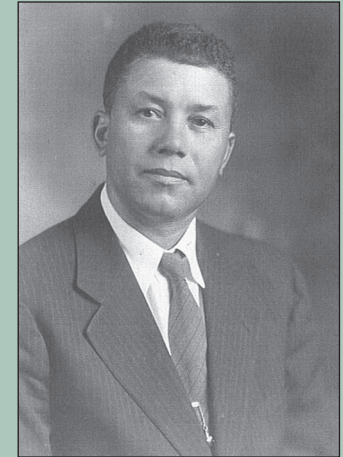


Celebrating Black History Month 2008

Exhibit to honor Willie Patterson



Carolinas Aviation Museum
located at Charlotte-Douglas
International Airport



The early 20th century was far more astonishing than most African Americans realize and appreciate. In the 1920's, Blacks involvement in aviation was virtually non-existent. Laws coupled with traditions relegated most Blacks in the south to a life of sharecropping and lower paying, service oriented jobs. Limited access to education also contributed to the socio economic disparity among several groups of people. Consequently, day-to-day survival and the welfare of immediate family became the main concern for many people. This may account for the tragic loss of vital historical information that is usually made available for future generations as noted in other cultures.

Preserving the past



The role that Black pioneers played in the evolution of the airplane is much more diverse than previously acknowledged. A great example of this is the story of Mr. Willie Patterson. The exhibit acknowledges Mr. Patterson as a pioneer to early aviation in the state of South Carolina. Therefore, it is an honor to present this untold story - one of many historically significant events that never received wide spread recognition.

EXHIBIT CREATED AND SPONSORED
BY
WWW.PARADISEWEB.ORG

VIEW ARTICLE AT WWW.PARADISEWEB.ORG/

CONNECTING THE DOTS

ParadiseWeb's core values are the foundation for each and every project that we take on. One of our core values is "the togetherness of community spirit." Since our first day online (February 24, 2007) we have attempted to boost pride in community. Researching and documenting information on our local history remains one of our focal points. We believe that it is important to evaluate all the information and to ensure that it is presented in a non-bias context. Each generation has a right to know where they came from. The historically significant events that we uncover helps even more to "connect the dots."

A LONG AND RICH HISTORY

There is a lot of history about our forefathers and events from the past that have shaped our lives today. Therefore, our goal is to retrieve, document and present information so that one day our children can read the "Road to Paradise" and appreciate their local heritage.

FEATURED GRAPHICS



www.paradiseweb.org

E-MAIL: kdixonsr@paradiseweb.org

CAROLINAS AVIATION MUSEUM

Carolinas Aviation Museum is a working restoration facility housed in the original hangar built for Charlotte's first municipal airport. Static displays of 30+ aircraft ranging from a World War II vintage Stearman to an F-4 Phantom jet. Flying aircraft are the Piedmont Airlines DC-3, and two OV-1D Vietnam vintage Mohawks. Interior tours of the Piedmont DC-3, KC-97 cockpit, and H-3 helicopter are available. There is a Museum Gift Shop and four picnic tables outside should your group want to eat on the grounds.



Directions to Museum:

Exit Billy Graham Parkway from either I-85 or I-77 toward Charlotte-Douglas International Airport. From Billy Graham turn on Morris Field Drive toward N.C. Air National Guard. Turn right on Minuteman Way and follow signs.

ParadiseWeb.org want to thank the staff of Carolinas Aviation Museum for their support in establishing the exhibit for Mr. Patterson.

CAROLINAS AVIATION MUSEUM

4108 Minuteman Way
Charlotte, NC 28208

CONTACT FOR TOURS:

Marsha Hanna
E-mail: mamhoo1@aol.com

PHONE:

704-359-8442 (Museum)

FAX:

704-359-0429

WEB SITE:

www.carolinasaviation.org

HOURS OF OPERATION:

Tuesdays - Fridays 10 - 4
Saturdays 10 - 5
Sundays 1 - 5

ADMISSION PRICES:

	Public	Group Rate	
Adults	\$8.00	\$3.00	
Seniors 60+	\$5.00	\$2.00	
Children 6+	\$5.00	\$2.00	
Under 6	Free		

TOUR DIRECTOR AND BUS DRIVERS

Free Admission

FREE PARKING WITH ROOM FOR BUSES ON SITE