



CHAMPAIGN
C O U N T Y
Chamber & Visitors Bureau
Bubbling Over With Natural Wonders

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NATIONAL AVIATION HERITAGE SELECTION

Champaign County's Grimes Flying Lab Foundation has been selected as one of the ten historical sites to be included in the regions National Aviation Heritage Area.

Located at Grimes Field, the Grimes Flying Lab Foundation is dedicated to restoring the Flying Lab test vehicle, as well as preserving the legacy of Warren G. Grimes, the father of aircraft lighting. Warren G. Grimes produced his first airplane in his garage in 1933. By World War II, Grimes Manufacturing Company had grown to produce lighting for the needs of military aviation.

“This is a wonderful opportunity to showcase Champaign County and our rich aviation history,” said Kelly Evans-Wilson Executive Director of the Chamber of Commerce. “With this selection Champaign County will also benefit economically from increased tourism to the area.”

Home of the Wright Brothers and long known as the birthplace of aviation, the United States Congress recognized the Dayton region as the National Aviation Heritage Area. The National Aviation Heritage Area consists of 10 historical sites and two other member organizations including the National Museum of the United States Air Force, Dayton Aviation Heritage National Historical Park, Armstrong Air & Space Museum and WACO Museum and Airfield.

The new National Aviation Heritage Area joins 26 other heritage areas in existence around the country. For more information about the National Aviation Heritage Area visit www.birthplaceofaviation.com.

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