



THE DAYTON ENGINEER

WHERE PROFESSIONALS CONNECT

January 2002

DAYTON, OHIO

BIRTHPLACE OF AVIATION

HAPPY NEW YEAR

BLOOD DRIVE

The Engineers Club of Dayton is having a Blood Drive on January 4th, 2002, at the Club. Please sign up for this important event. The events of September 11th have taxed the resources of all organizations and charities which perform the tasks of tending to those less fortunate than us. The Holiday Season also strains the resources of blood banks and resources of such organizations and they need our help. Please help by giving the gift of life. Give Blood.

Please Call Susan at 228-2148 to schedule your time.

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The Grand Eccentrics

How Engineers Club Members Shook the World

Mark Bernstein

Mr. Bernstein is the Author of The Grand Eccentrics: Turning The Century: Dayton and the Inventing of America. The book is a fascinating read and contains history concerning our most famous Engineers Club Members, including Boss Kettering, Col. Deeds, the Wright Bros., and Arthur Morgan, as well as John Patterson and James Cox. It is available at most local bookstores. Mr. Bernstein resides in Yellow Springs, OH.



Dayton is a place built against circumstance. Unlike many cities, it was not called into being to process and ship nearby iron or coal. Its chief river, the Great Miami, is not serviceable to trade. It lacks the security of being either a state capital or, though Wright State University has grown by leaps and bounds over the last thirty-odd years, it wasn't the site of the major state university.

Rather, Dayton's key resource was, and is, its own imagination - the quality and quantity of ideas that, hatched here, became the city's key strength and leading export. In 1900, the U. S. Patent Bureau reported that Dayton was the nation's most prolific geographic source of new patents, relative to population.

That year falls in the most notable period of Dayton invention, 1890 to 1920. In those years, the Wright Brothers, Charles Kettering and John H. Patterson showed the nation how to fly, how to drive and how to sell. That period and those men - throw in publisher-politician James Cox and Miami Conservancy District Director Arthur Morgan - form the focus of my book, *Grand Eccentrics*.

Two facts stand as salient -- how 'writeable' these gentleman are and how frequently their lives crossed.

They were young. When the Wrights flew, Wilbur was 36, Orville 32. Charles Kettering was 34 when he designed the self-starter. Arthur Morgan, 35, when he was appointed head of the Conservancy District. James Cox was 28 when he became publisher of the Dayton Daily News.

See *Eccentrics*, Page 5

Club Member to Carry Olympic Torch

Long-time Engineers Club Member Clark Beck has received the privilege of carrying the Olympic Torch on its journey through Dayton, with a final destination of Salt Lake City for the Winter Games. Mr. Beck will carry the torch through downtown Dayton, from Franklin Street to Fifth, where he will hand off the torch to another carrier. Each nominated torch bearer carries the torch for approximately 1/5 of a mile. An outrunner will accompany Mr. Beck during his contribution, which is scheduled to begin at 12:06 p.m. on January 3rd.

Mr. Beck reports that he's unsure who nominated him for this privilege, but he's happy to accept it. He surmises it may be one of the many friends he's made during his volunteer efforts with various organizations in Dayton. Whoever it is, he would like to thank him/her for the nomination. He's proud to represent Dayton and hopes some fellow Members will turn out to cheer him on during his run.

Eccentrics, continued from Page 1

They had their quirks. John H. Patterson took four baths a day and wore underwear stitched from pool table felt. Charles Kettering was so bad at administration that he simply ignored it; at Delco, his secretary had standing instructions to tell unexpected callers that he was dead.

They were suspicious of experts. Kettering said an expert was someone who could take a slide rule, carefully line up the crosshairs, and tell you that two times two equaled exactly 3.98. But they did large work. In the span of a single generation, they produced:

- Flight;
- The self-starter, high octane gasoline and the high compression engine;
- The first machine of business - the cash register; and, at NCR, the marketing model that became standard: trained sale force, sales territories, sales quotas and annual conventions;
- At the Miami Conservancy District, the nation's first regional flood control system;
- A media empire, Cox Enterprises; and, in James Cox, the 1920 Democratic Presidential nominee.

