



**American Institute of  
Aeronautics and Astronautics  
*Northern Ohio Section***

**2005-2006  
Program Year Summary**

**June 28, 2006**



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Dear Colleagues,

AIAA is the principal society and voice serving the aerospace profession. Its primary purpose is to advance the arts, sciences, and technology of aeronautics and astronautics and to foster and promote the professionalism of those engaged in these pursuits. I believe the Northern Ohio Section upholds all the principles of the AIAA and is a shining example of what the Institute can and should be for its membership and the aerospace profession as a whole. I am proud of the strong commitment we show to strengthening the aerospace profession both nationally and internationally, and the work we do to foster the growth and vitality of aerospace right here in Northern Ohio.

This report summarizes our section's activities for the 2005-2006 program year. Our theme for this year was "*Network, Learn and Have Fun*" and we did plenty of each. We had an excellent year that included:

- a full slate of outstanding events that were all well attended,
- continued strong advocacy for aerospace internationally, nationally and locally,
- impactful educational programs that foster the engineers and scientists of tomorrow, and
- social activities that brought us together in a relaxed, fun environment.

Thanks to the efforts of many tremendously dedicated members, the Northern Ohio Section continues to be a leader within AIAA in many important areas. Young Astronaut Day and our Team Ohio aerospace advocacy group are the "gold standards" in the areas of K-12 Outreach and Public Policy within the Institute. This year we also made strides to improve in the area of member services. Our first ever Entrepreneurship Workshop drew over 40 attendees and provided valuable information and guidance to our aggressive members who are considering "making the leap" to start their own business.

It has been my distinct pleasure to serve as Chair of the Northern Ohio Section of AIAA for the 04/05 and 05/06 program years. To work with such an outstanding group of professionals has been a real privilege for me and I have enjoyed every minute of it. Thanks for a great run.

Our new Chair for 06/07 is Dr. Robert Bruckner. Rob is a terrific person and will do a great job as our Section Chair. Please join me in welcoming Rob to this new position and continue to give him the excellent support that I enjoyed during my tenure.

Onward and Upward!

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Chris", with a horizontal line underneath.

Christopher J. Pestak



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### September 2005

We kicked off the 05/06 program year on Thursday, September 29<sup>th</sup> with a group outing at Jacobs Field to watch our Cleveland Indians fight for a spot in the 2005 MLB playoffs. Thirty members of the section watched the Indians beat the Tampa Bay Devil Rays. It was a great game and everyone had a fun time. Unfortunately, the Indians followed this exciting win by getting swept by the Chicago White Sox in the final series of the season, leaving them out of the playoffs. (The White Sox went on to win the World Series.)

Is it just a coincidence that the Indians win >75% of the time we have a section outing at Jacobs Field? Should the Indians organization consider giving our section 30 complimentary season tickets to help boost the team's record in the future? The Chair will investigate!



### October 2005

Our second section event of the program year was a joint dinner meeting on October 6th at the Ohio Aerospace Institute with the local chapter of the Society of Automotive Engineers (SAE).



Dick Medvick presented a unique personal account of the Bendix Air Races which he attended with his father in Cleveland in the 1940's. The Bendix Air Races drew tremendous crowds from across the country and helped make Cleveland a hot bed of aerospace enthusiasm and innovation.

Dick's son  
Spencer  
followed  
him with  
an

interesting talk describing the action at the current National Air Races held in Reno, NV. These current races include head-to-head competition between super modified World War II vintage aircraft such as the Dago Red P-51 and Rare Bear F8F2 Bearcat aircraft shown here. Dago Red set a record speed that topped 507 MPH.





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### November 2005

On November 5th, 330 K-12 students gathered at NASA Glenn Research Center to learn the “fun - damentals” of engineering at our 13th Annual Young Astronaut Day (YAD). This year’s YAD event was made possible through the efforts of 50 section volunteers. The day featured a large number and wide variety of fun and challenging competitions for students that emphasized engineering concepts, innovative thinking, and teamwork.



Pictured here is John Wolter facilitating the sail car competition for the Pilots group (grades 1-6).



things.

NASA Astronaut and US Naval Academy graduate Sunita Williams spoke to the students assembled at YAD and then spent the day at the event, meeting with the students, encouraging them during the competitions, and discussing careers in aerospace. Our special thanks go out to Sunita for the warmth, graciousness and professionalism she exhibited at YAD. She is truly an excellent role model for any young person aspiring to accomplish great

Another great role model, Betty Dabrowski, science teacher at Magnificat High School in Rocky River, was honored for her many years as an active AIAA Educator Associate in Northern Ohio. Betty has been an Educator Associate since AIAA started the program and she personifies what the teaching profession is all about. Betty – thank you for your continued support of the AIAA mission and your active participation in our section.



### December 2005

On Thursday, December 1st, Dr. Roger Launius, Chair of the Space History Division of the Smithsonian National Air & Space Museum presented a thought provoking and inspiring AIAA Distinguished Lecturer entitled “*The American Aerospace Industry and Government R&D Investment: National Security, Technological Imperatives, and Political Choice*”. The lecture was part of our December dinner meeting with 50 people in attendance.



