# Hiller Aviation Museum Exhibit Safari Dream of Flight ANSWER KEY 

## EXHIBIT QUESTIONS

1. What kind of landing gear did the 1903 Wright Flyer have?

$$
\begin{array}{ll}
\text { Wheels } & \text { Skis } \\
\text { Floats } & \text { Skids }
\end{array}
$$

Wilbur and Orville used skid landing gear for all of their early gliders and airplanes. They launched their first airplanes from a special wooden launching track and did not need to use wheels for takeoff.
2. What special device did Eugene Ely's airplane have to help it stop quickly on the deck of a ship?


## Hook

Drag Parachute

Ely's landing aboard the US Navy cruiser Pennsylvania in January 1911 was the first landing of a landplane aboard a ship. Faced with the need to stop his airplane on a short wooden platform build aboard the ship, Ely fitted his airplane with an arrestor hook that snagged lines stretched between pairs of sandbags on the landing deck. A modified version of this same system is still used aboard large aircraft carriers today.
3. What color lights does an airport beacon send out?

$$
\begin{array}{ll}
\text { Green and White } & \text { Blue and Red } \\
\text { Green and Red } & \text { Black and Orange }
\end{array}
$$

Airport rotating beacons shine an alternating green/white signal from sunset to sunrise, and also during the day when poor weather conditions prevail. The Museum's beacon shone atop the control tower cab at SFO for half a century.
4. How many rotor blades are on the $\mathrm{XH}-44$ Helicopter? 4

Designed by a teenaged Stanley Hiller Jr. in the early 1940s, the XH-44 used two two-bladed rotors to create lift. The rotors turned in opposite directions to eliminate any need for a tail rotor.
5. How many seats are in the cabin of the Grumman Albatross?
$\underline{6}$

The Museum's Grumman Albatross was converted into a private airplane after being retired from military service. Pilot and local entrepreneur Reid Dennis flew the airplane around the world in 1997 as part of a flight commemorating the $60^{\text {th }}$ anniversary of Amelia Earhart's disappearance.

