

UPDATED MAR 2010

CONTACT INFORMATION

FOR WACO HISTORY, INFORMATION, AND FACTS ABOUT WACO,
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BACKGROUND INFORMATION

WACO Historical Society

The WACO Historical Society has a dual purpose: Preservation of history of the WACO Aircraft Company and the Golden Age of Flight; and the education of young people in the area of math, science, technology and history, using aviation themes as a means toward enhancing student enthusiasm and response to traditional classroom curriculum.

The WACO Historical Society, Inc., was founded in 1978 and is a 501(c)3, non-profit organization. We are based at and operate Historic Waco Field, an authentic public grass airstrip (1WF).

Historic Waco Field (1WF)

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With the help of the WACO Historical Society members, many generous donors and supporters, Historic WACO Field opened in 1997. The field consists of a 77 acre site and features a 2200 foot runway (1800 feet usable) south of Troy, Ohio. Historic WACO Field is maintained by WACO volunteers and is constantly receiving upgrades and improvements, but we are always in need of additional volunteers to assist in the upkeep of the site.

In 1997, the first building to be erected on WACO Field was an historic 1856 barn relocated to the premises and restored thanks to a generous grant provided by the Troy Foundation. A traditional barn raising was held on the site on October 7, 1997. Over 300 volunteers from all over the United States helped rebuild the barn. Currently, the barn is used to house tractors and other maintenance vehicles. However, we would like to make improvements and incorporate the barn into the active museum buildings.

The second building project on WACO Field was the 7500 sq ft hangar which became home to the WACO Aircraft Museum, Research Library, Classroom/Conference Room and Museum Offices. Our latest addition is a new Museum Hangar, built by Bruns construction and completed in September 2009 through a generous grant from the Ohio Cultural Facilities Foundation. This new building is home to vintage WACO aircraft, displays and the history of the Waco Aircraft Company.

Historic WACO Field also has a radio-controlled aircraft flying field located on site which is home to the WACO Barnstormers RC Club. We have a separate runway in place specifically designed to accommodate RC Aircraft.

WACO Aviation Learning Center

The WACO Historical Society, in addition to preserving aviation's past, is also dedicated and actively works to nurture aviation's future through its Learning Center programs. The WACO Learning Center conducts programs with schools, Scout Troops, Civil Air Patrol posts here at the Field and at other local airports.

The Education Director has developed an out reach program designed to foster science, technology, engineering and math in schools. Our programs demonstrate the principles of flight and engage participants in making and flying hot air balloons, kites, radio controlled model airplanes, paper rockets, boomerangs, Estes rockets. We also incorporate the option for a flight in an airplane. Many campers have been able to attend our summer camp through scholarships generously donated by Friends of WACO. Your generous donation to our scholarship program helps us continue to provide this great learning experience to young campers through out the Miami Valley.

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EVENT INFORMATION

WAG-IN – In early September, Waco Field goes to the dogs! A fun filled day for owners and their dogs! Come enjoy the obedience demonstrations and fun matches, silly pet tricks, costume contest and more.

FLY-IN – Held in mid-September – it is the Annual Waco Fly-in and homecoming! Wacos from around the country return to Troy, Ohio – the place where it all started for three days of flying and camaraderie with fellow Waco pilots. Wacos are on display during the event. We have ride haulers in Wacos and New Standard Biplanes selling rides to the general public.

WACO MILITARY EXPERIENCE – Re-enactors from Revolutionary war to present spend three days encamped at Waco Field with munitions and military vehicle demonstrations scheduled throughout the weekend. This is history come alive and fun for the entire family!

HOW SANTA GETS AROUND – A great family holiday event. Come to the Waco Museum and enjoy seeing the many different ways Santa gets around to deliver presents! We have large displays of trains and Christmas villages that are sure to delight young and old alike. Sometimes, if Santa isn't too busy, we can convince him to take some time for a visit to Waco Field!