

LIBERTY AVIATION MUSEUM



Bill Meixner

CA-15.1

Introduction
Biographical Sketch
Scope and Content
Inventory

Introduction

This collection was given to the Liberty Aviation Museum by Bill Meixner, of Cleveland, Ohio. Permission to use this collection for research purposes was granted by the donor.

Biographical Sketch

This collection features archives donated by Bill Meixner, a local historian from the Cleveland, Ohio area. The content of this collection consists of archives all pertaining to the Cleveland National Air Races, with dates starting as early as 1929. Meixner is well known for his work concerning the history of these races. Meixner also serves on an executive committee, for the Cleveland chapter of the “Society of Air Racing Historians International.” The Society of Air Racing Historians International, was founded in 1984 and its mission is *to preserve the complete and accurate records of air races, race pilots and race planes by working together and combining the knowledge of many people.* (Air Race)

The history of air racing can be dated back as far as 1909, in Reims, France. After a full week of air racing, word traveled fast about this new sport. (Berliner) In the following years, the interest in air racing grew exponentially and air racing events began to pop up all across the world. Beginning in 1929, Brothers Cliff and Phil Henderson directed Americas National Air Races at Cleveland Municipal Airport. The races featured pylon races, cross-country races, aerobatic acts, military demonstrations, novelty races, as well as band concerts and firework displays.

This collection also features prints of Charles H. Hubbell's artistic works. Hubbell (1899-1971) was a native to Cleveland, Ohio area and is well known for his aviation inspired artworks. In Cleveland, Hubbell also worked with Thompson Products to paint the winning aircraft each year from the Thompson Trophy Race. Hubbell was also commissioned to do calendars and many other masterful works of art. (WRHS)

Scope and Content

This collection was donated by Bill Meixner, a local historian from Cleveland Ohio. Included are items about the Cleveland National Air Races as well as, periodicals with dates beginning in the 1920's. Other items in the collection consist of printed works by Charles H. Hubbell, various articles, photographs, and printed materials. This collection forms an insight into beginnings of air racing in Cleveland Ohio. It shows how this sport blossomed and continually grew each year.

Inventory

[Ac. 15.1]

Box 1

Folder 1-Periodicals

Original Periodicals

Copied Periodicals

Folder 2-Photos and Map

Four black & white late 1930's wallet size photographs

One black & white post card from Horns Flying School in Willoughby, OH

One Air Trials Map of Illinois 1928

Folder 3- Various High Gloss Reproduction Prints

One print of the 1929 National Air Races poster

One print by Al Schumacher 11/74 with Roscoe Tuner's 1934 featured

One print of Women's Air Derby Trophy

Folder 4-Printed Materials

Wings of 1929 Musical Exposition itinerary

Copy of music 'On Wings of Love' Lyric by Cliff Henderson

Color and Black and White copies of various posters and photographs

Folder 5- Articles

Man Behind The Gun By Herbert E. Prentke

Cleveland Plain Dealer, 09/17/1929

The National Aeronautic Association Subject:

Cleveland to be permanent home of National Air Races

Air Making Her Career Subject: Blanche Noyes

Folder 6- Posters and Color Prints

Three reproduction poster prints

Large print of Jimmy Haizlips Racer, winner of 1932 Bendix Trophy Race

Large print of Roscoe Turners racer the winner of 1934 Thompson Trophy Race

Smaller cutout of Roscoe Turners racer the winner of 1934 Thompson

Trophy Race on card stock

Gathering of Racing legends May 5-7, 2006 with three autographs next to corresponding plane

Folder 7-Charles H. Hubbell Prints

Thompson Post War Thompson Trophy winner Prints with corresponding autographs

Folder 8-Charles H. Hubbell Prints

USAF & USN air-crafts art prints with descriptions

Folder 9-Charles H. Hubbell Prints

1929-46 Large Prints from Thompson Trophy winners

1929-46 Small Prints from Thompson Trophy winners

Sources

"Biography of Charles H. Hubbell." *Finding Aid for the Charles H. Hubbell Papers*. N.p., n.d. Web. 10 Jan. 2016. <<http://ead.ohiolink.edu/xtf-ead/view?docId=ead%2FOCLWHi0385.xml%3Bchunk.id>>

Meixner, Bill. "The History of Air Racing." *Home Page*. N.p., n.d. Web. 10 Jan. 2016. <<http://www.airrace.com/>>.