A CENTURY OF CIRCUMNAVIGATIONS
FLYING AROUND THE WORLD SINCE 1924

by Jon Welte

Although it might have been news to some of Columbus’ sailors in 1492, Earth’s spherical nature was known in antiquity. Eratosthenes of Cyrene famously measured Earth’s circumference by careful measurement of shadows and distances some 2,200 years ago. His calculation was nearly identical to the actual value of just under 25,000 miles—a daunting distance in a world constrained to travel at the speed of a horse or a wind-propelled ship. It would not be until some 1,700 years later that the survivors of Ferdinand Magellan’s expedition became the first to circumnavigate the world by sea in 1522.

While traveling around the world gradually become more feasible and less fantastic as technology improved, it remained an arduous journey—Jules Verne’s fictional characters struggled to complete the trip in 80 days in his 1872 novel. The advent of air travel at the beginning of the 20th century, however, offered the intriguing possibility of circling the world in far less than 80 days.

In 1923, the U.S. Army Air Service published a requirement for an airplane capable of completing an around-the-world flight. A 31-year-old Donald Douglas, at the helm of his newly founded Douglas Aircraft Company, won a contract to modify one of his biplane torpedo bomber designs into a world-circling airplane. While the flights would feature many refueling stops, long range for flying extended legs over water and across inhospitable terrain was essential. With modifications designed by Douglas and Jack Northrop, the Douglas World Cruiser traded its forebear’s armament for an extra 500 gallons of fuel. For added flexibility, the aircraft could be interchangeably equipped with either wheeled landing gear or pontoons for water landings. A total of five were built, along with an abundant supply of replacement parts. The four production aircraft, each named for an American city, departed the Douglas facility in Santa Monica, California, in March 1924, and launched the official attempt at an around-the-world flight headed westbound from Seattle the following month.

The U.S. expedition was well equipped and supported, yet nonetheless the trip was fraught with difficulties. One aircraft was lost in Alaska before the flight even left North America. Permission to fly in Soviet airspace was never officially granted, and the legs through Southeast Asia featured multiple stops at locations that had never before seen
South America, Asia, Africa, and Europe—and included an unplanned stay in Alaska, waiting for weather and for permission to enter Russian airspace, very much like the Douglas World Crusier expedition nearly a century earlier.

Globe-spanning flights continue to capture the world’s imagination even in the 21st century. After the historic 1924 flight, the Douglas Aircraft Company’s logo was altered to include a depiction of the world with the path of the World Cruisers shown circling around it. The logo, later updated to reflect the advent of the space age, remained a part of Douglas’ identity through a series of mergers—including the 1997 merger with former archrival Boeing, which now includes the around-the-world “swoosh” of the Douglas World Cruisers in its own iconic logo.

On October 15 the Hiller Aviation Museum welcomes Zara Rutherford as the keynote speaker for its 18th annual Benefit Gala. Rutherford will share her experiences growing up in an aviation family, piloting a lightweight airplane around the world, and advocating for girls and women to look for their futures in the air.

Resources
- https://airandspace.si.edu/collection-objects/douglas-world-cruiser-chicago/nasm_A19250008000 (downloaded 10 August 2022)
- https://flyzolo.com/ (downloaded 10 August 2022)
HILLER AVIATION MUSEUM PRESENTS

ADVENTURE INSPIRES

18TH BENEFIT GALA

Saturday, October 15, 2022
5pm · Cocktails  6:30pm · Dinner & Auction

Keynote by Zara Rutherford
The youngest woman to fly solo around the world

Benefiting the Museum’s Aviation and STEM education programs

HILLER AVIATION MUSEUM

Individual Ticket  $300
Table of 10 Sponsorships  $15,000 · $10,000 · $5,000 · $3,500

Questions?
Contact Rebecca Duran, VP of Development
650-654-0200 x203 / duran@hiller.org

Tickets, Sponsorships, Donations · www.hiller.org/gala
Launch an adventure in aviation over the fall and winter holidays at Aviation Camp! Build and fly model aircraft, take on realistic flight simulations, explore museum aircraft and more, while exploring a unique subject in flight.

