

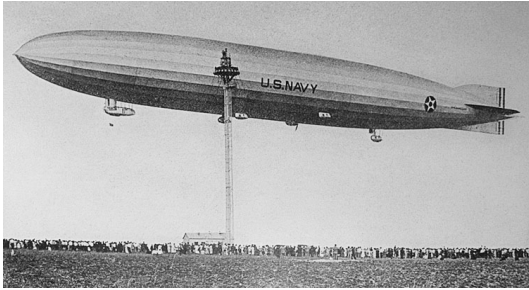
North Texas Aviation Centennial

Dirigibles & Lighter Than Air

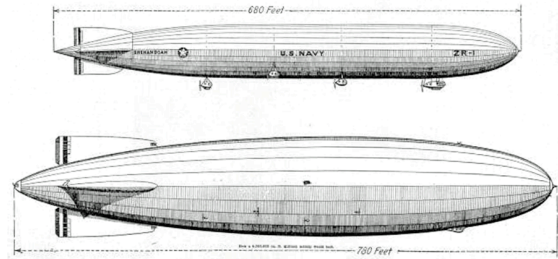
The USS Shenandoah visited Fort Worth often during the 1920's.

Come join us February 19th, 2011 for a special presentation on why and where.

Bringing Aviation History To Life



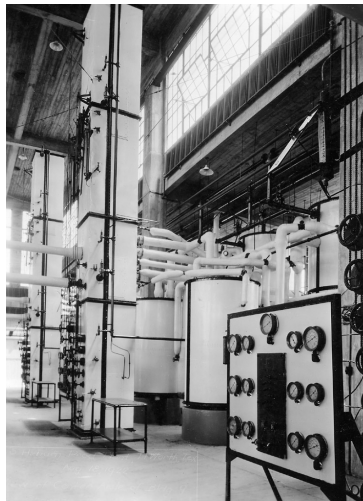
The Super weapons of the 1920's made many visits to Fort Worth to refuel at the US Navy's helium plant here and moor on what is now the Mattel Toy Distribution site off Meacham Blvd. and Blue Mound Blvd.



A Community Celebration of 100 Years of Flight in North Texas - February 2011 Event

Special Presentation February 19th

In 1908 Ferdinand Von Zeppelin of Germany developed the hydrogen-filled rigid airship. That same year helium was first liquified by Dutch physicist Kamerlingh Onnes. Both of these events would lead to Fort Worth in the 1920s. Helium plant and mooring mast near Blue Mound Road and Meacham Blvd. became a refueling stop for the US Navy's "super weapon" of the 1920s, the rigid airships or dirigibles. The USS Shenandoah and USS Los Angeles - would arrive and top off their helium supplies here. Join us at the Veterans Memorial Air Park at 1 PM for a dirigible engine dedication by Capt. T.D. Smyers of the JRB and learn more from historian Don Pyeatt. \$5.00 admission children free. Limited seating.



Dirigible Flights Site

In 1921, the first full-scale helium production plant was built in Fort Worth, on Blue Mound Rd. near Meacham Blvd. US Navy dirigibles moored off Pylon Road to refuel from 1922 to 1929..

Centennial Fly Day February 26th

On Saturday, February 26th from 1 to 3 PM, we will conduct another "Centennial Fly Day" at the Mattel Toy Distribution Center at 501 Meacham Blvd. Come join us to celebrate with paper airplane contests, kite flying and helium balloon launches. Fun for all ages and it is free.

Bonus Presentation February 5th

The first "unofficial" flight of the General Dynamics YF-16 "Fighting Falcon" took place on January 20th, 1974. Come to the Veterans Memorial Air Park on Saturday the 5th at 1 PM to learn more from the pilot, Phil Oestricher about that event. Films and a briefing by a combat F-16 driver are included.



For more information, call the Fort Worth Air and Space Museum Foundation at (817) 763-5914 or write ashelton@fwasm.org