Dr. Launius was also gracious enough to fly in a day early and present another AIAA Distinguished Lecture at Case Western Reserve Univ. on November 30th entitled, “*A Vast Scientific Harvest? - Apollo and the Expansion of Knowledge about the Moon*”. Over 60 CASE students, faculty, and guests attended.



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### January 2006

Over 100 members of the Northern Ohio Section attended the Aerospace Sciences Conference in Reno, NV which was held January 9<sup>th</sup> - 12<sup>th</sup>. The section is especially proud of Shawn Taylor and Dr. Joe Prahl, both of Case Western Reserve University, who were honored at the annual awards banquet held in Reno. Shawn, a graduate student, received the Abe M. Zarem Award for Distinguished Achievement in Astronautics. Dr. Prahl received the Abe M. Zarem Educator Award as an outstanding educator in the field of astronautics. Congratulations Shawn and Joe!



### February 2006

Once again this year, the section celebrated and participated in National Engineers' Week. The section worked in conjunction with the National Engineers' Week organization, the Cleveland Technical Societies Council, and the Akron Area Engineering Council to support activities at local schools and participated in local engineering society banquets.



### March 2006

The 2006 FIRST Buckeye Regional held March 10<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup> at Cleveland State University was a huge success, thanks to the efforts of numerous section members who support FIRST. FIRST is one of the premiere science and educational enrichment programs in the world. Over 600 students representing 40 high school teams from across the Midwest participated in the Buckeye Regional. Special thanks to Ann Heyward of our section who led the organization and planning of this important educational outreach event.



On Thursday, March 23rd, Dr. Robert Braun, Associate Professor of Space Technology at the Georgia Institute of Technology presented his outstanding AIAA Distinguished Lecture entitled, ***“First Flight of a Mars Airplane: An Exciting Space Science Opportunity”*** at our section’s March dinner meeting. Over 50 people attended the dinner meeting. Dr. Braun was a member of the Mars Pathfinder design team from 1992 to 1997. He presented some interesting concepts for a Mars UAV and made a compelling case for continued exploration and characterization of the Martian atmosphere.



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### April 2006

On April 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup>, AIAA sponsored its 9<sup>th</sup> annual Congressional Visits Day (CVD) where 125 AIAA members descended on Washington, D.C to advocate and raise the visibility of issues relative to science, engineering, and technology. The issues raised to Congress consisted of both AIAA national issues and state-wide issues. To facilitate a state-wide message, AIAA members were organized into teams by State. *Team Ohio* was formed and led by Carol Cash of our section and consisted of 15 AIAA members throughout the state representing both large and small industry, universities, and the interests of NASA Glenn Research Center and the Air Force Research Laboratories (AFRL) in Dayton. *Team Ohio* met with every member of the Ohio Congressional delegation, including big guns such as Dave Hobson of Springfield (pictured here). *Team Ohio* members included representatives from Analex Corporation, GE Aviation, Ohio University, OAI, University of Cincinnati, ISSI, Parker Hannifin Corporation, Orbital Research Inc., Wright State University, and Avaya.



Once again the Northern Ohio Section played an important role in the Region 3 Student Conference which was held April 21<sup>st</sup> and 22<sup>nd</sup> at The Ohio State University. Several papers were presented by students from our section and three of the on site judges were from NOS. Special thanks to Eric Pencil and Hani Kamhawi for their strong support of the Region 3 Student Conference.

### May 2006



On Thursday, May 4th, the AIAA Northern Ohio Section, along with the ASME, SAE, and our student chapter at The University of Akron, held a joint dinner meeting featuring AIAA Distinguished Lecturer Richard H. Graham, Colonel, USAF (Retired). Colonel Graham presented his lecture, “*SR-71 Blackbird: An*



*Engineering Marvel*”. Over 125 people attended this dinner meeting at the Military Aircraft Preservation Society (MAPS) Museum, which was an excellent venue for this inspiring and fascinating presentation on the fastest plane ever flown. Prior to the dinner and lecture, attendees were treated to a guided tour of the museum, which has a nice variety of vintage airplanes. Many people felt that this was the best dinner meeting they have ever attended.



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On Friday, May 19<sup>th</sup>, we held another group outing at Jacobs Field, this time to watch the Indians get a 4-1 victory over the Pittsburgh Pirates, once again, raising the winning percentage of the Indians every time AIAA holds a group outing at the ballpark. We had a tremendous group of 90 AIAA members and their guests. It was a fun evening, with the game followed by a spectacular fireworks show.



### June 2006

On Wednesday, June 7, the AIAA Northern Ohio Section in cooperation with Eleda International Ltd. sponsored a Career Enhancement program entitled, ***“Empowering Your Technology Through a Start-up -- Discover the Ingredients of a Successful Start-up Company”***. The featured presenter was Adele Luta, an active member of our section and the Founder and Managing Partner of Eleda International, a firm specializing in technology and business development consulting in Northeast Ohio. This evening workshop held at the Ohio Aerospace Institute focused on the steps to starting a new business. Over 40 people attended this informative and dynamic workshop.



We ended the year with our annual Honors & Awards Picnic. Special thanks to Lois Weir and Nick Georgiadis for planning and putting on the picnic. The food was delicious and the company was great. John Wolter received an AIAA Special Service Citation for his many years of service as a section officer and his strong support of the section’s educational outreach efforts.