flying Field
Interpretive Center*

*John W. Berry, Sr.
Wright Brothers National Museum
at Carillon Historical Park*

*Paul Laurence Dunbar State Memorial
Wright Company Factory*

*Wright-Dunbar Interpretive Center and
the Wright Cycle Company*

Dayton Convention & Visitors Bureau

Dayton History

Greene County Historical Society

Greene County Convention
& Visitors Bureau

Historic Grimes Field
*Champaign Aviation Museum
Grimes Flying Lab Foundation*

Historic WACO Field

National Aviation Hall of Fame

National Museum of the
United States Air Force®
& Air Force Museum Foundation

Ohio History Connection

Vectren Dayton Air Show

Woodland Historic Cemetery
& Arboretum

Wright B Flyer, Inc.

The Wright Brothers Family Foundation

Wright Image Group

Wright-Patterson Air Force Base

Wright State University
Special Collections and Archives



A Note About Letters of Support

Come. Discover. Fly!

Air Camp

Armstrong Air & Space Museum

Aviation Trail, Inc. Visitor Center
& Parachute Museum

Dayton Aviation Heritage
National Historical Park
Hawthorn Hill

Huffman Prairie Flying Field

*Huffman Prairie Flying Field
Interpretive Center*

*John W. Berry, Sr.
Wright Brothers National Museum
at Cavillon Historical Park*

Paul Laurence Dunbar State Memorial

Wright Company Factory

*Wright-Dunbar Interpretive Center and
the Wright Cycle Company*

Dayton Convention & Visitors Bureau

Dayton History

Greene County Historical Society

Greene County Convention
& Visitors Bureau

Historic Grimes Field
*Champaign Aviation Museum
Grimes Flying Lab Foundation*

Historic WACO Field

National Aviation Hall of Fame

National Museum of the
United States Air Force®
& Air Force Museum Foundation

Ohio History Connection

Vectren Dayton Air Show

Woodland Historic Cemetery
& Arboretum

Wright B Flyer, Inc.

The Wright Brothers Family Foundation

Wright Image Group

Wright-Patterson Air Force Base

Wright State University
Special Collections and Archives

The accompanying letters of support were solicited in April 2019 for a Congressional Natural Resources committee hearing which preceded the late December 2019 reauthorization of the National Aviation Heritage Area in the *Public Law 116-94: Further Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2020*. NAHA enjoys ongoing relationships with each of these supporters and looks forward to working with them again in 2021.



MIKE DEWINE

GOVERNOR OF OHIO

Hon. Raúl M. Grijalva
Chairman
House Committee on Natural Resources
1324 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

Hon. Rob Bishop
Ranking Member
House Committee on Natural Resources
123 Cannon Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Chairman Grijalva and Ranking Member Bishop:

I am writing to convey my support for the enactment of H.R. 1990, a bipartisan bill by Representatives Michael R. Turner and Joyce Beatty to reauthorize the National Aviation Heritage Area.

The National Aviation Heritage Area (NAHA) established under Public Law 108-447, signed in 2004 by President George W. Bush, comprises eight counties in West Central Ohio. In these counties, the Wright brothers and other pioneers of flight fostered the development of the airplane and associated aerospace technology that pioneered our proud American leadership in civil and military aeronautics and astronautics. Unless reauthorized, the funding authority for the heritage area expires at the end of 2019.

Since its inception, the heritage area has successfully promoted heritage tourism and aided in the preservation and development of historic and cultural aviation resources in the area. A 2016 evaluation by the National Park Service concluded, "The NAHA has met the goals and objectives of its management plan related to economic development and community revitalization." This heritage area designation has served the State of Ohio and our Nation well and should be extended to ensure that the rich aviation history of the region is preserved and promoted, thus inspiring future generations to similar greatness.

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Mike DeWine".

Mike DeWine
Governor



April 24, 2019

House Committee on Natural Resources
1324 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairman Grijalva and Ranking Member Bishop:

I am writing to express my support for the enactment of H.R. 1990, the National Aviation Heritage Area Reauthorization Act of 2019. The National Aviation Heritage Alliance (NAHA) plays an important role in the City of Dayton by promoting and preserving our aviation heritage. Dayton is the birthplace of aviation, but it is also the future of aviation and aerospace with the work currently underway at Wright-Patterson Air Force Base and the surrounding aviation industries. The work being done today has a direct lineage to the Wright brothers and the community leaders that shaped our great city more than one hundred years ago.

In Dayton, NAHA initiates and forms long-term partnerships for aviation heritage and historical preservation. NAHA is a key partner with the City of Dayton and the National Park Service to see the historic Wright Co. Factory airplane buildings stabilized, restored, and operating as a unit of the Dayton Aviation Heritage National Historical Park. I look forward to working with NAHA in the coming years to execute this complex and vital project. NAHA also has an annual impact on another Dayton community, the Wright-Dunbar neighborhood, by initiating and completing community development projects and through collaborations with the National Park and economic development groups in that community. For example, NAHA engages with the city's major universities and colleges for service learning projects resulting in meaningful work for the neighborhood on a regular basis.