**FLIGHT & MOTION**
OCT 3 – 7 & DEC 27 – 30

**EXTREME FLIGHT**
NOV 21 – 23

**PILOT CADETS**
DEC 19 – 22

**AERO ENGINEERS**
JAN 3 – 6

**FLIGHT SIMULATOR RALLY**
SEPT 18, OCT 16, NOV 20
2:30 – 4PM

**GLIDER DISCOVERY DAY**
DEC 11, 11AM

**HELICOPTER ADVENTURE**
SEPT 4, NOV 6, DEC 18
11AM

**KIDS’ CARNIVAL**
(ALL AGES)
SEPT 25, OCT 22 – 23 NOV 27
10AM – 12PM

**STRAW ROCKET WORKSHOP**
OCT 2, DEC 4, 11AM

**WATER ROCKET RALLY**
SEP 11, OCT 9, NOV 13 11AM

**HOLIDAY FUN WEEK**

**SPECIAL EVENTS • DEC 27-31**

**HAPPY BIRDS**
TUES, DEC 27, 11AM
Take flight on the wild and feathered side with the Happy Birds! Back by popular demand, this outrageous troupe of parrots, macaws, and cockatiels perform a remarkable routine of natural and trained behaviors.

**OPEN COCKPIT**
WED, DEC 28
10AM – 1PM
Explore the captain’s seat in airliners, seaplanes, helicopters and more! The doors of many of the Hiller Aviation Museum’s unique and historic aircraft swing open for visitors of all ages on Open Cockpit Day.

**PERFECT PAPER PLANES**
THURS, DEC 29, 11AM
Join world champion paper airplane designer John Collins for an interactive, hands-on celebration of the art and science of paperlight flight! John shares his award-winning designs and leads everyone in the quest to build and fly the perfect paper plane.

**SLED DRIVER – FLYING THE SR-71**
FRI, DEC 30, 11AM
Celebrated United States Air Force pilot Major Brian Shul returns to the Hiller Aviation Museum this December to share his experiences flying the world’s fastest operational combat aircraft. Capable of exceeding three times the speed of sound, the SR-71 Blackbird was truly exceptional – as was the elite cadre of aviators who flew it.
NOON YEAR’S EVE PARTY
SAT, DEC 31, 10AM – 1PM
Join the countdown to 12 noon on the last day of the year in a kid-friendly New Year’s Eve spectacular! Dance and music routines, hands-on activities, and special presentations prepare the way for the dramatic countdown and noon-time balloon drop. Advance reservations are required! Tickets go on sale on Dec. 1st. This event will sell out.

HOLIDAYS BY HELICOPTER
HOLIDAY FUN BY HELICOPTER
Helicopter Operations Donated by Bay Area Helicoptours, www.bayhelicoptours.com

HALLOWEEN EVENTS
HALLOWEEN HAUNTED HANGAR
OCT 22 – 31
10AM – 5PM
(OCT 28 – 30 ONLY)
10AM – 8PM
Share a family-friendly fright as the Hiller Aviation Museum transforms into the Halloween Haunted Hangar in a special annual tradition! Enjoy creepy creations, dreadful decorations, and spirited Halloween fun.

HALLOWEEN KIDS’ CARNIVAL
SAT/SUN, OCT 22/23
10AM – 12PM
Paint the museum’s Cessna Cardinal in ghastly Halloween colors, launch a Ghosticopter in a wind tunnel, assemble a Halloween craft and more at the Haunted Hangar.

HALLOWEEN FESTIVAL
SAT/SUN, OCT 29/30
10AM – 12PM
(PARTY TIME AT 12PM)
Join the fun as our high-flying witch prepares her doomed pumpkins for their final flights! With prizes, and helicopter-borne pumpkin drops as the clock tolls 12 noon.

