

1903-1912

- 1903 Wright Brothers—
First powered, sustained, controlled, heavier than air flight
- 1909 Louis Bleriot—
First aircraft flight across the English Channel
- 1912 Harriet Quimby—
First flight by a woman across the English Channel

1913-1922

- 1913 Roland Garros—
First flight across the Mediterranean Sea
- 1915 Fokker E-1—
Birth of Aerial Combat
- 1919 NC-4—First airplane to cross the Atlantic
- 1921 First coast-to-coast airmail flight (San Francisco to NYC)

1923-1932

- 1923 Fokker T-2—
First nonstop flight across the U.S.
- 1924 Douglas World Cruiser—
First around the world flight
- 1926 Robert H. Goddard—
First flight of liquid propellant rocket
- 1927 Charles Lindbergh—
First solo flight across the Atlantic
- 1930 Amy Johnson—
First woman to fly solo from England to Australia
- 1932 Amelia Earhart—
First woman to fly solo across the Atlantic

1933-1943

- 1935 First flight of Douglas DC-3
- 1936 Pan American—
First transpacific passenger service
- 1939 Heinkel He 178—
First turbojet
- 1942 V-2 First ballistic missile

1944-1952

- 1947 Chuck Yeager—
Piloted first aircraft to break the sound barrier (Bell X-1)

1953-1962

- 1957 Sputnik—
First artificial satellite
- 1961 Yuri Gagarin—
First man in space
- 1961 Alan B. Shepard, Jr.—
First American in space

1963-1972

- 1963 Valentina V. Tereshkova—
First woman in space
- 1967 North American X-15—
Set speed record of over 4,534 mph
- 1969 Neil Armstrong & Edwin "Buzz" Aldrin—
First men on the moon

1973-1982

- 1973 Skylab—
First U.S. space station
- 1978 Double Eagle—
First balloon flight across the Atlantic
- 1981 First flight of U.S. space shuttle

1983-1992

- 1983 Guion S. Bluford, Jr.—
First African American astronaut
- 1983 Sally Ride—
First U.S. woman astronaut
- 1990 Hubble Space Telescope—
Opened new era of astronomy

1993-2002

- 1995 Galileo—
First space probe released into Jupiter's atmosphere
- 1997 Mars Pathfinder—
Landed on Mars
- 1998 John Glenn—
Oldest American to fly in space

Centennial of Flight Commission

The Centennial of Flight Commission was created by the U.S. Congress in 1998 to advise the President, Congress and Federal agencies on the most effective ways to encourage and promote national and international participation in the commemoration of the centennial of powered flight by our citizens, state and local governments, civic and cultural organizations, the aviation and aerospace industry and their workers, educators and students of all ages. The Commission itself will maintain an on-line, comprehensive calendar of commemorative events. Its website will also serve as a complete resource on the centennial of powered flight and the history of aviation for the media, educators and their students, and all other organizations wishing to participate in the celebration of the Wright Brothers' historic achievement. You may contact us at (202) FLT-1903 or, after July 2000, through our website at www.centennialofflight.gov.

Members of the Commission

Gen. John R. Dailey, Director
National Air and Space Museum
Chair of the Commission

The Honorable Jane Garvey, Administrator
Federal Aviation Administration

The Honorable Sean O'Keefe, Administrator
National Aeronautics and Space Administration

Richard T. Howard, President
First Flight Centennial Foundation
North Carolina

Thomas P. Poberezny, President
Experimental Aircraft Association

J. Bradford Tillson, Chairman
Inventing Flight: The Centennial Celebration, 2003
Dayton, Ohio

Sharron Foster, Executive Director
Centennial of Flight Commission



U. S. Centennial of Flight Commission

Celebrating a Century of

WINGS



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Celebrating a Century of Wings

Centennial of Flight Commission

Once upon a time, they said: "If God had intended human beings to fly, he would have given us wings." Wilbur and Orville Wright knew better. With peerless courage, perseverance and determination, these two brilliant, self-trained engineers lifted our fortunes and fueled our imaginations on an epic journey from the sands of Kitty Hawk to the stars. Celebrate the defining achievement of the 20th Century by joining the Centennial of Flight's diverse coalition of aerospace companies, school groups and individuals preparing nation-wide observances of the 100th anniversary of powered flight in 2003. You'll help mark a century of Wrights, wings, and wonder.