In this not very large city on the Great Miami River, their lives crossed and re-crossed. They collaborated. Following the 1913 flood, for example, Dayton leaders pushed for a regional flood control system.



President, continued from Page 3

Below is a list of the technologies needed to outfit the Nutter Level Cyber Innovation Lab. Please consider donating the funds for one or more of these items to the Club - *Chuck Buchanan*.

1	Large Screen Projection TV	\$2,000.00
1	Videoconferencing System	5995 .00
1	Speakerphone System	750 .00
1	Gaming X-Box and Controls	500 .00
2	DVD Players (Input)	500 .00
2	VCR Players (input)	300 .00
2	Wireless Network for Internet Access and PCMCIA Cards(12)	3,400 .00
1	Pro 8 Zone Panel, White	900 .00
6	Recepticles, 6Pt, 2 Coax, 2 Cats, 2 Blk Wht	100 .00
2	6 Port Receptacle Face Plate	30 .00
1	Quad Channel Stereo Modulator	575 .00
1	Kustom 6 Source, 6 Zone Amplifier	980 .00
12	Speakers, 2 per Zone	1200 .00
7	Single Gang IR Volume Control	325 .00
4	Dual Mini IR Emitters	30 .00
1	Pronto Docking Station	60 .00
1	Pronto Touchscreen Remote	300 .00
1	Data Interface and Power Supply	40.00
1	Joystick for Ultrak Dome Cams	875.00
1	Programming Keyboard	40.00
1	Dome Camera w/Pan, Tilt & 18X Zoom	2,400.00
1	Speedwrap Cable Std Fire Rating	375.00
1	Cat 5 wire 24Ga/4Pr 1000' Spool	60.00
1	RG59 Cable W-18/2 Carrier Wire1	20.00

To accomplish this, John H. Patterson raised the money for planning; Arthur Morgan executed the plan and James Cox, as governor, shepherded the enabling legislation through the state legislature.

Many of their crossings occurred at an identifiable place - the Engineers Club of Dayton, co-founded by Edward Deeds and Charles Kettering. The club that provided a common ground today shows their handiwork. One of the earliest electric cash registers that Kettering designed for Patterson is displayed on the club's second floor. Arthur Morgan was the seventh member; his early surveying compass is on display on the club's second floor. Orville Wright was the 12th member. Also on the second floor, you can normally find the third Wright aircraft engine ever built (this engine is currently on loan to the Wright Experience and has been temporarily replaced by Engine #43). John H. Patterson was an honorary member. And when the current clubhouse was dedicated in 1918, James Cox - by then governor of Ohio - was here to present the official blessings of the state.

And in all of this - flight, the automobile, salesmanship and more - these individuals did much to create the American 20th century, the America that is now yielding to the rise of the electronic technologies and to the global marketplace, which today are creating an uncertainty very like that to which, a century ago, these individuals did much to give form.

Spark Plugs Report

Diane Buchanan

The Club Holiday Party was an incredible success for everyone who believes in the magic of the Holidays, with about 60 folks, grand folks, and little folks attending. The treasure hunt was planned & executed by the grandest elf of all, Leatha Stewart and her merry band. Charlene was craft planner and provider, with advice from Dan & Shawn. Joyce Kohli and Diane rounded out the group with communication and planning. Thanks to Leatha for the Buche de Noel table. Thank you for coming and plan on continuing this tradition next year!!! Hope you came to Ice Skating on December 27th. We have more adventures planned for the upcoming Winter and Spring Months. Stay tuned! Watch your mail for announcements.

Tech Ed Series January 17th

How To Go

What: Technical Education Committee Lecture – *Positron Emission Tomography, By Dr. Martin Satter, Chief PET Physicist Nuclear Medicine/PET Sept., Wallace-Kettering Neurosciences Institute*

When: January 17th, 7-8 pm

Reception Immediately Following Presentation

Where: The Engineers Club, of course!

Cost: Free and Open to the Public

Call (937) 225-7705 for more information