Halloween games, special

SANTA CLAUS ARRIVES
SAT, DEC 3, 10AM
BY HELICOPTER
All Helicopter Events are Weather Permitting
HILLER AVIATION MUSEUM

HAUNTED HANGAR

Saturday Oct 22 through Sunday Oct 30th, Daily 10am–5pm (open until 8PM 28-30th)

KIDS’ CARNIVAL
SAT-SUN
OCT 22/23
10 AM-12 PM

- SPECIAL ACTIVITIES JUST FOR KIDS
- COCKPIT EXPLORATION
- GLIDER AND HELICOPTER CONSTRUCTION AND MORE
- PAINT THE MUSEUM’S PAINT-A-PLANE ORANGE AND BLACK
- FUN FOR THE WHOLE FAMILY!

GET TICKETS AT WWW.HILLER.ORG

HILLER AVIATION MUSEUM 601 SKYWAY RD SAN CARLOS, CA 94070
HILLER AVIATION MUSEUM

PUMPKIN DROP
KIDS’ CARNIVAL
10 AM - 12 PM (drop at 12 PM)
• SPECIAL ACTIVITIES JUST FOR KIDS
• COCKPIT EXPLORATION
• GLIDER AND HELICOPTER CONSTRUCTION AND MORE
• PAINT THE MUSEUM’S PAINT-A-PLANE ORANGE AND BLACK
• FUN FOR THE WHOLE FAMILY!
• PUMPKIN DROP
• CREEPY GAMES AND PRIZES
• MEET THE WITCH AND SIGN HER SPECIAL HALLOWEEN PUMPKIN
• GREAT PUMPKIN SAFARI HUNT
SATURDAY OCT 22 THROUGH SUNDAY OCT 30, DAILY 10 AM - 5 PM (OPEN UNTIL 8 PM 28-30TH)

SEPTEMBER
SUN, SEPT 4 • 11 AM
Helicopter Adventure
SUN SEPT. 11 • 11 AM
Water Rocket Rally
SUN, SEPT 18 • 2:30PM-4:00PM
Flight Sim Rally
SUN, SEPT 25 • 10AM - 12:00PM
Kids’ Carnival
OCTOBER
SUN, OCT 2 • 11 AM
Straw Rocket Workshop
SUN, OCT 9 • 11 AM
Water Rocket Rally
SAT, OCT 15 • 5PM-10PM
Adventure Inspires, Museum Gala
SUN, OCT 16 • 2:30PM-4:00PM
Flight Sim Rally
OCT 22 – OCT 31 • 10AM-5PM
OCT 28-30 • 10AM-8PM
Halloween Haunted Hangar
SAT/SUN, OCT 22/23 • 10AM - 12:00PM
Kids’ Halloween Carnival
SAT/SUN, OCT 29/30 • 10AM - 12:00PM
Halloween Helicopter Pumpkin Drop
NOVEMBER
SUN, NOV 6 • 11 AM
Helicopter Adventure
SUN, NOV 13 • 11 AM
Water Rocket Rally
SUN, NOV 20 • 2:30PM-4:00PM
Flight Sim Rally
WED, NOV 23 • 11AM
Turkey Toss
THURS, NOV 24
Closed for Thanksgiving
DECEMBER
SAT, DEC 3 • 9:30 AM – 12 PM
Santa by Helicopter
SUN, DEC 4 • 11 AM
Straw Rocket Workshop
SUN, DEC 11 • 11 AM
Glider Discovery
SUN, DEC 18 • 11 AM
Helicopter Adventure
WED, DEC 25
Closed for Christmas
TUESDAY, DEC 27 • 11 AM
Happy Birds
WED, DEC 28 • 10AM – 1PM
Open Cockpits
THURS, DEC 29 • 11 AM
Paper Airplane Guy
FRI, DEC 30 • 11 AM
SR-71 Pilot Brian Shul
SAT, DEC 31 • 10AM – 1PM
Noon Years Party
FLIGHT SIM ZONE AND FMX FLIGHT SIM WEEKENDS 11AM - 2PM
INVENTION LAB WEEKENDS 11AM - 3PM
DRONE PLEX WEEKENDS 11AM - 3PM

Celebrate the Thanksgiving holiday with a family-friendly re-enactment of a classic television event! In 1978, WKRP in Cincinnati first aired its timeless “Turkeys Away” episode. In 2022, the Hiller Aviation Museum commemorates this fictional holiday catastrophe with a “Turkey Toss” of its own.

