

AIR

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Not quite a century has passed since Orville Wright flew his kitelike construction of sticks, cloth, and wire for a few minutes over Kitty Hawk. Not in their wildest dreams could the Wright Brothers have envisioned the system of transportation that today makes air travel throughout the world routine. Not so routine is the possibility of transporting people beyond the atmosphere, but that too may become a reality in the not too distant future.

Ed Pershey, head of the Crawford Auto and Aviation Museum, will explore aspects of the history of the infrastructure that made air passenger transportation a reality for a city like Cleveland. Reid Dulberger, senior vice-president of the Youngstown Chamber of Commerce, will discuss the economic advantages to the region that a new airport to handle air cargo will bring. Finally, Craig Williams, Aerospace Engineer for NASA Lewis, will tackle the intriguing possibilities and problems of transporting people beyond the atmosphere. Together these talks address the past, present, and future of flight and the complex economic, social, and political issues that planning for this technology raises.