

## McLean County Museum of History

### Aviation Collection

Processed by  
Kathryn Kerr  
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### Collection Information

VOLUME OF COLLECTION:	1 Box
COLLECTION DATES:	1900 - 2022
RESTRICTIONS:	None
PROVENANCE:	various
REPRODUCTION RIGHTS:	Permission to reproduce or publish material in this collection must be obtained in writing from the McLean County Museum of History
ALTERNATIVE FORMATS:	None
OTHER FINDING AIDS:	None
LOCATION:	Archives
NOTES:	

### Scope

The file contains various newspaper clippings, advertisements, personal accounts, and ephemera regarding aviation in McLean County.

### Folder Inventory

#### A General

##### Folder A1 History of Aviation

A1.1 A History of Aviation in Bloomington-Normal, Ted Wellman, June 1957, 72 p.

## **B Airports**

### **Folder B1 Normal Airport**

- B1.1. "Airport is assured, work begins Tuesday" Pantagraph, October 4, 1927.
- B1.2. "Bloomington flying club" Pantagraph, November 6, 1927.
- B1.3. "Program announced for airport event" Pantagraph, May 27, 1928.
- B1.4. "What mind of man conceives, he can solve, . . ." Pantagraph, May 29, 1928.
- B1.5. "10,000 see airport dedicated by Mayor" Pantagraph, May 31, 1928.
- B1.6. "Scanning the skyways in Illinois" Pantagraph, June 10, 1928.
- B1.7. "Scanning the skyways in Illinois" Pantagraph, June 11, 1928.
- B1.8. "Scanning the skyways in Illinois" Pantagraph, June 13, 1928.
- B1.9. "Scanning the skyways in Illinois" Pantagraph, June 18, 1928.
- B1.10. "Air tour welcomed throughout Illinois" Pantagraph, June 22, 1928.
- B1.11. "State airplane tour is declared success" Pantagraph, June 24, 1928.
- B1.12. "Need for airport stressed by flyer" Pantagraph, undated.

### **Folder B2 Central Illinois Regional Airport**

- B2.1 "When Dreams Come True" cartoon, Pantagraph, October 30, 1927.
- B2.2 "Arrangements of New Muncipal Airport Are Shown in Detailed Plan," article with map, Pantagraph January 22, 1934.
- B2.3 First day envelope, Corn Belt Philatelic Society, October 28, 1934.
- B2.4 Memo from Postmaster at Bloomington, October 1937, advising that adequate improvements at the airport are "a considerable period of time" away and consequently returning the covers sent for the first flight of air mail from Bloomington, etc.
- B2.5 Bloomington Airport letterhead, no date.
- B2.6 U.S. Air Mail envelope, posted Bloomington, IL, November 6, 1950.
- B2.7 Memorandum, Supplementary Report to our Memorandum Report, April 6, 1964, to Louis L. Williams, Chairman, Joint Services Study Commission, from Public Administration Service, December 4, 1964, 4p.
- B2.8 Central Illinois Regional Airport, flight schedule, effective May 1, 1998.
- B2.9 CIRA traffic, (number of passengers) 1997 – 2017, Pantagraph, September 30, 2017.
- B2.10 "Wings for Bloomington-Normal," 4p. article with photos, Bloomington-Normal Magazine, no date.
- B2.11 "Taking Flight" commemorative pamphlet for the opening of the CIRA terminal, November 2, 2001.

### **Folder B3 Other Airfields**

- B3.1 Note about Cottonwood Airport (owned by Rettick Enterprises, Inc.) & Big Tree Squadron of Stearman pilots. May 2023.
- B3.2 "A view from above: Stearman biplanes off big thrill" by Ruth Cobb in *Twin City Community News*, Aug 28, 1996. Includes note on photos available.

## **C Events**

### **Folder C1 Airship, September 1910**

- C1.1 The Aerial Mystery, Pantagraph, April 17, 1897.
- C1.2 Livingston & Sons Sale advertisement with airship, Pantagraph, July 10, 1909.

- C1.3 Novel View of Aviation Week in Bloomington, September 17,1910.
- C1.4 First Flight of Air Navigator over City Today, Pantagraph, September 13, 1910
- C1.5 First Flight over the City of Controllable Air Craft, Pantagraph September 15, 1910.
- C1.6 To Pilot: It Was 1910, Pantagraph, January 25, 1956.
- C1.7 A Grand Old Gasbag, *The Fabulous Century*, Vol. 1, 1900-1910, Time-Life Books, 1969.
- C1.8 The Great Airship Mystery, by Sara Cushing, *Gleanings from the Heart of the Cornbelt*, Fall 2007.
- C1.9 Airship pays visit to Bloomington, by Bill Kemp, Pantagraph, September 13, 2009.

