



2009-2010 Annual Report
for the
Wright Chapter of the SFTE

Presented at the 41th Annual Symposium

1. The Wright Chapter of the SFTE is pleased to submit the following report on chapter activities for the period December 2009 – August 2010. The Wright Chapter was re-formed in 2009 by approximately 12 SFTE members who began to meet informally to share flight test experiences. As the group was considering establishing a chapter, it was learned the last SFTE Wright Chapter was disbanded nearly 16 years ago. Subsequent records provided by SFTE noted the previous chapter became inactive after the 4950th Test Wing mission and USAF flight test activities were moved to Edwards AFB. The new Wright Chapter has started the process of establishing the administrative minutia required to operate. Official documentation from the SFTE home office has assisted the chapter in obtaining a local bank account and establishing a mailing address. To date, the chapter's minimal start up expenses have been met by individual member donations. The chapter's initial society related work has included cooperating with the Great Lakes Chapter of the Society of Experimental Test Pilots one day technical symposium and obtaining nominations for annual SFTE awards. A dialog has also been started with US Air Force leadership at Wright-Patterson AFB whose organizations would benefit from Wright Chapter work.
2. **Financial Status** – As of August 1, 2010 the chapter does not yet have a bank account. Current banking regulations require organizational accounts to provide legal documentation regarding Federal recognition. We have requested the SFTE Employment Identification Number and confirmation that SFTE will include the Wright Chapter in its next listing of recognized affiliated chapters. Preliminary budgeting of next year's chapter contribution goals for the SFTE Scholarship Fund has been discussed.
3. **Membership** – The chapter membership currently stands at 22 members.
4. **Activities** – In conjunction with the SETP Flight Test Symposium noted above, the Wright Chapter hosted a combined SFTE – SETP dinner at the Engineers Club of Dayton. The event was attended by 23 people including 3 engineering and science students from local universities as guests. The dinner also served as the Wright Chapter's official installation of officers. Officiating the ceremony were Amanda Wright-Lane and Stephen Wright, both members of the Engineers Club of Dayton and, most appropriately, Amanda and Stephen are the great-grand-niece and nephew of the Wright Brothers – the first flight test engineers and pilots of modern aviation. The Chapter hosted two lunches at the Engineers Club during this period. At one luncheon, Mr. Pete Ballentine of the C-130J Program Office presented a summary of the test program to qualify a new forest fire retardant delivery system. Also, Wright Chapter member Robert Eslinger participated as a panel member at the SETP Flight Test Symposium. In April, Wright Chapter members joined SETP members at the National Museum of the United States Air Force after normal hours for "open cockpit night."
5. **Miscellaneous** – The chapter is also carefully considering hosting the SFTE Symposium in 2012.

Respectfully Submitted,

**Samuel Carbaugh
President
Wright Chapter
Society of Flight Test Engineers**