The national heritage designation and the associated federal funds are critical to the continued work of NAHA. Thank you for your consideration of this matter.

Sincerely,

Nan Whaley
Mayor of Dayton



April 25, 2019

Hon. Raúl M. Grijalva
Chairman
House Committee on Natural Resources
1324 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

Hon. Rob Bishop
Ranking Member
House Committee on Natural Resources
123 Cannon Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Chairman Grijalva and Ranking Member Bishop:

I am writing in support of H.R. 1990, a bill by Representatives Michael R. Turner and Joyce Beatty to reauthorize the National Aviation Heritage Area through September 30, 2026.

Originally authorized in 2004, the National Aviation Heritage Area (NAHA) includes the eight West Central Ohio counties of Montgomery, Greene, Warren, Miami, Clark, Champaign, Shelby, and Auglaize. Since the heritage area was established, its activities have centered on five areas: promotion and tourism, preservation and development of historic and cultural resources, education, economic development and community revitalization, and sustainable stewardship.

In the nearly 15 years of its operation, the NAHA helped generate heritage tourism and economic development in Southwest Ohio. Between 2006 and 2013, combined visitation to NAHA partners increased from 1.1 million in 2006 to 2.2 million in 2013. NAHA's efforts have enhanced partner collaboration, promotion, and tourism outreach. NAHA maintains a website, engages in social media, assists with marketing and public relations, and distributes a newsletter to more than 1,440 subscribers.

A 2016 evaluation by the National Park Service concluded the heritage area met its goals. However, the report also noted, "Without [National Park Service's Heritage Partnership Program] funding support, NAH Alliance staff and stakeholders predicted that it would be very difficult for the NAH Alliance to sustain its operations."

The NAHA has helped preserve and promote important sites associated with the history of aviation in West Central Ohio. It continues to serve its partners and the region by advancing heritage tourism. It is in the interests of the Dayton Region, Ohio, and the nation to enact H.R. 1990 and allow the NAHA to continue its work.

All My Best,

Jeffrey C. Hoagland
President & CEO

22 E. Fifth Street
Suite 200
Dayton, OH 45402-2400
daytonchamber.org

April 23, 2019

U.S. House Committee on Natural Resources
1324 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairman Raul Grijalva and Ranking Member Rob Bishop:

I am writing on behalf of the Dayton Area Chamber of Commerce to express my support for the enactment of H.R. 1990, the National Aviation Heritage Area Reauthorization Act of 2019. The National Aviation Heritage Area plays an important role in the preservation, promotion, and advocacy of aviation heritage in our community.

The Dayton Aviation Heritage National Historical Park has been a vital partner with the community, carrying out large-scale projects and programs. As a key community stakeholder in the Wright-Dunbar neighborhood and active in community revitalization, I can tell you firsthand how critical this National Aviation Heritage Area is to preserving our nation's great aviation history, but also to revitalizing our community.

In addition to its traditional roles, the aviation heritage area has also been a critical partner in the redevelopment of Wright Company Factory, the original airplane manufacturing facility for the Wright Brothers. The aviation heritage area has also been a conduit for collaborations and coordination of 16 aviation heritage partners and a host to distinguished visitors in the area such as Tom Hanks, David McCullough and Erik Lindbergh

Passage of H.R. 1990 is crucial to ensure that the federal government through the National Park Service continues to play a small but important part in these key national and local partnerships through the reauthorization of the National Aviation Heritage Area. Thank you for your consideration of this matter.

Sincerely,



Phillip L. Parker, CAE, CCE
President & CEO

House Committee on Natural Resources
1324 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515



P.O. Box 752332 | Dayton, OH 45475
Tel | 937-304-5264

www.AirCampUSA.com

April 24, 2019

Dear Chairman Raul Grijalva and Ranking Member Rob Bishop:

I am writing on behalf of Air Camp, Inc. to express my support for the enactment of H.R. 1990, the National Aviation Heritage Area Reauthorization Act of 2019. Air Camp is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization established to inspire STEM education for K-12 students and teachers. Air Camp uses aviation and aerospace as the learning medium and, therefore, the National Aviation Heritage Area plays an important role in our efforts. The conservation and enhancement of the natural, cultural, and historic resources of our community are important to our success since many of the NAHA sites are visited each year by our students and teachers. We rely on the National Aviation Heritage Area to initiate and manage complex and long-term projects among the many heritage area partners that are included in Air Camp's activities.

Let me cite just a few specific examples of how the National Aviation Heritage Area has impacted Air Camp: A key partner of NAHA, the National Museum of the United States Air Force, is a premier site for Air Camp visits; the Wright-Dunbar Interpretive Center, also part of NAHA, is used by Air Camp to help explain the history of aviation to our students and teachers; and NAHA provides invaluable marketing and advertising support for all of our efforts.