## **Folder C2 Lindbergh, Charles**

- C2.1 Letter, October 1, 1977, from Mrs. Jessie Besson, committee chairman, to McLean County Historical Society (2 pgs.)
- C2.2 Three 3½ x 5 color photographs of marker and marker ceremony.
- C2.3 3 x 5 card detailing November 3, 1926 bailout.
- C2.4 Envelope and flier, 50th anniversary, solo transatlantic flight stamps / Cornpex '77.
- C2.5 9 x 12 1/2 illustration of Lindbergh, 50th anniversary, solo transatlantic flight stamps / Cornpex '77.
- C2.6 "Lindbergh Jumps Safely as Engine Dies," *Daily Bulletin*, November 4, 1926.
- C2.7 "Lindbergh Says He Fell Ten Minutes To Ground," *Daily Bulletin*, November 5, 1926.
- C2.8 "Air Mail Flier Leaps From His Plane While 13,000 Feet In Air," *Daily Pantagraph*, November 5, 1926.
- C2.9 "Thrilling Leap At Night In Snow Told By Flier," *Daily Bulletin*, May 27, 1927.
- C2.10 "Here's Real Lindbergh Signature," *Pantagraph*, May 28, 1927.
- C2.11 "San Jose Proud of Visit of Captain Charles Lindbergh," *Pantagraph*, May 28, 1927.
- C2.12 "Postal Head Bares Lindbergh's Report of His Thrilling Night Leap at Covell," *Pantagraph*, July 7, 1927.
- C2.13 "High Points of Lindbergh's Life Told In Brief," The NEA Service, April 23, 1929.
- C2.14 "Covell hits big in crash," *Pantagraph*, December 1, 1993.
- C2.15 "Lucky Lindy dropped in one night," *Pantagraph*, March 15, 1999.
- C2.16 "He Does It Again," *Aeronautics Review*, November 1926 (2 p. transcription).
- C2.17 "Lindbergh Flies Air Mail from Springfield," by William A. Steiger, *Journal of the Illinois State Historical Society*, Summer 1954, pp. 133-148.
- C2.18 "A Lucky Lindy Landing," by Ann Chasson, Bloomington Junior High School, *Illinois History*, October 1971, pp. 14-15.
- C2.19 Photo image of letter, Lindbergh to *Pantagraph* editor.
- C2.20 Photo of crash.
- C2.21 Email from Museum Ed Director Candace Summers regarding email from Ron Bluemer with photo and info on fragment of Lindbergh's plane that crashed in McLean County in 1926, January 2017.
- C2.22 "When Lindy Comes Home," sheet music 1927. 4 pp. Original plus color photocopy. Please use photocopy due to fragility of original.
- C2.23 Lindbergh History, April 1926 – November 1926, by Rick McDermott, 7p

## **Folder C3 Central Illinois Air Derby**

- C3.1 "All Roads Lead to Central Illinois Air Derby" Pantagraph, July 9, 1929.
- C3.2 "Flyers and officials prepare for Central Illinois Air Derby" Pantagraph July 10, 1929.
- C3.3 "Thousands view Central Illinois Air Derby" Pantagraph, July 11, 1929.
- C3.4 "Air Derby attracts 15,000; 34 airplanes participate" Pantagraph, July 12, 1929.
- C3.5 Central Illinois Air Derby invitation.

#### **Folder C4 Earhart, Amelia**

- C4.1 "Amelia Tells About Flight" Pantagraph, April 7, 1936
- C4.2 "Famous Woman Flyer Recounts Experiences Here" Pantagraph, April 7, 1936
- C4.3 "Woman Flyer Visits Port" Pantagraph, June 1, 1931
- C4.4 "Flyer to Speak" Normalite, April 3, 1936
- C4.5 "Amelia Earhart Lecture," ad, Pantagraph, April 6, 1936
- C4.6 "Amelia Here, Drives Alone" Pantagraph, April 6, 1936
- C4.7 "Bloomington Cherishes Memories of Amelia Earhart. ..." July 11, 1937
- C4.8 "Former Cooksville Boy Makes 3,980 Mile Search for Earhart Plane" Pantagraph, December 18, 1937.
- C4.9 "Scenes from Bloomington's Past" Pantagraph, June 1, 2000.
- C4.10 "Today's Flick Fact" about photo in her childhood home of Earhart posing with the *Pantagraph's* "Scoop IV," *Pantagraph*, Apr 24, 2023.

#### **D Miscellaneous**

##### **Folder D1 Frederickson Engine Co**

- D1.1 Frederickson Engine Model No. 5, undated. Annotations by Don Lockwood.
- D1.2 The Frederickson Rotary Engine, by Donald Lockwood, with drawings and photo from *Aerial Age Weekly*, 10 April 1916
- D1.3 John Deckley email correspondence to Museum Staff regarding the Frederickson Engine, 13 May 2020.
- D1.4 The Frederickson Engine by the World's Motor Company, Bloomington, IL. description of engine remaining with two color photos.

##### **Folder D2 Prairie Aviation Museum**

- D2.1 Prairie Aviation Museum Grand Opening Invitation, November 30, 1993.
- D2.2 Information leaflet with membership application, 2 copies, no date.
- D2.3 "AIMHS Member Profile: Prairie Aviation Museum," in *Dispatch / News*, Winter 2000 Series 16 Vol 7, #3, pp4-5.
- D2.4 "Project 2003" announcement of new Museum facility, 2 copies.
- D2.5 Leaflet describing Museum exhibits, no date.
- D2.6 Invitation to a Poker Tournament fundraiser for the Museum, no date.
- D2.7 PAM membership survey, no date.
- D2.8 *The Logbook*, Vol. 10, Issue 8, 11 pages, April 2007.
- D2.9 *The Logbook*, Vol. 17, Issue 2, 3 pages, February 2015.
- D2.10 Prairie Aviation Museum informational leaflet, 2 copies, no date.
- D2.11 Prairie Aviation Museum, Airpark Tour brochure; photos and descriptions of planes on display [2022].

##### **Folder D3 Zweng, Charles**

- D3.1 Pan American College of Celestial Air Navigation flier describing the course [ca: 1940]
- D3.2 Pan American Navigation order blank for Zweng Manuals [ca.: 1962].
- D3.3 Pan-American Navigation, advertising brochure, no date.
- D3.4 Flier advertising "Zweng's Aviation Dictionary, no date.
- D3.5 Flier advertising Zweng Manuals [ca: 1959].
- D3.6 Collection of Pantagraph articles (11 articles, ca: 1950s)