

*****MEDIA ALERT*****

**EAA, NATIONAL PARK SERVICE CELEBRATE CONCLUSION
OF SUCCESSFUL NATIONAL '50 FLAGS TO KITTY HAWK'
PROGRAM DURING FLIGHT CENTENNIAL**

General-aviation pilots from throughout U.S. have flown state flags to First Flight Airport at Kitty Hawk to celebrate 100th anniversary of powered flight.

WHO:

The **Experimental Aircraft Association (EAA)**, an international aviation organization that is organizing the Countdown to Kitty Hawk celebration, presented by Ford Motor Company; The **National Park Service**, hosts of the celebration at the Wright Brothers National Memorial at Kill Devil Hills, N.C.

Speakers at this event scheduled at EAA's Countdown to Kitty Hawk Pavilion at 3 p.m. on Monday, Dec. 15, include

- Bob Warner, EAA Executive Vice President;
- National Park Service representatives;
- Several pilots who participated in the 50 Flags to Kitty Hawk program.

WHAT:

Since May 2003, **individual EAA-member pilots from throughout the U.S.** have flown their own aircraft to the Wright Brothers National Monument to honor the centennial of flight. When each pilot arrived, the National Park Service raised and flew each state flag for that day. This allowed individual pilots to participate in the centennial of flight in a way that celebrates the freedom of flight.

Flags have been flown from all 50 U.S. states and the commonwealth of Puerto Rico to the Memorial, showcasing the reach and importance of aviation to individuals throughout the nation. Each pilot also received a proclamation from their state's governor, honoring this achievement.

The **entire collection of flags** is now on display in EAA's Countdown to Kitty Hawk Pavilion, located just south of the main bleacher area at the Memorial.

This experience has been unforgettable for the pilots involved and a magnificent way to carry on the Wrights' legacy of flight. It is also an outstanding subject for media to localize their own state's involvement in the flight centennial.

WHEN:

3 p.m. on Monday, Dec. 15

WHERE:

EAA Countdown to Kitty Hawk Pavilion at Wright Brothers National Memorial

VISUALS:

Pilots with their individual state flags and the collection of all 50 flags on display.

CONTACT:

Dick Knapinski -- EAA's Countdown to Kitty Hawk
cell phone: 920-379-8151 (on site 12/11-18)