

North Texas Aviation Centennial

Texans Set Endurance Record

From May 19 to 26, 1929, two Texans flew a Ryan B-1, named "Fort Worth", to a new world endurance record of 172 hours 32 minutes 1 second over Meacham Field.

Bringing Aviation History To Life



Left: Reg Robbins and Jim Kelly prepare to takeoff in their Ryan B-1 Brougham "Fort Worth" May 19, 1929.



Right: Robbins and Kelly made seventeen aerial refueling events during their eight day flight. A cracked prop ended the flight.

A Community Celebration of 100 Years of Flight in North Texas - May 2011 Special Edition

Dream Come True

As a young boy, Reg Robbins watched military airplanes flying overhead his farm near Baron Field in Everman, Texas. Although he never had formal lessons, by the mid 1920s he had become a professional pilot flying out of Meacham Municipal Airport. On May 19, 1929 Robbins along with new pilot Jim Kelly, took off in a second hand Ryan B-1 Brougham and proceeded to stay airborne for 172 hours 32 minutes and 1 second. They had refueled in the

by Ormer Locklear. They flew in four-hours shifts and received food, messages and even parachutes in eighty pound packets passed between



airplanes in flight. When they landed, 60,000 cheering people greeted them as heroes. They attributed all their success to the reliability of their engine.



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



A partnership among Blue Star Families, the National Endowment for the Arts, and more than 1,000 museums across America

arts.gov/bluestarmuseums

Veterans Memorial Air Park Designated a Blue Star Museum

We are delighted to announce the launch of Blue Star Museums, a partnership with the National Endowment for the Arts, Blue Star Families, and more than 1,300 museums across America to offer free admission to all active duty military personnel and their families from Memorial Day through Labor Day 2011. Leadership support has been provided by MetLife Foundation through Blue Star Families. This will mark the second year of participation in the program for the Veterans Memorial Air Park. Although most museums only participate May through September, due to the many veterans in the Metroplex, we continue the program year round. For more information or a complete list of participating museums go to www.arts.gov/bluestarmuseums.

Thanks for your service.



air seventeen times, a maneuver pioneered at Baron Field years earlier



The North Texas Aviation Centennial is a collaboration between the Veterans Memorial Air Park, the B-36 Peacemaker Museum and the Fort Worth Air & Space Museum Foundation



Watch www.ftwaviation100.com for more North Texas Aviation Centennial events during 2011