The museum is known for many helicopter-borne events throughout the year. Now, for the first time, the museum will drop turkeys - not the actual birds, but soft foam turkey toys! Small, squeezable take-home turkeys will rain from the sky - reminding all of the immortal words of WKRP General Manager Arthur Carlson, “As God is my witness, I thought turkeys could fly!”

SANTA CLAUS ARRIVES BY HELICOPTER

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 3, 10AM RAIN OR SHINE.
DOORS OPEN AT 9:30.

Join the West Bay Community Band and sing Christmas carols while the kids line up to tell Santa their Christmas gift list. No Museum admission fee required for this event!

SAN FRANCISCO, CA 94132
 Tel: 650-331-5000
 Camp: 650-331-5000
 Mail: 501 LONGBEACH AVE
(
 Weddings: 650-331-5000
 e-mail: info@hiller.org
 Website: www.hiller.org

 HILLER AVIATION MUSEUM

WED NOV. 23, 2022 11 AM

SANTA CLAUS ARRIVES BY HELICOPTER

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 3,
10AM RAIN OR SHINE.
DOORS OPEN AT 9:30.

Join the West Bay Community Band and sing Christmas carols while the kids line up to tell Santa their Christmas gift list. No Museum admission fee required for this event!
**Join Now!**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Membership Category</th>
<th>Membership Benefits</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Senior (age 65+) $55</strong></td>
<td>One adult plus 2 one-time use guest passes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Individual $70</strong></td>
<td>One adult plus 2 one-time use guest passes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Family $105</strong></td>
<td>2 adults and up to 4 children (17 &amp; under) plus discounts on Aviation Camp</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Pioneer $140</strong></td>
<td>Family Membership benefits plus one additional card for an adult, ideal for caregivers (up to 3 adults per visit), &amp; 2 one-time use guest passes</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Pilot $275</strong></td>
<td>Family Membership benefits with a total of 3 guest passes + 8 FMX Flight Simulator passes and 50% off additional FMX tickets</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Barnstormer $550</strong></td>
<td>Pilot Membership benefits with a total of 4 guest passes + 10% off Museum Rental and Birthday Parties.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Adventurer $1,000</strong></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Explorer $2,500</strong></td>
<td>Pilot Membership benefits with a total of 8 guest passes + 15% off Museum Rental and Birthday Parties.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Navigator $5,000</strong></td>
<td>Pilot Membership benefits with a total of 12 guest passes + 25% off Museum Rental and Birthday Parties and a Hiller Aviation Museum jacket.</td>
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**Annual Membership Application**

Or join online at www.hiller.org/member

I want to be a member of Hiller Aviation Museum in the following category:

- [ ] Senior (65+) $55
- [ ] Individual $70
- [ ] Family $105
- [ ] Pioneer $140
- [ ] Pilot $275
- [ ] Barnstormer $550
- [ ] Adventurer $1,000
- [ ] Explorer $2,500
- [ ] Navigator $5,000
- [ ] Aviator $10,000

- [ ] New Member
- [ ] Annual Renewal

Primary Adult Member: ____________________________

Second Adult Member: ____________________________

(Family Memberships and up)

Third Adult Member: ____________________________

(Pioneer Memberships only)

Address: ______________________________________

City: _______________________________________

State: ______ Zip: _______ Daytime Phone: ____________

Email: _______________________________________

This is a gift membership from: _______________________

Payment Amount: ____________

- [ ] VISA
- [ ] MC
- [ ] AMEX

Card #: __________________ Exp. Date: __________

CSC: ______ Print Name on Card: ________________

Signature ______________________________________

Thank you for your support.

**Special Holiday Shopping**

**NOV 25 THROUGH DEC 31**

**MUSEUM MEMBERS RECEIVE A 25% DISCOUNT IN THE GIFT SHOP**

**NOVEMBER 26 – DECEMBER 31**

Become a Museum Member and take advantage of this great holiday offer!