Passage of H.R. 1990 is crucial to ensure that the federal government through the National Park Service continues to play an important part in their multi-party partnerships through the authorization of the program. Thank you for your consideration of this matter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Vincent J. Russo". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, prominent "V" at the beginning.

Vincent J. Russo, PhD
President and Chairman
Air Camp, Inc.



THE AIR FORCE MUSEUM FOUNDATION, INC.

POST OFFICE BOX 33624
WRIGHT-PATTERSON AIR FORCE BASE, OHIO 45433-0624

FOUNDATION, INC.

House Committee on Natural Resources
1324 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairman Grijalva and Ranking Member Bishop:

I am writing on behalf of the Air Force Museum Foundation to express my support for the enactment of H.R. 1990, the National Aviation Heritage Area Reauthorization Act of 2019. The National Aviation Heritage Area (NAHA) plays an important role in the conservation and enhancement of the natural, cultural, and historic resources of our community. We rely on the National Aviation Heritage Area to initiate and manage complex and long-term projects among many heritage area partners.

Let me cite just one example of how the National Aviation Heritage Area has impacted my organization. The National Aviation Heritage Area Communicators Council has been a driving force in raising increased awareness and interest in aviation throughout the heritage area. Specifically, the upcoming Aviation Writers Summit will result in visitors from around the world, eager to learn about the unbelievable aviation experiences of our region. NAHA is truly a force multiplier, driving increased visitor attendance through the member venues, and contributing to a positive economic lift across the region.

Passage of H.R. 1990 is crucial to ensure that the federal government through the National Park Service continues to play a small but important part in these multi-party partnerships through the authorization of the program. Thank you for your consideration of this matter.

Sincerely,

Michael Imhoff
Executive Director
Air Force Museum Foundation, Inc.

House Committee on Natural Resources
1324 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairman Raul Grijalva and Ranking Member Rob Bishop:

I am writing on behalf of the Armstrong Air and Space Museum to express my support for the enactment of H.R. 1990, the National Aviation Heritage Area Reauthorization Act of 2019. The National Aviation Heritage Area plays an important role in the conservation and enhancement of the natural, cultural and historic resources of our community. We rely on the National Aviation Heritage Area to initiate and manage complex and long-term projects among many heritage area partners.

Let me cite just two specific examples of how the National Aviation Heritage Area has impacted my organization. When the Armstrong Museum was reopened in 2010 as a museum site in partnership with the Ohio History Connection, our 501(c)3 status was still being secured. NAHA stepped in to serve as our fiscal agent during this critical period, allowing us to raise funds that donors could enjoy full tax benefits from, as well as helping to unlock federal matching dollars. More recently, we were a 2018 grant recipient from the NAHA Heritage Partner Program which allowed us to purchase a transport trailer for our Lunar Rover replica. This will give us the ability to add a unique and memorable experience to outreach appearances by the museum. The grant also provided for some funding to obtain media equipment for our oral history collection project in time for the 50th anniversary of the Apollo 11 moon landing. And I'm looking forward to continued partnership with NAHA as the Armstrong Museum approaches its 50th anniversary in 2022!

Passage of H.R. 1990 is crucial to ensure that the federal government through the National Park Service continues to play a small but important part in these multi-party partnerships through the authorization of the program. Thank you for your consideration of this matter.

Sincerely,



Dante M. Centuori
Executive Director
Armstrong Air & Space Museum



University Libraries
3640 Colonel Glenn Hwy.
Dayton, OH 45435-0001
(937) 775-2380

April 24, 2019

House Committee on Natural Resources
1324 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairman Raul Grijalva and Ranking Member Rob Bishop:

I am writing on behalf of Special Collections and Archives, Wright State University, to express my support for the enactment of H.R. 1990, the National Aviation Heritage Area Reauthorization Act of 2019. The National Aviation Heritage Area plays an important role in the conservation and enhancement of the natural, cultural and historic resources of our community. We rely on the National Aviation Heritage Area to initiate and manage complex and long-term projects among many heritage area partners.

As one of those heritage partners, Wright State University, specifically Special Collections and Archives, has benefited from support through publicity, partnership building with other organizations, and financial support through grants. NAHA offered a challenge grant during our crowd funding campaign to carry out conservation work on a rare 1912 Wright Bent End Propeller in June 2018. We met our goal as a direct result of NAHA's support. NAHA has supported international aviation conferences that brought scholars and enthusiasts from around the world to the university to learn about and share our aviation heritage. NAHA sponsors the Aviation Writers' Summit that brings aviation journalists to the Heritage Area to expose them to the rich aviation history here and encourage tourism. All of the partners directly benefit from this exposure. These are just a few of the many ways that the National Aviation Heritage Area has strengthened, not just the awareness of our rich aviation history, but the economic and cultural growth of the region.

Passage of H.R. 1990 is crucial to ensure that the federal government through the National Park Service continues to play an important role in these heritage area partnerships through the authorization of the program. Thank you for your consideration of this matter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Dawne Dewey". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Dawne Dewey
Head, Special Collections and Archives
Wright State University
937-775-2011