

Dedication of the James B. Taylor, Jr. Sundial

June 21, 1947

James Blackstone Taylor, Jr.

Lieutenant Commander James B. Taylor, Jr., a Founder and President of the Aviation Country Club, lost his life on May 25, 1942 when flight testing a Navy fighter plane. In recognition of Lieutenant Commander Taylor's achievements, the Navy Department awarded him the Distinguished Flying Cross posthumously with the following citation:

"For heroism and extraordinary achievement in aerial flight as a test pilot engaged in experimental flight attendant upon the development of new types of aircraft during a prolonged period of aviation progress. Volunteering to carry out extremely hazardous demonstration flights of military planes requiring terminal velocity dives, high accelerations, spins and acrobatics, Lieutenant Commander Taylor frequently risked his life in the most unconventional types of aircraft, many of which had never previously been tested in these vital maneuvers. While testing a new plane for the Navy at Dahlgren, Maryland, in March 1939, he lost consciousness as a result of severe acceleration during the violent pull-out after a high-speed dive, but with part of his craft torn loose and a wing deformed, brought the plane under control immediately upon regaining consciousness and successfully flew into the airport. On May 25, 1942, although fully aware of the peril involved, he volunteered for an exceptionally dangerous flight to test a new Navy fighter plane and lost his life when the electrical control function. mechanism failed to Lieutenant Commander Taylor's superb airmanship, great personal valor and fearless devotion to duty were responsible in large measure for the rapid advance of military aviation and in keeping with the highest traditions of the United States Naval Service."

Lieutenant Commander Taylor will long be remembered for the outstanding contributions which he made to civil and naval aviation. He is credited with having tested over 500 different types of aircraft during the period from 1917 to 1942. He was a member of the Institute of the Aeronautical Sciences, a member of the S.A.E., A.S.M.E., the U.S. Naval Institute, Royal Aero Club of London, and the Ligue Internationale des Aviateurs. He was also an Associate Fellow of the Royal Aeronautical Society of Great Britain.

Dedication

Rear Admiral Luis de Florez, Commander, Aviation Commandery of the Naval Order

Flight is perhaps Man's greatest attainment; one for which he was least fitted by nature.

To break the shackles binding him to earth, he had to overcome almost insuperable basic obstacles. He had to fashion wings, the structure of which he did not possess; to create motive power as compensation for his deficiency in muscle; to devise controls for equilibrium in a new and shifting element; to invent instruments to extend his inadequate perception. He had to school the senses inherited from countless earthbound generations, to accustom himself to new forces of and movement encountered only in flight; to re-orient the balance mechanism evolved from earthly contact that he might maintain himself in the air and direct his path through space.

The history of Aviation is studded with men who devoted their lives to its advancement that flight might be brought within reach of everyone as it is today; men who were driven by unfaltering determination to extend aeronautical knowledge and skill even at the expense of their bodies. The work and sacrifice of these men blazed a way to the stars.

Among them we count Jim Taylor, who flew constantly from 1917 to 1942, mastering virtually every type of craft that could take to the air. He flew with consummate skill in tireless quest for greater knowledge and—because he loved to fly.

Mr. President, I have the honor of representing the Aviation Commandery of the Naval Order, the Naval Aviation Reserve and the many friends who joined to make possible this outward expression of esteem and affection. As such, I present through you to the Aviation Country Club of Long Island this sundial dedicated to James Blackstone Taylor, Jr., by his friends.

It is our hope that the light of the very sun under which he flew will mark upon it, hour after hour, the march of aviation into the future; that it will always reflect the boundless enthusiasm, the simplicity and gentleness of a great flyer, — our beloved Jim.

Sundial by

Harry T. Lindeberg and Wheeler Williams



AVIATION COUNTRY CLUB OF LONG ISLAND, INC., HICKSVILLE, NEW YORK

ANNUAL MANUFACTURERS' DEMONSTRATION AIR MEET PROGRAM OF EVENTS - SATURDAY, JUNE 21, 1947

TICOREM OF EVENTS - SATURDAL, JOHN 2

- 1:25 1:30 Bugler & National Anthem
- 1:30 1:40 Presentation by Rear Admiral Luis de Florez of James B. Taylor, Jr. Sun Dial
- 1:40 1:45 Welcome speech by Robert G. Payne, President of the Aviation Country Clu'
- 1:45 1:50 DC-6 Airliner arrival over field and aerial demonstration
- 1:50 2:00 C A A castered gear for cross-wind landing
- 2:00 2:30 Demonstration Flights #1-5
- 2:30 2:40 All American Aviation arrested landing device
- 2:40 2:50 Grumman F-8-F "Bearcat" aerial exhibition
- 2:50 3:00 Al Bennett's home-made backyard catapult
- 3:00 3:30 Demonstration Flights #6-10
- 3:30 3:40 Schweizer glider exhibition
- 3:40 3:50 Republic P-84 "Thunderjet" aerial exhibition
- 3:50 4:20 Demonstration Flights #11-15
- 4:20 4:30 All American Aviation arrested landing device
- 4:30 4:40 Grumman F-7-F "Tigercat" aerial exhibition
- 4:40 5:10 Demonstration Flights #16-20
- 5:10 5:20 Major Al Williams Precision Flying in Grumman Gulfhawk
- 5:20 5:40 Demonstration Flights #21 to ---
- 5:40 7:00 Courtesy rides and prospect demonstrations

THE FOLLOWING AIRCRAFT WILL BE ON EXHIBITION THROUGHOUT THE ENTIRE DAY:

Air Transport Association ANTC (Air Navigation Traffic Control) DC-3 Flying Laboratory
Sperry Gyroscope Co. DC-3 Flying Laboratory
Sperry Gyroscope Co. Fairchild F-24 Flying Laboratory

The show will start promptly at 1:30 P.M. but allowing for time lag the schedule of the succeeding events is approximate. The schedule is tentative and the events are subject to revision.

SUNDAY, JUNE 22, 1947

All Day

Inspection of Aircraft - Courtesy Rides - Prospect Demonstrations